

Architecture in the Schools Committee

The Architecture in the Schools Committee (AIS) is charged with extending IAF's mission to children. It does this through a number of annual programs including the Architecture by Children (ABC) drawing contest, the "Snapshot Iowa" photography contest, tours, speaking engagements, library programs and more. This section contains information on the AIS programming.

There are multiple volunteer opportunities to get involved with Architecture in the Schools activities. Volunteers can serve on the committee or pick-and-choose events or activities that are convenient with their schedule. We welcome your interest, input, and contribution.

Architecture by Children Drawing (K-6) Contest and Snapshot Iowa (7-12) Photography Contests

What: An opportunity for students to appreciate architecture through drawing or photography.

When: Contest announced in the fall for the following year, and judged in April.

Volunteer Opportunities:

Graphic Design: Assist in creating annual poster and related contest materials.

Marketing: Assist Executive Director in developing and executing marketing materials announcing the contest.

Judges: Judge the annual entries.

Time Commitment: Varies based on volunteer opportunity chosen.

Skills Needed:

Graphic Design: Illustrator and related design software knowledge.

Marketing: Ability to craft marketing messages and disseminate material across multiple electronic platforms in a short period of time.

Judges: Ability to impartially judge contest entries.

Get Involved: Contact IAF Executive Director (director@iowaarchfoundation.org) or Champion Michelle Sacco at (msacco@rdgusa.com).

Student Walking Tours

What: An opportunity to showcase downtown Des Moines Architecture to children of various ages.

When: Scheduled in advance by schools or art teachers, although most tours are given in the month of May.

Volunteer Opportunities:

Tour guide: (architecture, design professional, or architectural enthusiast) lead the tour.

Wranglers: (architecture or design professional or architecture enthusiast) help keep the tour moving on time.

Time Commitment: up to 90 minutes.

Skills Needed:

Tour Guide: Ability to interact with children of all ages follow pre-designed tour routes. All guides are provided extensive notes for the school tour route.

Wrangler: Ability to interact with children of all ages; good time keeping skills.

Get Involved: Contact IAF Executive Director (director@iowaarchfoundation.org) or Champion Tom Wollan (twollan@frk-ae.com).

ArKIDtec-SURE! Presenters

What: An opportunity to present to students in grades 4-6 the basic concepts of shape, color, and design.

When: Scheduled in advance by schools or art teachers and on demand from the State Historic Museum in Des Moines.

Volunteer Opportunities:

Presenter: Present the material, assist with supplemental activities, and answer questions from grade school students and classroom teachers.

Time Commitment: Varies, although the presentation is 20-25 minutes. Supplemental material takes up additional time.

Skills Needed:

Presenter: Ability to interact with children. All presenters are given extensive notes.

Get Involved: Contact IAF Executive Director (director@iowaarchfoundation.org).