



**Bienal Internacional de Arquitectura 2024:**  
**Arquitectura Circular**

## **11<sup>th</sup> International Student Biennale of Architecture 2024**

**May, Wednesday 29, Thursday 30, Friday 31 and June Saturday 01**

### **Guidelines for Students**

#### **Presentation**

The College of Architects of Costa Rica summons the 11<sup>th</sup> International Student Biennale of Architecture 2024 to be held from May 22nd to 25th, 2024, called "Circular Architecture". The event will be in a bimodal format (2 virtual days, 2 on-site days).

Throughout the International Biennale of Architecture 2024, the organization will work towards achieving each of the established objectives for the event.

The Committee designated for the International Biennale of Architecture "Circular Architecture" will oversee the thematic line driving the project.

The Board of Directors of the College of Architects of Costa Rica, together with the CIDECA Commission representing the Architecture Students of the country, the Events Commission and the Coordination of the International Biennale, maintain their permanent commitment to integrate in the organization of this event all the schools that teach Architecture; and to work vehemently and together so that all of them can exhibit their projects.

In circular architecture, each element is independent, having the great advantage of being able to dismantle a building and reuse all its parts.

#### **The International Architecture Biennale 2024: Circular Architecture**

The International Architecture Biennale 2024 is presented as a space for reflection and exploration of circular architecture, a growing trend that seeks to rethink the way we design, build and use spaces, with the goal of creating sustainable and environmentally friendly settings. Costa Rica, recognized for its focus on sustainability, is the perfect stage for this meeting of ideas and innovative proposals.





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Circular architecture is based on principles of the circular economy, where materials and resources are used efficiently, waste is reduced, and the promotion of reuse and recycling is encouraged. The Architecture Biennale 2024 in Costa Rica aims to highlight projects that embrace this approach, showcasing how circular architecture can contribute to the creation of more resilient and sustainable communities.

### General Objective

To raise awareness of the importance of architecture for society and the development of nations through a technical, informative and educational event that encourages architectural culture by providing exhibition and training opportunities for both professionals and students of architecture.

### Description of the 11th International Student Biennale of Architecture 2024

The Biennale event is composed of two main components.

- A. Competition: exhibition of student projects.
- B. Academic: conferences and thematic panels.

#### A. Competition

At the 11<sup>th</sup> International Student Biennale of Architecture 2024, projects by national and international architecture students created within the last five years will be confronted. These projects should not have participated in previous editions of Biennales of Architecture in Costa Rica.

#### B. Academic

Conferences and workshops will be held for professionals, students and the general public, under the theme "**CIRCULAR ARCHITECTURE**" where one of its objectives is to educate people about the importance of architecture in society.





## Bienal Internacional de Arquitectura 2024: Arquitectura Circular

### Categories

1. **ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN**
1. **URBAN DESIGN**
2. **REGIONAL URBAN PLANNING**
3. **LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE**
4. **REHABILITATION AND HERITAGE**
5. **HABITAT AND COLLECTIVE HOUSING**
6. **SOCIAL HOUSING**
7. **BEST CLIMATE ADAPTATION**
8. **ARCHITECTURE DISSEMINATION / RESEARCH**

### 2. **ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN**

This category encompasses student proposals developed within the last five years, covering any new architectural project. These projects should not have participated in previous editions of Biennales of Architecture in Costa Rica, with no scale limitations and should not be included in the other categories mentioned in this call. This category specifically values the distinctive elements of Architectural Design and will not consider proposals corresponding to other categories.

### 3. **URBAN DESIGN**

This category encompasses student proposals developed within the last five years in the areas of territorial planning and urban design. This category considers: The functional integration of human settlements, protected natural areas at a regional scale, development and regulation of urban zones, urban integration of public transportation or other major infrastructures, rehabilitation of informal settlements, design of housing complexes, mixed urban developments, as well as the quality of public spaces at an urban scale.





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### 4. REGIONAL URBAN PLANNING

This category includes proposals, plans, and projects for territorial planning and development at national, regional, inter-municipal, municipal, and zonal scales. It encompasses regulatory projects that are in execution and duly approved by the corresponding authorities. These proposals, considering social, cultural, economic, physical, and environmental aspects, aim to impact the conditions of the urban context and the territory.

### 5. LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Projects eligible for this category encompass student proposals developed within the last five years involving the intervention of natural, rural, or urban environments. These projects should encompass planning, design, construction, and management aimed at: rehabilitating degraded landscapes, new developments, adaptation and mitigation related to climate change, heritage protection, conservation of natural and cultural landscapes, sustainable management of natural, agricultural, rural, urban landscapes in order to create places that promote health and social, economic and ecological well-being.

Fields of action may include territorial planning, conservation areas, urban planning, biological corridors, infrastructure and public works for mobility, public spaces, plazas and parks, green and blue infrastructure, historical-cultural heritage, tourism, leisure, recreational and sports activities, commercial and corporate plazas, agricultural and livestock activities, energy and telecommunications infrastructure, health centers, therapeutic gardens, educational centers, residential gardens, artistic expressions, among others.

### 6. REHABILITATION AND HERITAGE

This category focuses on historical and significant projects for societal development within any urban or suburban architectural typology. These projects should not have participated in previous editions of Biennales of Architecture in Costa Rica. This category evaluates proposals for intervention on heritage or the rehabilitation of the building.

Projects eligible for submission may involve the rehabilitation of buildings, changes in use, revaluation of spaces, conservation, and restoration. The evaluation of proposals will depend on the specific project being referred to.







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### 7. HABITAT AND COLLECTIVE HOUSING

This category includes collective housing projects comprising a minimum grouping of four units, regardless of their social or economic condition, scale, or complexity. It does not exclude projects of social interest or state investment. Projects may involve multifamily housing, condominiums, and similar developments by the private or mixed sector, contributing to the collective construction of the city.

This category allows for housing interventions that strengthen the urban fabric, integrate public space, consolidate communities, and propose new ways of conceiving development based on local realities.

### 8. SOCIAL HOUSING

This category encompasses architectural projects of social interest housing, comprising one to three housing solutions designed within the last five years. These projects should not have participated in previous editions of Biennales of Architecture in Costa Rica or Social Interest Housing Competitions in Costa Rica. They must comply with the minimum and maximum area requirements established by corresponding legislation and must include the necessary elements to ensure habitability, with high standards of architectural design and construction. These projects should incorporate low-cost maintenance and climate adaptation strategies.

This category provides information about small-scale social housing projects that offer residential solutions to families with limited economic resources or extreme need, which despite the limited costs include innovative aspects in their design, such as functionality, aesthetics, construction system, cultural response, bioclimatic adaptation, among others.

### 9. BEST CLIMATE ADAPTATION

This category calls for projects that demonstrate a clear vision in the use of passive strategies in design and present appropriate usage regarding energy saving, potable water, waste reduction, and promotion of biodiversity, aligning with a clear vision towards sustainability or resource regeneration independently of social, economic, typological, scale, or complexity conditions.





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Projects must show clear resilience and circular architecture that impacts and challenges pre-crisis practices, with visionary activities and actions to drive change and improvement with adaptive models as drivers of opportunity scenarios.

Being part of the concept of circular architecture as environmental management with the capacity to absorb changes and disturbances without losing the functionality of buildings, the city, services, and infrastructure is crucial. Additionally, reducing impact and recovering by restoring normalcy in the shortest time possible, along with the ability to reduce vulnerability to natural or man-made phenomena and prevent them from causing minimal possible damage with a forward-looking perspective, will be parameters considered in this category.

### 10. ARCHITECTURE DISSEMINATION / RESEARCH

This category encompasses all research, whether published or unpublished, related to architecture or the field of construction in general, focusing on historical, current, or future circumstances. The submission of the research should be provided as a link directing to the investigation. For instance, a digital folder in the cloud hosting the research document.

### Material to be submitted

Reception of files will only be accepted through the registration platform or with the characteristics described in each case.

The documents to be submitted are:

#### 1. Texts

- Descriptive report in Word format, maximum 2500 characters including spaces.
- Affidavit ((downloadable format from the web page [www.bienalcostarica.com](http://www.bienalcostarica.com))
- Authorization for the publication of the project in the Report of the Biennale.
- In the HABITAR magazine and in other media for dissemination and exhibition.
- (Downloadable format from the website)





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### 2. Images

- 10 photos in JPG format, 300 DPI, 8.5 x 11 size, file size less than 6Mb, and CMYK color format.
- 5 plans, sections, facades all in JPG, 300 DPI, file size less than 6Mb.
- 1 selected photograph of the project to be used in the Biennale Report, in JPG format, 1965x890 pixels and 300 DPI, file size less than 6 Mb
- 1 image of a plan, floor plan, or other representative element of the project in JPG format, 300 DPI, file size less than 6 Mb.
- (These mentioned images will be official for use as representations of your project in the Report (Memory), Magazine, website, and media.)

### 3. Sheet Design

- Sheet of the presented project at actual size at 150 DPI, in PDF format (maximum 300 megabytes), CMYK color format, and JPG (maximum 5 megabytes) in RGB color format. *(Other formats such as DWG, RVT, among others, will not be considered.)*

### 4. It must be uploaded to the platform in 2 formats with a maximum file size:

- PDF: maximum 300 megabytes.
- JPG: maximum 5 megabytes.

The downloadable template is available on the website [www.bienalcostarica.com](http://www.bienalcostarica.com)





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### Participation Rights

- Only one project per student, whether individual or group, is allowed for participation.
- Every project must be accompanied by its technical sheet (complete team of participating students).
- Students from the field of architecture at a global level are eligible to participate.
- The student must present an authorization letter from the University or Academic Unit, certifying that they meet the recommended level to participate in the Biennale
- Advanced students who are in their final year of studies will participate.
- All projects presented at the 11<sup>th</sup> International Student Biennale of Architecture 2024 will be evaluated to maintain the quality of these presentations. Therefore, the organization reserves the right to present the projects, and this decision will be final and cannot be appealed.

### Important Clauses:

- All projects and works presented will not have any commercial purposes.
- Projects sent, backed or done by or for private and public companies may not be submitted to this biennale. Only projects done for academic purposes will be accepted.
- In the event that it is discovered that any project or work is commercialized while it is part of the XI International Student Biennale of Architecture 2024, it will be immediately removed from the Biennale exhibition, and its participant or finalist status, along with any corresponding awards, if applicable, will be revoked.
- If partial or total plagiarism of any project or work is proved, the author (s) will be sanctioned with the immediate expulsion from the 10<sup>th</sup> International Student Biennale of Architecture 2022, as well as from the other student relevant activities organized by CIDECA or by the College of Architects of Costa Rica. Sanctions issued by the international copyright protection standards will be applied.
- Digital backups become part of the Organizing Committee's archive once they are submitted.







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### Layout Format

The art of the sheet will measure 60 cm (23.62 in) wide by one meter high (39.37 in) in vertical orientation, with a maximum of one sheet per project.

- Each project must contain the complete technical information as per the registration form.
- Other graphic elements may be included to aid in understanding the design.
- The design of the sheet should be in graphic-diagrammatic format, in high-quality print.
- It should have margins and excess space of 4cm (1.57in).

**The descriptive report should NOT be included in the sheet.** Instead, it will be presented through a web link accessible via the QR code provided to each participant.

The QR code can be downloaded directly from the registration platform once all files are properly uploaded and approved by the CACR administration.

The organization of the 11<sup>th</sup> International Student Biennale of Architecture 2024, Circular Architecture, reserves the right to exclude any project to ensure the high quality of images, format, and presentation of all projects.

The exhibition of projects for the 11<sup>th</sup> International Student Biennale of Architecture 2024 will be managed by the organization. It will be presented in digital and/or printed format at the respective venues where the Biennale takes place.

This format and material will allow for indoor and outdoor exhibition at various events showcasing the 11<sup>th</sup> International Student Biennale of Architecture.

### Jury

The College of Architects of Costa Rica - CACR, the Events Committee, and the Coordination of the International Biennale of Architecture will appoint the jury, delegating to them the responsibility of selection based on the established evaluation criteria. The jury will be composed of at least 5 members for each category, comprising both national and international professionals.





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National jury members may include professionals in architecture, urban planning, landscaping, heritage specialists, or others related to the discipline. If the judging panel deems it necessary, a project may be transferred to a different category than the one it was initially registered in.

**The Jury's decision will be final, irrevocable, and firm.** The Jury will make its decision public on the day of the awards ceremony. Teachers or professors of participating projects are not eligible to serve as jurors.

### Awards

- The winning project of the General Category of the 11<sup>th</sup> International Student Biennale of Architecture will be chosen among all winners from different categories.
- Projects awarded first place in each category will be featured in the publication of the 'Habitar' Magazine by the College of Architects.
- Jury decisions will be final and cannot be appealed.
- Each category winner will be awarded a statuette as recognition.

### Prize in Cash

- The winner of the 11<sup>th</sup> International Student Biennale of Architecture 2024 will receive USD \$1,500 (One thousand five hundred US dollars).

### Calendar

- **Project Registration Period:**  
From Monday, December 4th, 2023, to Tuesday, February 29th, 2024.
- **Project Upload to the Platform:**  
From Monday, February 19th to Monday, March 18th, 2024.





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- **Project Submission to the Jury:**  
From Tuesday, March 19th to Friday, April 19th, 2024.
- **Deadline for Physical Publication Submission:**  
Before March 14th, 2024, at the central offices of CACR from 8:00 am to 12:30 pm or from 1:30 pm to 5:00 pm
- **Exhibition, Academic Event, and Award Ceremony:**  
Wednesday, May 29, Thursday, May 30, Friday, May 31th, and Saturday, June 01, 2024.

## Costs

	Nacional	International*
Student Projects	<p><b>Cost per project</b>  <b>€30.000</b>  <b>* Exchange rate of the day</b>  <b>according to the Central Bank of</b>  <b>Costa Rica*</b></p>	<p><b>Cost per project</b>  <b>€40.000</b>  <b>*Exchange rate of the day</b>  <b>according to the Central Bank of</b>  <b>Costa Rica*</b></p>

- Participants who register before December 31, 2023, will receive a 10% discount on registration.
- All participants with a project have access included to the BIENNALE WEEK CONFERENCES.
- By agreement of the Events Committee and the Board of Directors, the money paid by each participant for their project registration will not be refunded. If requested due to reasons beyond their control, only 80% of the total amount will be refunded (the organization reserves the time for the corresponding procedure).
- Registration can be paid in US dollars (USD), although the amount is expressed in Costa Rican colones.
- The exchange rate will be that of the transaction day.





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- The international transfer fee must be covered by the participant.
- The payment for each registered project must be made through the digital platform where the project is registered. The system will guide you step by step on how to proceed.
- If payment is made through other means, the participant must send the payment receipt to the email [bienalcacr@cfia.or.cr](mailto:bienalcacr@cfia.or.cr) and allow for three business days to complete the registration process on the platform.

## Contact

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## Benefits

- Admission to the activities during the Biennale week.
- Publication of a formal memoir encompassing all participating projects in the Biennale. One copy of this will be given to the project leader (1 copy of the memoir).
- Potential sending of a sample featuring the winning projects to different countries and contests, such as the Quito Biennale, Colombia Biennale, Guatemala Biennale, Ibero-American Biennale, among others.
- POTENTIAL publication of the event in the HABITAR Magazine, the official media outlet of the College of Architects of Costa Rica.
- Placement of a plaque on the winning property (Built in Costa Rica).
- Presentation of a certificate and award accrediting them as winners.
- Certificate of participation as a contestant.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE: THE DEVELOPMENT OF THIS COMPETITION, PRIOR, DURING, AND AFTER THE EVENT MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGES DUE TO EXTERNAL CIRCUMSTANCES BEYOND THE ORGANIZATION'S CONTROL.**

