



ZERO WASTE EDUCATION CENTER DESIGN COMPETITION

**with AIA Detroit's
Committee on the Environment**



**Submissions due:
March 29, 2024**

1ST PLACE: \$1,500

2ND PLACE: \$1,000

3RD PLACE: \$500

Registration Fee:

- \$50 per individual or team
- \$15 for students

Details:

Who:

Open to all students, professionals, and community members (individuals or teams)

What:

Creative Ideas and Design Solutions
for the Zero Waste Education Center

When:

KICK-OFF: January 30, 2024

SUBMISSIONS DUE: March 29, 2024

AWARDS ANNOUNCED: To be announced April 2024

Why:

AIA Detroit Committee on the Environment (COTE) is partnering with Green Living Science (GLS) to imagine what a community-focused Zero Waste Education Center could look like through an open invitation design competition.

REGISTRATION HERE :

www.aiad2024cotecompetition.eventbrite.com

Introduction:

Green Living Science currently operates from the Life is a Dreamtroit redevelopment, which also houses the Lincoln Street Art Park. The park accommodates our Activi-Tree shipping container classroom, furnishing an outdoor learning environment for field trips and summer camp activities.

Through our partnership with the Detroit Public School Community District, students from across the City of Detroit will have access to the Zero Waste Education Center for field trips. Our team of educators will design workshops, interactive exhibits, and hands-on activities that cater to diverse age groups and learning styles. With an expanded facility, GLS could extend field trips to cover a larger portion of the school year, considering that weather often affects the ability to host these events. Hosting training for ambassador programs necessitates offsite arrangements due to the inadequacy of current meeting spaces.

Additionally, the capacity to educate about waste reduction and sustainability is restricted due to limited visibility and demonstration space. GLS estimates that with the capital support for a Zero Waste Education Center, its reach and overall impact on the city of Detroit will triple within five years of its opening.



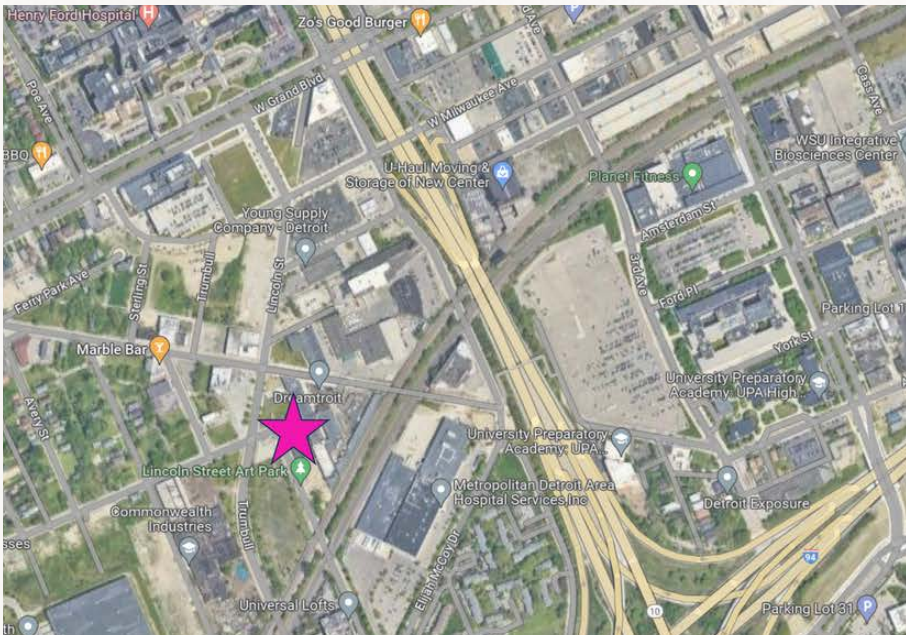
Background:

Green Living Science (GLS) was founded in 2007 as a response to the Detroit Public Schools Community District's request to bring education about recycling to its students. With a mission to transform Detroit by teaching about waste and recycling, GLS is dedicated to working alongside Detroit residents to increase recycling participation and awareness of environmental issues and personal responsibility. GLS envisions a Detroit with a robust circular economy and citizens who are mindful of our environment and natural resources.

GLS has a long history of meeting community needs including our primary program, centered around increasing household curbside recycling participation. Actively engaging with residents, providing education and resources to encourage proper recycling practices and waste reduction. By nurturing a passion for sustainability in our youth, we aim to foster a generation that embraces sustainable practices and becomes environmental stewards. The long-term aspiration is to transition the City of Detroit from an opt-in recycling program to an opt-out recycling program—an approach that, following national trends, could double participation rates across the city. Currently, the principal challenge against this transition is the lack of education and awareness concerning recycling practices. Expanding educational opportunities for both youth and adults in the community enhances the likelihood of effecting this change.

Project Location:


The project site, located at 5984 Lincoln St, Detroit, MI, 48208, is situated in the Northwest Goldberg neighborhood, which is closely positioned to the Henry Ford Hospital, Wayne State University, and Woodbridge and Elijah McCoy neighborhoods.



The project site is located adjacent to the newly redeveloped Dreamtrot complex, Lincoln Street Art Park, and Recycle Here! Community recycling center.



Design Objectives:

- Propose innovative and sustainable design solutions that make efficient use of the existing building with modern upgrades and creative use of recycled and/or reclaimed materials
 - Ensure the design is inclusive and accessible to all
 - Create spaces and elements that allow for a variety of uses including educational programming, cultural events and gatherings, and other community-focused amenities
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Project Requirements:

Designs should consider the building itself, adjacent greenspace, and connectivity to the recycling center next door. Programmatic considerations include:

Inclusive Design


The Zero Waste Education Center should be a genuinely inclusive and inviting space that embraces the diverse cultures and demographics of the City of Detroit.

Room for Community

The versatility of spaces will help to accommodate various activities, guaranteeing the comfortable hosting of diverse cultural events, workshops, and gatherings.

Sustainable Design

With a goal to be as close to a net zero facility as possible, we will be working to reduce our footprint not only of the construction itself but also of the programming that takes place here. The project's design will be underscored by a profound commitment to key sustainability pillars, including:

- Energy efficiency,
 - Water conservation
 - Renewable energy sources,
 - Waste reduction
 - Universal design principles that ensure accessibility for all
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Project Requirements Continued:

Material selection will encompass, though not exclusively, the following:

- Recycled material content
- Reclaimed and repurposed materials sourced from local partners (including Architectural Salvage Warehouse)
- Low-carbon materials
- Chemical-free/low VOC materials
- Durable, low-maintenance materials

Efficient Systems

The center will be equipped with energy-efficient heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems, as well as LED lighting, to minimize energy consumption.

The landscaping around the center will be designed with low-maintenance native plants that require minimal watering and upkeep.

The center may feature live demonstrations of energy-efficient technologies within its facility from the redevelopment so that visitors can observe the practical applications of these technologies and gain a better understanding of their benefits.

Awards:

Cash prizes will be distributed for the top three entries as determined by the jury:

First Place \$ 1,500

Second Place \$ 1,000

Third Place \$ 500

Submission Requirements:

YOU MUST BE REGISTERED TO SUBMIT

Submit a 3-5 page, 11"x 17" PDF of your design that includes:

- 250-word maximum narrative describing the idea
- Plan(s)
- Section(s)
- Sketches and/or renderings that show materials, landscape, and people

Do not include names of entrant(s) anywhere in the PDF

Please use the COTE ID you have been assigned in naming your file. Example: COTE24_03

Additional Information:

COMPETITION SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

FILES/DOCUMENTS

- 3D Model
- Site/Floor Plan
- Site Photos

PLEASE SUBMIT ALL MATERIALS USING THIS GOOGLE FORM

QUESTIONS?

Please email cote@aiadetroit.com

