

**ARCHMEDIUM**

**NEW YORK  
VERTICAL CITY**

**Architecture competition for  
students & young architects**



*Nueva York Skyline*

## **COMPETITION**

ARCHmedium

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# COMPETITION

## **ARCHmedium**

ARCHmedium is dedicated to the organization of architectural competitions for students and young architects since 2009. We created a digital platform of architecture academic competitions under the same conditions as the professional competitions, in which a prestigious jury handles the entire process of choosing the winners. We see architecture as a technical discipline that transcends borders. The knowledge of it allows students to put it in practice what they have learned according to the needs of the site, following the words of Patrick Geddes "Think Global, Act Local."

This is why ARCHmedium is established as a multicultural platform for the exchange of projects. A place where schools of architecture around the world are represented, establishing different approaches for each project.

Our goal is to deepen the learning process and encourage future architects to generate an exchange of ideas. Thus, they will have the opportunity to bring their proposals beyond the boundaries of their city and face different cultures, therefore enriching their knowledge as architects and people.

## INTRODUCTION

New York is a great city whose global significance exceeds the limits of its contained geography. With only 87km<sup>2</sup>, the city of New York has been a protagonist to many movies, stories and collective dreams. Considered by some as the capital of the world, the city is a metropolis where anything can happen. New York is the densest city in the United States, and it is the paradigm of a compact, dense and functional city. The extreme density of the plot allows an exemplary urban development in terms of mix of uses and development of public transport. The neighborhoods have character and the people are heterogeneous, providing a rich cultural diversity where the cultural legacy, customs and leisure are intermingled.

In cultural matters New York is the birthplace of art, fashion, design and one of the world's benchmarks in terms of architecture. In its streets we can find the Guggenheim Museum by Frank Lloyd Wright, the Whitney Museum by Marcel Breuer, and the acclaimed Empire State Building and Chrysler Building, among others. The city is constantly reinventing itself as demonstrated by the latest projects by Norman Foster, Herzog & de Meuron and the latest interventions that seek a more human scale such as the Highline Park and the pedestrianization of Times Square by Snohetta.

New York is the emblematic city of professional progress, great ambitions and large corporations. A place where the idea of success in society is pursued, although in many cases it is accompanied by long working hours and the difficulty of combining it with your personal life. Many of the offices were designed with the objective of making employees as productive as possible regardless of the spatial quality or the well-being of the employees. The work spaces are often places of large dimensions, with little relation to the outside and little natural light. People spend a third of the day or more in these impersonalized and extremely repetitive places.

But New York is much more than just offices. New York is intense, it is the city of the artists, the city of the tourists, the city of the theaters, the city of the stock exchange, the city of restaurants and much more. It is known as the city that never sleeps and where many realities fit at the same time; from Woody Allen to Donald Trump. Therefore, does it make sense to continue making buildings that serve only one use? Can a mix use building generate productive and collective spaces for the enjoyment of all the community?

## **PROPOSAL**

In a city where the intensity prevails, we propose the creation of a new vertical space that shelters mixed uses. ARCHmedium proposes a competition for the creation of a large hybrid building that generates quality work spaces, temporary housing, cultural and leisure spaces in New York City. The NYVC aims to create quality work spaces where people can relax and have fun but also be productive. A new place where it is possible to combine working life with personal life, through day care centers, cafeterias and leisure areas. In addition to traditional offices, the building will contain coworking spaces and a start-up incubator.

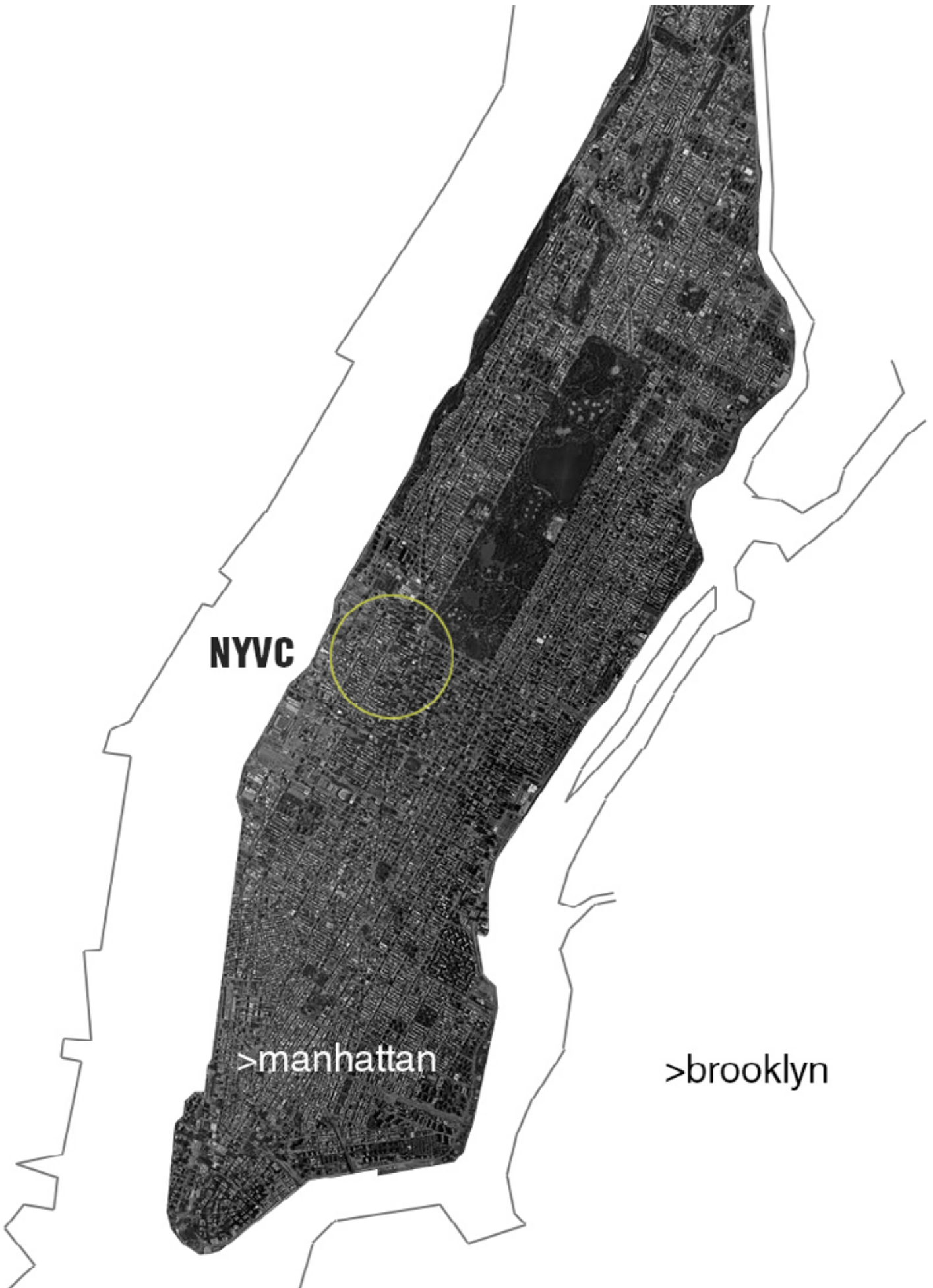
The tower will have a hotel space for visitors, exhibition areas, meeting places and a restaurant and bar open to the city. We propose a tower for the city of the 21st century where urban life is condense and integrated into the plot of public spaces in New York. A small vertical city inside the city that never sleeps.

## **THE SITE**

New York is a city where each neighborhood has its character and its particular history.

The site chosen for the NYVC competition is located in the neighborhood of Hell's Kitchen. Hell's Kitchen is an enclave of intensity and civic life where a large number of restaurants, shops and bars are located. In addition to being famous for its culinary activity, Hell's Kitchen is the neighborhood where the vast majority of new real estate developments are being built. In its streets you can see projects of the most prestigious architecture studios in the world. Only two blocks away is the exemplary Hearst Tower by Norman Foster and a few blocks more is the W57th Tower by the Danish studio BIG.

The plot of the competition is located in an exceptional corner, in the intersection of 9th Avenue and W54th Street. With 42m long and 45m wide the chosen site for the NYVC competition is located in downtown Manhattan and close to Times Square, Penn Station and Central Park. It is very well connected with the subway station, public transport and the citi bikes of New York. It is also close to the tunnel that connects NYC with New Jersey and to the New York Passenger Ship Terminal.



**NYVC**

>manhattan

>brooklyn

*NYVC site*





*NYVC site*

## PROGRAM

The NYVC tower presumes to be a new vertical icon in the city of New York therefore it should respond to the skyline of New York City. At the same time, it should be a natural continuity of the street, accordingly, a great hall should welcome the visitors as a continuity of the public spaces of the city. Through its cultural program, the tower is established as a point of access to culture and invites citizens to use it.

The cultural spaces are multi-purpose rooms where art is exhibited. They can be three rooms of 300m<sup>2</sup> or a great room of 900m<sup>2</sup>. In the grand Hall of NYVC are the reception areas for the offices and the hotel.

The total surface of the competition is 39.000m<sup>2</sup>. In addition to complying with the program, the vertical communication cores, the necessary circulations and two services for each plant should be included. You can add or reduce the surfaces by 10% depending on the will of each project. The surfaces of the rooms can be used in complete or subdivided into as many rooms as considered appropriate. The precise resolution of the surfaces enunciated in the program will not be given exhaustive attention, but rather to the relation of the program with the city. The competition does not establish height limits.

### PUBLIC

|                        |                            |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| <i>CULTURAL SPACES</i> | <i>3x300 m<sup>2</sup></i> |
| <i>CAFETERIA</i>       | <i>500 m<sup>2</sup></i>   |
| <i>RESTAURANT</i>      | <i>1000 m<sup>2</sup></i>  |
| <i>HALL NYVC</i>       | <i>600 m<sup>2</sup></i>   |
| <b>TOTAL</b>           | <b>3000 m<sup>2</sup></b>  |

### WORK & LIFE

|                            |                             |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <i>OFFICES</i>             | <i>12.000 m<sup>2</sup></i> |
| <i>COWORKING</i>           | <i>4.500 m<sup>2</sup></i>  |
| <i>START-UP INCUBATORS</i> | <i>4.500 m<sup>2</sup></i>  |
| <i>CHILDREN'S DAY CARE</i> | <i>750 m<sup>2</sup></i>    |
| <i>LEISURE CENTER</i>      | <i>750 m<sup>2</sup></i>    |
| <b>TOTAL</b>               | <b>22.500 m<sup>2</sup></b> |

### MIXED USE

|                   |                             |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| <i>HOTEL</i>      | <i>12.000 m<sup>2</sup></i> |
| <i>RESTAURANT</i> | <i>1.500 m<sup>2</sup></i>  |
| <b>TOTAL</b>      | <b>13.500 m<sup>2</sup></b> |

|              |                             |
|--------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>39.000 m<sup>2</sup></b> |
|--------------|-----------------------------|

# **ORGANIZATION'S CRITERIA**

## ELEGIBILITY

### Students Category

This category will accept architecture and related fields undergraduate students who can prove their student status on the day the competition launches with some official document (student ID or enrolment papers). Graduate, masters, and PhD students who are currently enrolled in some official course can also participate, but only if they obtained their undergraduate degree less than 3 years ago. The 3 year rule applies to graduate, masters and PhD students who are CURRENTLY ENROLLED only!

### Young Architects

This category will accept young professional architects who graduated less than 10 years ago (according to their degree expedition date) can also join the competition and opt to win the “young graduates” prize which will be awarded separately from the student prizes. In both categories teams can be formed by just one member or up to six (6). Members of a team don't necessarily have to be students at the same university or live in the same country. It is not necessary that all members of a team are architecture specialists. Having a photographer, artist, philosopher, etc. on a team can help to see the project in a new way, thus enriching the final result. However, it is recommended that at least one member of the team has some experience in architecture. The teams may also be formed by both students and young architects. The registration fee is paid per team, regardless of how many members form it.

## PRIZES

### Winners Student Category

1° 2.000€ / 2° 700€ / 3° 300€

- Considered for publication in an architecture magazine.
- One-year subscription to Designing the Future magazine
- Considered for Reviews in digital magazines and several architecture blogs.
- 1 year subscription to ARCHcase Premium

### 10 Honorable mentions

- Considered for publication in an architecture magazine.
- Considered for Reviews in digital magazines and several architecture blogs.
- 1 year subscription to ARCHcase Premium.

### Winners Young Architects Category

1° 2.000€

- Considered for publication in an architecture magazine.
- One-year subscription to an architecture magazine.
- Considered for Reviews in digital magazines and several architecture blogs.
- 1 year subscription to ARCHcase Premium

### 3 Honorable mentions

- Considered for publication in an architecture magazine.
- Considered for Reviews in digital magazines and several architecture blogs.
- 1 year subscription to ARCHcase Premium.

## **JURY**

RAAD STUDIO  
MOS ARCHITECTS  
STUDIO CADENA

## **CALENDAR**

|               |                             |
|---------------|-----------------------------|
| ENE 12TH 2018 | SPECIAL REGISTRATION STARTS |
| MAR 4TH 2018  | SPECIAL REGISTRATION ENDS   |
| MAR 5TH 2018  | EARLY REGISTRATION STARTS   |
| APR 1ST 2018  | EARLY REGISTRATION ENDS     |
| APR 2ND 2018  | REGULAR REGISTRATION STARTS |
| APR 29TH 2018 | REGULAR REGISTRATION ENDS   |
| MAY 13TH 2018 | SUBMISSION DEADLINE         |
| MAY 15TH 2018 | LIST OF RECEIVED PROJECTS   |
| JUN 30TH 2018 | WINNERS ANNOUNCEMENT        |

## REGISTRATION

Registration periods will be between August 7th, 2018 and November 19th, 2018 and will be divided as follows:

|         |                    |         |
|---------|--------------------|---------|
| Special | Ene 12th - Mar 4th | 60,50€* |
| Early   | Mar 5th - Apr 1st  | 90,75€* |
| Regular | Apr 2nd - Apr 29th | 121,00€ |

\*Registration prices include taxes.

For a project to be accepted the team must be properly registered to the competition. All registrations will be done through the ARCHmedium website, where you will be asked to choose between several payment options. After completing the registration form, each team will be assigned a registration code. It's important to keep this registration code in a safe place since it will allow your team to access the intranet where you'll have access to your registration status, payment tools, and the upload form to submit your project as we will explain in further sections of this document.

## PAYMENT METHODS

All payments made through Bank Transfer must be identified with the registration code of the team they belong to so that we can relate them correctly. If we receive a payment that is not properly identified we won't be able to relate it to your team and your participation will not be confirmed until you provide a proof of payment.

Accepted payment methods:

### Credit or Debit card

You may use any major credit or debit card (VISA, MasterCard, American Express, etc.). All payments will be handled by PayPal to ensure the highest security standards on the web (you do not need a Paypal account). ARCHmedium will never get direct access to your card details. Your registration will be confirmed automatically. We do not charge any extra fees for the use of this payment method.

### Pay-Pal

It is the fastest, easiest, and most secure way to pay online. Your registration will be received instantly. We do not charge any service fees when you use Pay-Pal, debit cards, or credit cards.

### Bank transfer

You must make a deposit of the stipulated amount (according to your registration period) to the account below. \*\*

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| Bank:           | BBVA                                   |
| Account Holder: | ARCHmedium                             |
| Account number: | 01824609940200734513                   |
| Concept:        | Registration Code (XXX- Three letters) |
| IBAN:           | ES7901824609940200734513               |
| SWIFT:          | BBVAESMMXXX                            |

\*Once the payments are received and the registration is confirmed the fees won't be refunded or transferred to other competitions under any circumstance.

\*\*The date that will be considered to identify which registration period you belong to is the date that you submitted the payment. You must send a confirmation to evidence the date.

\*\*\*Any bank fees that this operation might generate must be paid by the sender.

## **FAQ**

During the competition, all participants are permitted to ask questions which help them better understand the project description and/or any other aspect of the competition. These questions may be asked via email at [concursos@archmedium.com](mailto:concursos@archmedium.com) or via ARCHtopic's facebook page.

Follow us on instagram! @archmedium

# SUBMISSIONS



## **DOCUMENTATION**

All the necessary documentation to develop the project, such as pictures of the site, videos, AutoCad drawings, etc. will be available at the ARCHmedium website so that anyone can download them before or after joining the competition. They may access and download the materials as many times as they need to. No additional information or working material will be provided to teams after registering. Participants are free to use all this material in the context of this competition. They are also allowed to create their own graphic documents or to find new ones from other sources.

## **PRESENTATION**

Each team will submit only one din-A1 size (59,4, 84,1cm), landscape or portrait panel with their proposal. This panel must be identified with the registration code of the team and the registration code ONLY; any panel including team names or personal names might be disqualified without refund. Each team is responsible for choosing which information they include in their panel so that the jury may gain the clearest understanding of their project. The representation technique is completely free (2D drawings, pictures of models, sketches, renders, collages, etc.). The jury will not only evaluate the quality of the project but also the clarity and quality of the presentation. We do not recommend including large amounts of text on the panel. The project should be explanatory enough through the graphic material. However, certain notes might be acceptable. These notes must be written ONLY in English, any text written in a different language will not be taken into account and may lead to a team's disqualification.

## **SUBMISSION**

Submissions must be done through the ARCHtopic's intranet only, before the date indicated on the competition calendar. You must log in with your username and password and follow the upload process. No submissions will be accepted by e-mail or any other medium. The submission page will be automatically closed after the submission date and time are reached, not allowing any modifications or aggregations after that, so please, try to upload your project 24 hours in advance so that you have time to solve any issues that might come up along the way (they always do!). The panel must be no other size than Din-A1 and be in no other format than JPG. The maximum weight of the file is 12MB.

## **EVALUATION CRITERIA**

The jury will be in charge of establishing the key points that this project needed to address based on the site, brief, etc. and evaluate each project accordingly. As part of the design process we recommend that each team takes the necessary time to research the working site as well as other case study projects that might relate to the brief in hand to determinate what aspects of the project are the most unique and therefore need to be addressed and successfully solved to achieve a good result. Remember that this is an ideas competition, an opportunity for experiment and explore the limits of architecture. The jury reserves the right to award any proposal that fails at any of the parameters mentioned in these rules, as long as it justifies the breach of the rule in favor of the architectural design of the proposal.

## **VOTING SYSTEM**

The voting system to choose the winning projects is as follows:

1. ARCHmedium team, following the jury's instructions, will make an initial selection of 50 projects in response to the above criteria.
2. The members of the jury will study both the pre-selected projects and all others privately and include, if they consider it necessary, any of the non-selected projects in the initial list of 50.
3. At the meeting, the jurors will discuss all the pre-selected projects (The ARCHmedium's selected 50 projects plus the projects added by the jury) to decide the winner, second and third prize and honorable mentions.

# LEGAL ASPECTS

## **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

The authors retain all rights to their proposals except for the purposes of promoting and publishing the competition.

By submitting your proposal to the competition the participant authorizes ARCHmedium to use the material received for publication of the project both in print and digital editions, always referring to his authors.

## **RULES ACCEPTANCE**

The presentation of the proposals to the competition implies the acceptance of these rules and authorizing the broadcasting of selected works.

## **DATA PROTECTION**

All information submitted via paper forms, electronic forms and/or e- mail will be treated in strict confidence in accordance with Law 15/1999, of December 13, Protection of Personal Data.

Participants presented to the selection and prizes will respond, in any case, to the veracity of the data provided. ARCHmedium reserves the right to exclude from the registered services to anyone that has provided false information, without prejudice to other actions stipulated by law.

## **OTHER NOTES**

- ARCHmedium reserves the right to make any changes to this document (dates, deadlines, requirements, etc.) as long as the changes benefit a majority of the competition participants. Any modifications will be announced on the ARCHmedium's website and facebook page. It is each team's responsibility to check on a regular basis to follow and incorporate all changes.
- Under no circumstances will members of the jury, members of the organization, or persons with a direct personal or professional relationship with members of the jury or the organization be allowed to participate in this competition.
- The project of this competition is a fictitious job and will not be built. The provided documentation has been modified to better meet the goals of this competition and, as a result, the provided documents do not fully correspond with reality and do not necessarily follow any existing building or urban planning regulations.
- No one has hired or contacted ARCHmedium in order to organize this competition. The idea and program of this competition have been fully developed by ARCHmedium to serve solely as an academic exercise.
- ARCHmedium has no relation to the owners of the site where this exercise is proposed to be and therefore cannot guarantee that participants will have any access to the property.
- ARCHmedium is not held responsible for a breach of contract regarding the publications and subscriptions of the magazines.
- ARCHmedium is not responsible if any participant uses a photograph, drawing or other resource without having their rights.

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Revista de Arquitectura y PFC

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*Competition sponsors*

