



THE 2023 ASTC / USITT STUDENT / CONSULTANT VENUE RENOVATION CHALLENGE

USITT 2023 Annual Conference in St. Louis, Missouri - March 16-18, 2023

INSTRUCTIONS TO PARTICIPANTS

The goal of this challenge is for students to gain experience with performance venue design and renovation as well as alternate career opportunities through an interactive process with a professional theatre consultant. Each student team must consist of at least one graduate or undergraduate student from a USITT member institution, a faculty advisor, and an ASTC theatre consultant as a mentor and resource. Working together, the teams will conceive a theoretical project based on an existing structure on or accessible from the team's campus. They will survey and study the current conditions and develop a plan to renovate the subject space to meet the team's stated goals. Potential projects include:

- Substantial improvements to an existing theatre including technical and performance capabilities for the venue.
- Conversion of non-performance space into a new performance space.
- Changing the form and/or function of an existing theatre.

Samples of previous submittals can be viewed on the ASTC and USITT websites.

Applications - Due October 7, 2022 by 5:00 PM EDT to Van Phillips ASTC, vanphill@gmail.com.

The application forms are attached and are also available from ASTC <http://theatreconsultants.org/> or the USITT website <https://www.usitt.org/>. Along with the application, each team is to submit a Preliminary Concept Statement, outlining the basic scope of the project. This scope shall be reviewed by the ASTC Challenge Committee in advance to ensure the applicant's project is of sufficient substance to merit completion. Preliminary Concept Statements are to include:

- Name of academic institution.
- Name of team participants including role, year in college, and major.
- Name of subject space.
- Brief description of scope of the project.

Applications and questions are to be sent to Van Phillips ASTC, vanphill@gmail.com

Final Concept Statements - Due by October 28, 2022 by 5:00 PM EDT

The Team's Concept Statement represents the project goals to achieve, or in the architectural consulting world the Project Program. In past years these presentations have been reviewed by the Schools' end users or given to the upper Administration that have the power to consider making the goals a reality. Therefore, make your Concept Statement clear even for people with no performing arts experience. For example, don't use theatre lingo like "A fully-functioning modern fly system." Theatre people might know what that means, but Administrators and Boards do not.

Once the Final Concept Statements are received, they will be reviewed by ASTC – Renovation Challenge Committee for scope and clarity.

Any and all suggestions those Committee Members have to make the Concept Statements more complete or clearer will be returned to the Team and Advisors by November 11, 2022, so they can be reviewed prior the next phase of work.



The Concept Statements and all review comments will also be sent to the 2023 Jury (Judges) prior to the “Paper” Project Submission, which is the first work they will Judge.

Samples of Concept Statements can also be viewed on the ASTC and USITT websites.

Concept Statements are to be sent to Van Phillips ASTC, vanphill@gmail.com.

Final Participants List with Names and Addresses - Due by January 27, 2023 by 5:00 PM EST

Faculty Sponsors shall submit a Final Participants and Faculty Sponsor List which shall include Names, Addresses, and email contacts!

(Please understand that plaques and any travel assistance or prize checks will use this printed list and the ASTC or USITT is not responsible for misspellings or errors! Prize checks are mailed to the Faculty Sponsor of the winning teams at the address shown on the list!)

The final list with names and address will be sent to the following: (See also “Stipends” below)

Van Phillips, ASTC, vanphill@gmail.com
R. Duane Wilson, ASTC, rduanewilson@gmail.com
Team ASTC Mentor

Project Submittals - Due Friday, February 3, 2023 by 5:00PM EST

Project submittals must be provided in the form of PDF files or Power Point presentation. Submittal data and images may be of physical models, renderings, hand sketches or drafting, photographs, modeling software or AutoCAD, REVIT or other digital design platforms. Video may be included but must be incorporated into presentation. Submissions must show a minimum of the following:

1. Location of subject space
2. Year constructed
3. Project size or scale in square footage
4. Current use
5. Existing plan and section
6. Photos of the existing venue, including the exterior
7. Review of external factors such as access for audiences and production materials
8. Building improvements in plan
9. Building improvements in section
10. Sightlines to the performance area
11. Audience relationship with performers, including performer access to the audience.
12. Improvements for the audience such as parking, building access including any ADA issues that will need to be addressed, ticketing, and audience spaces such as lobby and restrooms.
13. Improvements to the technical and performance support capabilities
14. Pertinent detail or supporting data
15. A written statement of the intended goals for renovation including:
 - a) A brief mission statement for the intended users of the space.
 - b) The goals of the renovation.
 - c) The scope of work required to achieve those goals.
 - d) Identification of parties who benefit from the improvements and describe how they benefit. (i.e., technicians, operations staff, performers, directors, designers, and/or audience etc.)

Project Submittals are to be sent to Van Phillips ASTC, vanphill@gmail.com.



Once the electronic version of each Team's Project Submission for the selected facility renovation is received, each will be reviewed by the ASTC Judges for the 2023 Renovation Challenge.

Any and all suggestions or comments from the Judges will be returned to the Team and Advisors by February 17, 2023, so they can be reviewed and potentially incorporated into the final phase of work for the Public Presentations at the USITT Conference.

USITT Conference – Public Presentation: The public presentation portion will be during the **USITT 2023 Annual Conference in St. Louis, Missouri - March 16-18, 2023**. The exact day and time to be determined by the Conference schedule.

The Public Presentations must include two parts, and may include a third part:

1. **Required:** An in-person live vocal presentation by the Schools Team
2. **Required:** Visual support materials using pre-recorded video, PowerPoint, and/or visual renderings created to bring the Teams' goals, ideas, and work to the assembled Judges and USITT Session audience. The team may use the video to help those who do not know the existing space understand what the 3D issues are with the selected facility. Either in the video or by integrated PowerPoint, the Team can illustrate solution ideas.
3. Teams can use the first minute or two of their pre-recorded videos to promote their school and to include any Team members who are not able to be present at the USITT Conference Presentation.

At least one (1) student member of the team is required to present the team's challenge and solution at a conference session in person. Judges do understand that the materials to be presented at the USITT Conference may be re-worked to fit a public presentation but must consist of the same essential elements submitted at the **February 3rd, 2023** project submission.

The ASTC member judges will make their final selection for Awards based on both the submitted design and the live presentation. One team will be presented the **ASTC - Edgar L. Lustig Award** for \$2,000.00 cash prize. At the Judges' discretion the **USITT - Director's Award** for \$1,000.00, cash prize may also be presented to a second team.

Student Travel Assistance – Stipends:

Five (5) \$500 travel stipends are reserved for the first five team requests for financial travel assistance,

After the start of the Spring Semester, when it is known who will be able to represent the team in St. Louis, Missouri, a travel assistance stipend can be requested on January 27, 2023. The stipends will be awarded, based upon one (1) per team, on a first-come basis until all five are assigned.

Stipends are limited to one per team. The stipend recipients check will be mailed to the person identified by the Faculty Sponsor **as part of the January 27, 2023 Final Participant List.** The request will be based upon the email date and time received.

Travel Requests **from the Faculty Advisor** to be sent to Van Phillips ASTC, vanphill@gmail.com