

# DESIGN SEAPORT



*Call for Entries*

Emerging practices and their designers and visual artists are invited to submit work for the inaugural *Design Seaport*, a biennial juried competition that calls design professionals to create public art that engages, inspires, and unites the community through an immersive, shared experience.

A continuation of Design Biennial Boston, the program's aim is to celebrate the most significant design and visual art thought leaders among Greater Boston's early-career, independent professional talent through a juried exhibition and site-specific, outdoor public installations in the Boston Seaport neighborhood.

*Design Seaport* provides an opportunity to promote practitioners and a network that fosters each participant by connecting them to other designers and the public at large. The mission is to create a more diverse, inclusive, and vibrant design and arts community that will contribute to Boston's evolving culture, shape, and economic health.

The program is presented by WS Development and OverUnder, with support from the Boston Society of Architects, the Mayor's Office for New Urban Mechanics, and the Boston Art Commission.

**WHAT** In times of darkness, art delights, and design burns the brightest light. In its inaugural year, *Design Seaport* seeks to bring playful, exuberant, large-scale installations to life in Boston's Seaport district; works that represent the moments of joy and hope that lift spirits, no matter the season or circumstance.

*Design Seaport* is open to emerging practices and individuals working in architecture, design, and the visual arts. Applicants must have received any most recent professional degree within the last fifteen years and must have a body of exemplary work completed as principals/partners of an emerging firm or independently.



Entrants will be required to submit a portfolio of past work (requirements detailed below) in order to be considered for participation in the inaugural *Design Seaport* exhibition.

All portfolio submissions will be reviewed by an esteemed panel of judges from the design community of Boston and beyond, from our varied cultural institutions, practitioners, critics, and media.

Up to four entrants will be selected. Each winner or winning team will be given an honorarium of \$1,000 and provided a budget of up to \$50,000 to create a site-specific installation in a public outdoor space.

Winning participants will be tasked with designing an installation in one of several areas within the Boston Seaport neighborhood that is of scale and significance.

For this inaugural year, the design theme is finding light in the darkness.

Entrants are encouraged to think about this theme figuratively, as well as literally.

The chosen participants will be asked to develop installations that incorporate illuminated elements, as well as elements that enable physical interaction.

**WHEN** Submission deadline: July 24, 2020

Winners will be notified by August 7, 2020

Winners will use August to design their installation for a specific site in Boston Seaport.

Fabrication and Production will take place in September and October.

Installations will be designed and installed by November 8, 2020 and be on display throughout the fall/early winter.

**WHO** Initiated by OverUnder and pinkcomma gallery in 2008 and joined by the Boston Society of Architects in 2012/2013, this inaugural edition of *Design Seaport* is produced and presented by WS Development and OverUnder.

**WHERE** The winners will choose from sites selected by WS Development throughout the Seaport District.

One Seaport Courtyard

Seaport Common

Sea Green Park

D Lot

F/G Lot

## CALL FOR ENTRIES →

**CRITERIA** Up to four winners will be selected based on the criteria of design excellence and capability of producing an installation, with an emphasis on creative approaches and solutions related to contemporary inclusive design issues. Evidence of ability to imagine and produce an installation for the given budget and timeframe will also be considered in the selection process.

- Be suitable for outdoor installation in public space for at least 4 months
- At a minimum be scaled for a city block (measuring at least 10'x10x10')
- Involve a lit component (110V electricity will be available for use)
- Be able to withstand neighborhood weather conditions, which include winds upward of 40mph.

**AWARDS** Each winner or winning team will:

- receive a \$1,000 honorarium;
- create a site-specific, outdoor installation with a budget ranging from \$15,000-\$50,000.

**JURY** Karen Urosevich | *Vice President, WS Development – Studio*  
Courtney D. Sharpe | *Director of Cultural Planning, City of Boston*  
Ann Lui | *FutureFirm, Chicago*  
Jennifer Bonner | *MALL/Harvard Graduate School of Design*  
Nader Tehrani | *NADAAA/Dean of the Cooper Union's Irwin S. Chanin School of Architecture*

**MODERATOR** Chris Grimley | *OverUnder*

**DEADLINE** A low-resolution PDF must be received by 4:00 pm on July 24, 2020.  
Email a single PDF file (must be under 20 MB) to [grimley@overunder.co](mailto:grimley@overunder.co).

**INQUIRIES** Questions may be directed to [grimley@overunder.co](mailto:grimley@overunder.co)

**ELIGIBILITY** Entrants must practice architecture, design, or art in Massachusetts and must be full-time Massachusetts residents.

Entrants must have received any most recent professional degree within the last fifteen years.

Entrants may submit individually, as part of a collaborative team or as a firm if all entrants meet the criteria listed above.

If you or your team are interested in participating, but do not meet the above educational requirements, please reach out to [grimley@overunder.co](mailto:grimley@overunder.co). *Design Seaport* and *OverUnder* will work to pair interested entrants with qualified firms who could bolster entry requirements.

For firm submissions, all principals/partners must qualify according to the requirements above. In cases where some principals/partners do not qualify, consideration will be given to the other principals/partners independently, but the firm name may not be used in the exhibition. All projects submitted must be led by the principals/partners who do meet the qualifications above.

Entrants who are employees but not principals/partners of a firm are not permitted to submit work from their employment at that firm; however, they may submit work completed independently. The firm name will not be included in the exhibition or publication.

No student work completed for any degree program is eligible for submission; educators may not include projects completed in their studios or directly for their teaching; independent academic work and research by educators is permitted.

The following people may not enter this program:

- Designers who are related to any members of the jury
- Designers who are current employees of any firm owned by a member of the jury
- Prior winners of the Design Biennial Boston program

**SUBMIT** Submissions must follow the format guidelines listed below as a low-resolution PDF:

A digital portfolio of design work of no more than thirty pages, (not including the covers). Submissions must be anonymous (no firm or individual name can be visible in any drawings or texts; client names may be revealed, if necessary, to explain the project). Include a completed entry form and a short biography demonstrating eligibility as a separate PDF.

Submitted projects should fall under the following areas: architecture; exhibition design; interior design; landscape architecture; urban design; and public space design. The jury recommends including three to five projects as evidence of abilities. All project types are welcome, including theoretical and built works. Submitted projects should be of exhibition quality and worthy of publication. Text should be minimal, describing only the most important details of each project.

**RIGHTS** All imagery submitted must be the entrant's original work. It is the entrant's sole responsibility to ensure that the work submitted does not infringe on the intellectual property rights of any third party, including, but not limited to, trademark and design rights.

**INSTALL** Entrants agree to meet the installation calendar and timeframe outlined above. The curatorial team will work with the selected winners to develop an approach to the installation, exhibition, and publication. Should a selected entrant be unable to commit to the schedule, a runner-up may be selected to take their place. The honorarium, identification as a winner of the *Design Seaport*, and inclusion in exhibition are contingent upon completing the installation and participation in the exhibition. The Design Seaport curators reserve the right to modify exhibition plans as needed.

# ENTRY FORM

**NAME(S)**

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**NAME OF FIRM**

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**ADDRESS**

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**PHONE**

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**EMAIL**

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I hereby certify that all work being entered into *Design Seaport* meets the eligibility and submission requirements outlined in the published call for entries.

**SIGNATURE**

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Email this form and a one-paragraph biography as a separate PDF with your portfolio submission.