

#### **REPORT FALL 2020**

INVESTIGATOR

COMPETITION OVERVIEW
DESIGN
EVALUATION ASSESSEMENT
BUGDET/EXPENSES
RECORD OF PRINCIPAL

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• Andreas Luescher, Ph.D., Chair, Professor of Architecture, Professor of Teaching Excellence

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"I liked the idea of creating a sanctuary that was also compatible with Covid-19 regulations. It made for an interesting topic and idea."

This opening feedback, from a student who participated in the 12<sup>th</sup> annual Architecture Student Design Competition, is the best gift an instructor can receive. Supported by a grant from the NCMA Education and Research Foundation, the competition was organized by BGSU's Department of Architecture and Environmental Design, housed in the School of the Built Environment. Thank you NCMA! This year's challenge was to explore the historical, architectural, sculptural and environmental aspects of an outdoor space acting as a COVID-19 Sanctuary. One can imagine how truly necessary it will be to have a dedicated place to commemorate and reflect what happened, and is still happening to all during this pandemic, especially at a medium-sized public university. Providing an intimate space and safe haven is a priority for our university. The second challenge was since most BGSU architecture classes were transitioned to online courses, except for the design-oriented studios, existing traditional Architectural Material System courses were not applicable. A new avenue had to be found by using the Foundational Design class since offers in person/hybrid format. As a result, in the change of setting and as indicated in the survey, most our sophomores felt the overall design competition was difficult for them. To overcome the barriers, it was necessary to engage the students in hands on learning, for example, going the field and dry-stacking some CMU blocks. In addition, lecturing and encouraging students to remain open to the endless possibilities of expression through intuitive, rational and innovative integrations of CMU's was important. That engagement resulted in the highest rating/most satisfaction by students because of rapid availability of modelling and presentation materials. Therefore, participants produced some really wonderful models which highlight the various capabilities of traditional concrete masonry units as a building material. We aspired to have the most diverse and largest group of judges from all of fields and walks of life. Of course, having Mike Homan, Vice President Wayne Builders Supply from Greenville and representative of Ohio Masonry Association, to be part of judging was a remarkable touch to recognize the student's work and their entrance into the world of CMU's. Not to mention all the goodies Mike brought with him. Thank you, Mike! I will conclude with another student comment: "I enjoyed the amount of freedom we had for the designs."

December 16, 2020 | Bowling Green, Ohio | Andreas Luescher







# USING CONCRETE MASONRY UNITS

# DESIGNING COVID-19 SANCTUARY

2020 ARCHITECTURE STUDENT DESIGN COMPETITION BRIEF

#### **Concrete Masonry**

Concrete masonry units (CMU) are precast of portland cement, fine aggregate, and water, molded into various shapes to satisfy various construction conditions. The availability of these types varies with locality and manufacturer.

- Concrete block, often incorrectly referred to as cement block, is a hollow concrete masonry unit having a compressive strength from 600 to 1500 psi (4137 to 10,342 kPa).
- Normal-weight block is made from concrete weighing more than 125 pcf (2000 kg/m<sup>3</sup>).
- Medium-weight block is made from concrete weighing from 105 to 125 pcf (1680 to 2000 kg/m<sup>3</sup>).
- Lightweight block is made from concrete weighing 105 pcf (1680 kg/m<sup>3</sup>) or less.

#### **CMU Grades**

- Grade N is a loadbearing concrete masonry unit suitable for use both above and below grade in walls exposed to moisture or weather; grade N units have a compressive strength from 800 to 1500 psi (5516 to 10.342 kPa).
- Grade S is a loadbearing concrete masonry unit limited to use above grade, in exterior walls with weather-protective coatings, or in walls not exposed to moisture or weather; grade S units have a compressive strength from 600 to 1000 psi (4137 to 6895 kPa).

#### **CMU** Types

- Type I is a concrete masonry unit manufactured to a specified limit of moisture content in order to minimize the drying shrinkage that can cause cracking.
- Type II is a concrete masonry unit not manufactured to a specified limit moisture content.
- Concrete brick is a solid rectangular concrete masonry unit usually identical in size to a modular clay brick but also available in 12" (305) lengths; concrete brick units have a compressive strength from 2000 to 3000 psi (13,790 to 20,685 kPa).

Stretcher blocks have two or three cores and nominal dimensions of 8" x 8" x 16" (205 x 205 x 405); 4", 6", 10" and 12" (100, 150, 255 and 305) wide units are also available.

Bullnose blocks have one or more rounded exterior corners.

OCC

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Corner blocks have a solid end face for use in constructing the end or corner of a wall.

Corner-return blocks are used at the corners of 6", 10", and 12" (150, 255, and 305) walls to maintain horizontal coursing with the appearance of full- and half-length units.

Double-corner blocks have solid faces at both ends and are used in constructing a masonry pier. Pilaster blocks are used in constructing a plain

or reinforced masonry pilaster. Coping blocks are used in constructing the top or finishing course of a masonry wall.

Sash or jamb blocks have an end slot or rabbet to receive the jamb of a door or window frame.

Sill blocks have a wash to shed rainwater from a sill. Cap blocks have a solid top for use as a bearing surface in the finishing course of a foundation wall. Control-joint blocks are used in constructing a vertical control joint.

Sound-absorbing masonry units have a solid top and a slotted face shell, and sometimes a fibrous filler, for increased sound absorption.

 Bond-beam blocks have a depressed section in which reinforcing steel can be placed for embedment in grout.
Open-end blocks have one end open in which vertical steel reinforcement can be placed for embedment in arout.

 Lintel blocks have a U-shaped section in which reinforcing steel can be placed for embedment in grout.
Header blocks have a portion of one face shell removed to receive headers in a bonded masonry wall.
Split-face blocks are split lengthwise by a machine after curing to produce a rough, fractured face texture.
Faced blocks have a special ceramic, glazed, or polished face.

Scored blocks have one or more vertical grooves that simulate raked joints.

Shadow blocks have a face shell with a pattern of beveled recesses.

Screen blocks, used especially in tropical architecture, have a decorative pattern of transverse openings for admitting air and excluding sunlight.

CSI MasterFormat 04 22 00 Concrete Unit Masonry

## WHAT DOES THE ACRONYM CMU STAND FOR?



WHICH PROFESSIONAL ASSOICATION SPONSORS THE CMU DESIGN COMPETITION?





13750 Sunrise Valley Drive Herndon, VA 20171-4662

**0** 703.713.1900 **F** 703.713.1910

ncma.org/foundation



DESIGNING COVID-19 SANCTUARY This project is designed to focus on the physical properties of the materials and the logic of construction techniques. Concrete masonry is often looked upon as a lesser material choice while in realty, in the hands of a creative designer, they can provide a texture, scale, and massing not found in other materials. In many areas, concrete masonry is the most common and most attainable material available to designers and constructors. Obtaining knowledge about the versatility of concrete masonry will make you a better designer.

Concrete masonry comes in a variety of sizes, shapes, finishes, and colors traditionally produced by Ohio NCMA Producer Members. Finishes can include split face, scored, ribbed, and ground face. Concrete masonry bonding can be as varied as any clay product. Each Design Team should research the material and select shapes, sizes, and finishes and develop their eventual design based on their research.

#### Program

You, as designers, will be asked to explore the historical, architectural, sculptural and environmental aspects of an outdoor space acting as a **COVID-19 Sanctuary** that will be assigned. Architectural history is full examples of interior spaces incorporating outdoor spaces. Windows do this of course, but in Le Corbusier's roof garden at the Villa Savoye outside Paris (1928-30), the sky is utilized as walls and ceiling. Donald Judd's minimalistic art spaces in Marfa, Texas do the same.

It is up to you to design a structure that goes beyond the traditional boundaries of (closed) architectural space by integrating the surrounding landscape and environment in the completed piece. Each design folly must specifically address condition(s) and reference(s) as follow:

- a) a ground plot approximately 8'x 8'
- b) at least a two steps difference in height between ground and platform
- c) a panoramic opening that frames the surroundings like in a painting
- d) reference Sol LeWitt's work (1928-2007)
- e) http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sol LeWitt

## WHERE IS THE SITE?



Sol LeWitt – Madison Square Park -2005

The site for the **COVID-19 Sanctuary** will be next to Parking Lot 19 on Poe Street across from the Wood County Airport. The parking lot and its contents, the trees, the small man-made hill and the airport facility should all be considered as elements of your design.



DESIGNING COVID-19 SANCTUARY



# WHAT ARE THE SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS?

All entries must be submitted without identifying marks (logos, text, insignia, or images) on any presentation component. Any submission that contains written or graphic material that in any way identifies the student authors will be disqualified.

No visible sign of the submission's authors (students) in any way, shape or form on any presentation components.

Teams must upload their completed submission into Share One or send it through WeTransfer (<u>https://wetransfer.com/</u>) compiled as a single PDF file of the presentation boards (images should be at 150dpi, as a tiff or jpg image but no large than 200dpi).

#### Deliverable: Board Size

Two (2)  $20^{"}x 20^{"}$  boards to be presented together as a single  $40^{"}x 20^{"}$  landscape formatted presentation. Each board must be mounted separately on  $1/4^{"}$  white foam board. Each board must include the group's registration number in the lower right-hand corner of the board using a 48-point font.

Required drawings and model:

Board One (left board in overall presentation):

Precedent study, process sketch(es), analytic diagram(s), proposal rendering (digital modeling)

Board Two (right board in overall presentation): Technical documentation (plan, section, elevation, details, etc.)

Must have at least physical model.

Text:

Required brief design statement (max. words 120)

# WHO ARE THE JUDGES?



## WHAT ARE JUDGING **CRITERIA**?

Representative Architecture Department

Representative Construction Department

Robert Austin

P.E., Ph.D.,

Assistant

Professor,

BGSU

Representative

Kerry Fan Ph.D., Teaching Professor, BGSU

Representative Allied Field of Architecture

Charles Kanwischer Director, Prof School of Art

Construction Department Wilfred Roudebush Emeritus Assoc.

Prof. Construction

Project Designer, **Buehrer Group** Architecture & Engineering

Alex Schrinel

Representative **BGSU** Alumni in Architecture

Kristi Peiffer. **BGSU Senior** Project Manager of Design

Sam Kunkle Architect

Representative

Ohio Masonry

Association

Mike Homan

Vice President,

Wayne Builders

Supply,

Greenville, OH

Representative

**Ohio Architects** 

Aesthetic Concept (the visual appeal of the design, including: overall a) appearance; the use of color, shape, and texture; and integration with the surrounding landscape)

- Innovative Use of Concrete Masonry Materials (novel use of standard b) concrete masonry products)
- Functional Use of Concrete Masonry Materials (how well the design utilizes c) the various capabilities of traditional concrete masonry units as building material)
- Constructability (how well the design takes into consideration its ability to d) be actually built)

Representative Local Architects

	Monday October 12 Monday October 19	Marketing effort to attract all students Registration opens
		OPEN TO ALL STUDENTS
	Monday October 26	Registration closed
		TEAM CAN BE MAXIMUM 4 STUDETNS
	Tuesday October 27	Notify NCMA FDN of names of the entrants
		PLEASE REGISTER WITH ANDREAS LUESCHER
	Tuesday November 10	Dry run of the submissions
		QUESTIONS DIRECT TO <u>ALUESCH@BGSU.EDU</u>
	Tuesday November 17	Final submissions
		TENTATIVE SCHEDULE BECAUSE COVID-19
	Thursday November 19	Jury deliberation and public announcement
		TBA EITHER IN PERSON OR ONLINE
	Tuesday November 24 @2:00-4:00PM	Jury deliberation and public announcement Reception for the winning projects
WHEN ARE THE		YEAH VRITUAL COVID-19 PARTY
DEADLINES?	ТВА	Optional to build 1:1 mock-up AT LEAST ONE MIGHT GET BUILD LATER





1<sup>st</sup> Prize and Special Prize: Model Team: Kiana Fitzpatrick, Laura Miles and Shannon Bachmann





2<sup>nd</sup> Prize Team: Evan Goodwin, Cody Ellerbrock and Garrett Leckrone



### **Blossoming Hope**

Our design is based off the idea of the Chinese symbol for "Lotus" and its meaning revolving around Buddhism. "Lotus" or "Lián" is a significant symbol in Chinese culture because it is said the flower rises from the mud and blooms in exquisite beauty, giving people hope. This relates to our current situation because even though Covid-19 is still very present, we are able to come together and rise up to overcome the mud and murky waters that come with our current situation.

Entering our sanctuary, you are first greet-ed with a single lotus flower surrounded by 3 concrete walls, symbolizing hope when there is none, then continuing the path there is a single elevated space that gives you 3 different linear views to the outside.











North Elevation



West Elevation





South Elevation

2.2

East Elevation 22

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize Team: Olivia Grcic and Kaden Hilinski





Wings of the Cicada is a design created to encourage outdoor connections and social distant conversations. The design of this easily accessible meeting place is a very modern, geometric design based on a very loud but contained insect called the Cicada. The Cicadas wings are very fragile but self-cleaning. To add our own self-cleaning effect to the design, we have placed copper, a natural bacterial fighting agent, to all the most touched places in the structure. The copper is used not only as a bacterial fighting agent but also as a way to show the bright and beautiful colors of the Cicada wings. We have created a very spacious, welcoming, and safe place for people to connect to others and the world around them.





Special Prize: Rendering Team: Megan Rease, Lydia Murrey and Joshua Davids





Team: Taylor Jensen, Eleena Kammeyer and Brandon Sickless



COVID-19 impacts each generation differently; this virus drastically changed daily life. The eldest generation lives fearfully in self-isolation, those middle-aged live less concerned, and the youth is unfazed by this global pandemic. The behavior of each generation is represented by an amount of darkness.

Tall walls with a narrow entryway are uncomfortable; the surrounding darkness is the seclusion of COVID-19. Transitioning to the next generation, there is a small opening of light looking into a void of isolation. The medium-sized walls allow more light and partially open the path. At the end of this path, there is another window looking at freedom. The structure opens with short walls allowing light to pour into a sanctuary marking the end. Within the sanctuary, individuals reflect on personal and global change.







### **Open Spacing**





Highway Sound Barrier





Tornado House - Ooiio

#### Team: Nathaniel Carter



To optimize the space and still meet COVID distancing standards, the structure has changes in elevation to extend the spacing and walls to act as barriers between people, but also to block wind, some work and road noise, and the unattractive views.







Team: Sarah Schutz, Kathryn Sopko and Kevin Pfleghaar





Once a falcon, always a falcon, where we soar with speed and courage. Symbolic to BGSU's iconic mascot, the peregrine falcon's wings design is relayed by two concrete masonry unit walkways situated within campus grounds. The center dwelling mimics the unconventional peregrine falcon nests which are found atop cliff edges in geometric depressions.

Glass paneling allows our user a panoramic view of the field atop the hill. The design's two separate pathways allow our users freedom to roam from the bottom to top of the hill. Inclusive to the interior, physical distancing is achievable with benches set apart with the dwelling base height of nine feet. The design is the ultimate falcon nest and achieves the sheltered experience of a subtle home away from home.













Team: Micaiah Nelson, Isiah Brewer and PaSean Wimberly