

FabStruct

The 1997 International Membrane Structure Student Design Challenge

THEME

A hypothetical FabStruct 1997 Symposium & Exposition of architectural fabric structures will set the scene for the design challenge. The fictional event appropriately will be held in a membrane structure, which each student or student group will design. Students may design a canopy, tent, air or tensile structure, a hybrid of these existing applications, or something entirely new.

The structure must serve several purposes. The entry should offer a landmark for attendees. An area for registration, project and manufacturer exhibits, and social gatherings should be provided. A main theater will seat 500 people for keynote addresses and seminars.

The structure may be permanent or temporary in nature and should provide shelter, offer freedom of movement, and provide clear sight lines. The design should account for lighting, acoustical, electrical, heating, ventilation, and other mechanical and support systems. If the structure is to be permanent, students should suggest its potential for future use. If the structure is deemed temporary, students must consider how it is to be constructed without permanently altering the site.

PRIZES

Prize awards totalling US \$4,000 (minimum) will be divided among the top projects at the jury's direction. In addition, the jury will have the option of recognizing projects meriting honorable mention.

JURY

Three international jurors with backgrounds in architecture, design, landscape architecture, and/or structural engineering will serve on the FabStruct judges panel. Jurors will be announced in autumn 1996.

DESIGN PRESENTATION

- Plan of a membrane structure at 1/8 inch = 1 foot scale*.
- Three elevations at 1/8 inch = 1 foot scale*.
- Sections sufficient to describe the spatial form, structure, and volume of the membrane structure at 1/8 inch = 1 foot* (no more than three).
- Perspective rendering (optional).
- Photo(s) of a scale model (any scale) of the structure (required). NOTE: Do not submit the model, simply include photos of the model as part of the competition submission.
- Details as necessary to describe the construction, structural design, and membrane design at 1/8 inch = 1 foot*.
- A written description (minimum 500 words) explaining the project's context, design intent, primary materials, details, etc.
- All of the above are to be permanently mounted on one side of one or two 24- by 36-inch* board(s), which may be illustration board, foam-core, or other.
- Decisions on all matters falling outside the range of these specifications are left to the applicants.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- Send only entry form and boards with plan, elevations, sections, details, model photos, and written description. Additional material will not be used or returned. Photocopies of the entry form are acceptable.
- Within the written description, identify the fabric/membrane material(s) selected for the membrane structure. NOTE: A generic description, such as PTFE-coated fiberglass, PVC-coated polyester,

▶ solution-dyed acrylic, or woven PTFE, is sufficient. You need not identify a product tradename or limit selection to those products offered by competition sponsors.

- On the back of one board, securely attach an envelope containing the entry form. No other identification of the participant(s) should appear in any way on the boards. Be sure to identify all participants (if more than one) on the design entry form. Make sure that all names are spelled correctly; indicate the school each participant attends.
- English is the official language of the FabStruct competition.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE AND MAILING ADDRESS

All FabStruct entries must be received at Philadelphia College of Textiles & Science, School of Architecture & Interior Design, Schoolhouse Lane & Henry Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19144-5497 USA, by Friday, December 6, 1996 (not simply postmarked with that date).

ANNOUNCEMENT OF WINNERS

Winning entries, chosen in January 1997, will appear in the Fabrics & Architecture March & April 1997 issue, which will be distributed at the mega-zine's exhibit at the AIA Expo '97 in May and at the Industrial Fabric & Equipment Exposition in October 1997.

CONTEST FEE

There is no fee for submitting design projects. All expenses for submission, such as packing and mailing charges, however, are the responsibility of the applicant(s).

LIABILITY

Fabrics & Architecture, the Industrial Fabrics Association International (IFAI), and the competition sponsors accept no liability for accidents, damage, or any other problems affecting the submissions. All reasonable precautions will be taken in handling and transporting submissions.

RIGHTS

Boards and the attached illustrations and photographs become the property of Fabrics & Architecture and IFAI and cannot be returned. Applicants should keep copies of their work if necessary. Copyright on submitted designs will revert to the applicant, but by entering the competition, you grant Fabrics & Architecture permission to reproduce the illustrations, photographs, and other submitted information from the entry form and boards in future articles and promotions.

EXCLUSIONS

Entries that do not adhere to the above regulations, are incomplete, and/or do not include a signed entry form will not be accepted into the competition. Designs that clearly violate copyrights or industrial property rights or have already been announced elsewhere will be excluded from judging.

SPONSORS

Nine industry leaders have committed their sponsorship to support FabStruct:

- Birdair Inc., Amherst, N.Y., USA
- ChemFab Corp., Merrimack, N.H., USA
- DCI Inc., Norcross, Ga., USA
- Ferrari, La Tour du Pin, France
- W.L. Gore & Associates, Elkton, Md., USA
- Seaman Corp., Wooster, Ohio, USA
- Taiyo Kogyo, Tokyo, Japan
- Unitex, Central Falls, R.I., USA
- Philadelphia College of Textiles & Science (PCT&S), School of Architecture, Philadelphia, Pa., USA

PCT&S also will serve as the site of the FabStruct jury and exhibition in January 1997.



By developing FabStruct, Fabrics & Architecture hopes to build on more than 50 years of progress in modern architectural fabric structures. Fabrics & Architecture is published bimonthly by the Industrial Fabrics Association International (IFAI). IFAI exists to serve its diverse membership by facilitating the worldwide development, application, and promotion of products manufactured by the industrial/technical textiles industry.

To receive additional entry forms or information, contact Randy Klarr, Fabrics & Architecture, 612/225-6927 or 800/225-4324, fax 612/225-6966, e-mail jmcook@aol.com

FABSTRUCT: THE 1997 INTERNATIONAL MEMBRANE STRUCTURE STUDENT DESIGN CHALLENGE ENTRY FORM (Please print clearly)

Participating student _____ Primary student contact _____
 University _____ Address _____
 Participating student _____ Telephone _____ Fax _____
 University _____ E-mail _____
 Participating student _____ Title of submission _____
 University _____ Material(s) used _____

I, a FabStruct participant and a student currently enrolled in a program of study, have read, understand, and agree to the rules as they stand and do swear that the design submitted is my own original work and does not violate any known copyrights or industrial property rights.

Participating student _____ Date _____
 Participating student _____ Date _____
 Participating student _____ Date _____
 Participating student _____ Date _____

is an original work of the student participants and does not violate any known copyrights or industrial property rights.

Faculty sponsor _____
 Faculty sponsor _____
 Date _____
 Faculty sponsor academic title _____

INQUIRIES

To receive more information or additional FabStruct entry forms, contact Randy Klarr at Fabrics & Architecture, 612/225-6927, 800/225-4324; fax 612/222-6966, e-mail jmcook@aol.com