

# suckerPUNCH competition



## center for urban farming

### ///theCOMPETITION

As the interest and demand rises in New York City for locally grown food and the appreciation for a wealth of vegetables and plants deepens, there exists an opportunity to develop an urban agriculture for the city. Urban farming has the potential to raise city dwellers' awareness of their food sources and increase their appreciation for agriculture and sustainable practices. In addition to providing fresh nutrient rich food, the farms will provide a wealth of new employment opportunities in the city as well as potential revenue from urban farm markets. Waste incurred by shipping food into the city will also be reduced and will allow for even fresher farm to table opportunities at the markets and restaurants.

This open international ideas competition is for a Center for Urban Farming. This center will experiment with a small farm within New York City while also developing programs and serving as an educational hub for the promotion of urban agriculture. The facilities will house testing centers for developing means of safely and efficiently farming in the city as well as offices for staff working to develop land in the city and promote the cause. There will also be exhibition space and lecture space for events and symposia. While farming is a fundamental part of our history, to make urban agriculture succeed, technology and science will play an important role. The celebration of progress and technology should be explored in the architecture for this project. The notion of a farm should be reconsidered as its placement in a dense metropolis is quite different than its historically rural setting in the same way that the use of hydro/aeroponics and other soil remediation techniques rethink the relationship of food to the ground. There also exist important variables such as the decision to grow indoors versus outdoors or on ground level versus rooftop. In any case the land around the center's planning and use is vital to the project as well as its relationship to the building. The farm will recycle its black water to take advantage of rainwater harvesting. The center and farm spaces should strive for an exuberance to match the exciting potential and serve as a visual landmark in the city.

### ///theSITE

The site for the project is located adjacent to the Brooklyn Navy Yard. This area was used to build ships for the US Navy, starting in 1801. The Brooklyn Navy Yard has historically embraced new and innovative technologies. Many of the early American steam ships were constructed and worked on at this yard. The site was the first place in the US that a steam powered pile driver was implemented and was also one of the first dry docks. The Niagara was the first ship to lay trans-atlantic telegraph cable from the dock of the Brooklyn Navy Yard. The first song broadcast over wireless radio went out from the Dolphin when it was docked at the Yard. In 1966 the dock was closed and then bought by the city of New York to be transitioned into an industrial park. The Navy Yard currently houses diverse businesses such as movie studios, furniture manufacturers, ship repairers, architectural designers, electronics distributors and jewelers. The site is rich with history including two decades of the celebration of progressive technology and urban employment. Currently the site is used by a tow company as a place to store impounded cars, for this ideas competition the pound will be relocated leaving the site vacant.

Site is zoned as M1-2. See [http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcp/html/zone/zh\\_m1.shtml](http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcp/html/zone/zh_m1.shtml) for more details.

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## ///PROGRAM

Lobby	3000 sq ft
Exhibition gallery	10000 sq ft
2-Lecture halls	2500 sq ft each
3-classrooms	1000 sq ft each
Cafe serving food grown on site	10000 sq ft
Offices	3000 sq ft
Restrooms [8]	100 sq ft min each
Conference room	1000 sq ft
Laboratories [4]	2500 sq ft each
Delivery Dock for receiving and shipping	2500 sq ft
Storage	3000 sq ft
Parking - One Space / 2000SF	
Farm space and type defined by entrant	

This is an open international ideas competition hosted by suckerPUNCH to generate progressive contemporary design ideas. There are no plans for the Urban Farm to be built at this time. The site is not owned by or affiliated with suckerPUNCH.

## ///jury/AWARDS

robertBRACKETT (fffllourish)  
lonnCOMBS (EASTON + COMBS)  
abigail COOVER (hume coover studio, suckerPUNCH)  
annaDYSON (Center for Architecture Science & Ecology)  
jose GONZALEZ (SOFTlab)  
nathan HUME (hume coover studio, suckerPUNCH)  
seanLALLY (WEATHERS)  
ronniePARSONS (studioMODE)  
mike SZIVOS (SOFTlab)  
keith VANDERSYS (PEG office of landscape + architecture)

This competition is blind peer reviewed.

\$2500 in prizes will be awarded and the winning designs will be published on suckerPUNCH.

## ///entryREQUIREMENTS

this is an open ideas competition. entrants will be required to digitally submit two [2] boards at 18" high x 24" wide and 150dpi in tiff format with the provided 5 digit code in a 1"x1" square in the lower right hand corner of each board. image requirements are as follows:

plans

all necessary site and floor plans to describe the project including at the minimum a ground level plan describing

the form, integration of program and relationship to the site

\*scale is at the discretion of the entrant

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## sections

one [1] north/south section

one [1] east/west section

\*scale is at the discretion of the entrant

## renderings

one [1] aerial view

one [1] exterior view of the farm

one [1] interior view

\*one rendering best describing the formal and atmospheric intent of the project must be rendered at 10" high x 13" wide and 150dpi in tiff format. this image is to be included on the boards as one of the above views.

## ///competitionSCHEDULE

04 April 2011 competition launch

13 May 2011 deadline for questions may

16 May 2011 answers to questions will be posted on suckerPUNCH

23 May 2011 early registration deadline

15 August 2011 registration deadline

22 August 2011 project submission deadline

12 September 2011 winners will be posted on suckerPUNCH

## ///registration/FEES

entrants may register by submitting payment to suckerPUNCH via paypal and contact info to competitions@suckerPUNCHdaily.com. once payment and contact info is received, an email will be sent containing all project documentation (including dimensioned cad plan, 3d model, aerial photo, site photos, and zoning information) and a 5 digit identification number to be placed in a 1"x1" square on the bottom right corner of each board. the submission procedure will also be outlined in this email.

early registration fee - \$35

registration fee - \$65

please email any questions to competitions@suckerPUNCHdaily.com

## //links

[http://topics.nytimes.com/top/reference/timestopics/subjects/a/agriculture/urban\\_agriculture/index.html?scp=1-spot&sq=urban%20agriculture&st=cse](http://topics.nytimes.com/top/reference/timestopics/subjects/a/agriculture/urban_agriculture/index.html?scp=1-spot&sq=urban%20agriculture&st=cse)

<http://www.verticalfarm.com/>

<http://www.greenthumbnyc.org/>

<http://www.justfood.org/>

<http://www.urbanfarming.org/>

<http://www.urbanfarmonline.com/>

<http://www.added-value.org/>

<http://aerofarms.com/>