Cool Gardens is a public exhibition of contemporary garden and art installations that offers a shift of sensation for the summer — cooling — as a general theme for public projects in Winnipeg’s downtown. Cool Gardens brings architects, landscape architects, designers, artists, and the public together, celebrating the interface between urbanism, landscape and design. The competition will feature locally, nationally, and internationally acclaimed artists and practitioners in the Winnipeg and Brandon context, highlighting the value of art and design in public space.
Deadline for submission:
The deadline to submit proposals for Cool Gardens 2017 competition is:
January 15th, 2017 at 6PM CST.
*All Registration Forms + Registration Fees must be received by:
December 21st, 2016 at 6PM CST.
For further information, please contact: info@coolgardens.ca

General:

Presented by StorefrontMB and The Forks, Cool Gardens celebrates the interface between nature, art, urbanism and design. The exhibition has run in Winnipeg for the past four years, with 2017 marking its fifth anniversary. Past presenters include BGL, SPMB, Scatliff+Miller+Murray, Ewa Tarsia, ATLRG, Micah Lexier and Claude Cormier [providing a visiting garden from the Jardins de Métis]. The event is highly accessible to a broad audience including children, tourists, shoppers, cyclists, and business people.

Mirroring Winnipeg’s internationally acclaimed Warming Huts Exhibition on Ice, Cool Gardens places design culture at the centre of summer activities in Winnipeg and Brandon, while offering pleasant relief from summer’s exasperations. In Winnipeg, installations will run from Main Street to Provencher Boulevard, highlighting this generally unrecognized pedestrian linkage that bridges the Anglophone and Francophone communities. Installations along this axis provide an engaging, creative, and active experience for downtown Winnipeg. A satellite site in Brandon includes the Riverbank Discovery Centre.

Cool Gardens will take place from July 2nd to September 24th, 2017. In addition to the 3 new gardens selected by competition, Cool Gardens 2017 will include an invited garden by Calgary based architect Marc Boutin, as well as the re-mounting of 4 previous gardens: 2° [LADR Landscape Architects], Cure de Ville [Janelle Tougas], Cool Dots [Ewa Tarsia], and Le Rendez Vous [LaTourelle + Witthöft].

About the Organizer:

StorefrontMB was established in 2010 to foster Design Culture in Manitoba. Since its inception, SfMB has coordinated a host of events including: forums, film series, the annual Winnipeg Design Festival, CommerceDesignWinnipeg, the Architecture Fringe Festival and Table For 1200, as well as publishing three books on Manitoba Architecture and Urban Design. The organization is overseen by a board of directors that draws from all spatial disciplines: Landscape, Architecture, Interior Design, and Planning.
**Concept:**

The Call for Entries 2017 seeks creative entries that prompt curiosity, play, and appreciation of urban spaces by highlighting the significance of nature, art, and design. Central to Cool Gardens is the idea that contemporary design can instigate participation in public spaces in interactive, critical, poetic, and meaningful ways. The intention of this emergent festival is to provoke questions about our public spaces and about the role of landscape architecture and design to give enhanced meaning and value to our urban culture. Cool Gardens thus animates our public spaces with a critical collection of experiences - expanding the idea of what a garden might be.

Cool Gardens expands the vocabulary of garden design and serves as a learning tool. As we go back to our boulevards and backyards we hope to spread the creativity of Cool Gardens to the everyday practice of gardening in our city and region, creating in the process a dialogue on contemporary design with our sister cities across Canada and the world.

**Evaluation Criteria:**

While there is no overarching competition theme, entrants are expected to be responsive to the specificity of their selected site conditions, within the overall framework of cooling. Proponents may also wish to indicate how their garden would be feasible to re-mount in subsequent years. Winning proposals will be selected by the jury based on: creativity, originality, clarity, durability, provisions for barrier-free access, ease of fabrication and decommissioning, budget, interpretation of the site and cooling, safety, and most importantly, potential for public engagement.

**Jury:**

The Competition Jury is comprised of the following individuals:

- Alexandra Keim [Artistic Director, La Maison des Artistes]
- Jae-Sung Chon [Owner, MAKE / Coffee + Stuff; Instructor, Faculty of Architecture, University of Manitoba]
- Paul Jordan [President & CEO, The Forks North Portage Partnership]
- Peter Hargraves [Curator, Warming Huts; Principal, Sputnik Architecture]
- Suzy Melo [Landscape Architect, FT3 Architecture Landscape Interior Design; Co-curator, BENCHmark]

Co-Curators of Cool Gardens 2017:

- David Penner [Curator, Cool Gardens 2013-17; President, StorefrontMB; Principal, David Penner Architect]
- Jeff Palmer [Curator, Cool Gardens 2016-17; Principal, Catapult Community Planning]

Technical Advisor:

- David Pancoe [Manager Special Projects, The Forks Renewal Corporation]
Budget + Honoraria:

Final budgets for the gardens will be subject to funding, the recommended breakdown is as follows:

- Team / Artist Fees: $1,500
- Hardscaping: $2,500
- Softscaping: $3,500
- Labour/installation: $2,500
- Total Budget: $10,000

The winning entrants will manage and oversee the construction of the gardens in consultation with Cool Gardens curators. Installation of the gardens will be executed by the designers, or managed by them and paid for from the Total Budget:

In addition, up to $1000 will be provided to help offset transport and accommodation costs for each winning team from outside the province of Manitoba. Out-of-province teams are encouraged to seek travel grants from their own jurisdictions to make up the difference. Teams are also encouraged to source additional funding or in-kind contributions for their installations if actual costs exceed the Total Installation Budget. Gardens may be exhibited for more than one year. In the case where a garden is re-mounted, the design team will receive an additional honorarium.

Constraints, Restrictions and Conditions:

- Installations shall not require significant excavation or permanent damage to existing infrastructure.
- Installations shall not require sub-surface foundations. Components may be staked to the ground provided the depth of staking does not exceed 12”.
- The cost of decommissioning and site restoration shall, in the opinion of the competition technical reviewer, not exceed $1000.
- At least one member of each winning team must be in Winnipeg during the Installation Period.

Schedule:

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>November 9, 2016</td>
<td>Registration Opens</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 21, 2016</td>
<td>Registration + Registration Fee Payment Deadline</td>
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<td>January 15, 2017</td>
<td>Deadline for Competition Submissions [ electronic ]</td>
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<td>January 22, 2017</td>
<td>Confirmation of Eligibility &amp; Adjudication</td>
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<td>February 15, 2017</td>
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<td>March 14, 2017</td>
<td>Detailed Design Submission for Selected Projects</td>
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<td>July 2 - July 9, 2017</td>
<td>Installation Period</td>
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<td>July 7 &amp; 8, 2017</td>
<td>Media Event &amp; Garden Party</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 24, 2017</td>
<td>Closing and decommission</td>
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General Site Information:

Sites for the Cool Gardens loosely extend along an axis that includes The Forks, La Maison des Artistes grounds [ Provencher Boulevard ], and Main Street. While The Forks site serves as anchor and connector, the projects span and bridge [ both physically and metaphorically ] the Francophone and Anglophone districts of Winnipeg. A satellite site includes Brandon, MB.

2017 Competition Sites:

1. East of CMHR
2. Upper Fort Garry Provincial Park
3. Riverbank Discovery Centre, Brandon MB

Re-Mount / By Invitation:

2° by LADR Landscape Architects [ Re-mount, La Maison des Artistes Visuels ]
Cure de Ville by Janelle Tougas [ Re-mount, La Maison des Artistes Visuels ]
Cool Dot by Ewa Tarsia [ Re-mount, Inn at the Forks ]
Le Rendez-Vouz by LaTourelle + Witthöft [ Re-mount, South Point ]
Garden by Marc Boutin [ By Invitation, Esplanade Riel ]
Site One, is located East of the Canadian Museum for Human Rights and is nestled between the base of Etienne Gaboury's elegant Esplanade Riel foot bridge and the Provencher Bridge. Both bridges are significant in their presence, acting as a strong East/West axis that connects two historically vital territories in Winnipeg; The Forks and St. Boniface. A long approach East bound brings visitors to this gently sloping, manicured site where the Red River flows only feet away. There are several groomed paved pathways surrounding this pocket of land that entices visitors to weave in and out above and beneath the bridges. There is a strong juxtaposition of “line” in terms of the verticality of the Esplanade Riel and the horizontal nature of the vehicular bridge. Site One sits on the West side of the Red River within a 13.6 acre plot of land that is known as The Forks National Historic Site of Canada (1989). Today, The Forks is home to a plethora of beautifully manicured public spaces, inspiring and captivating sculptures, historic and newly historic buildings, a skateboard park, a market place and a native prairie garden. The Forks hosts many year round events and activities such as concerts at the Scotia Bank Stage, fitness competitions like Cyclocross and, the world acclaimed winter competition; Warming Huts, where architects and designers compete to have their installations adorn significant lengths of the frozen Red and Assiniboine Rivers throughout the winter months in Winnipeg.
Site Two, Upper Fort Garry Provincial Park, is a Historic Site in the heart of downtown Winnipeg - one of Western Canada's most significant historic assets. In the 19th and 20th Century, the site was the heart of Nation Building, Cultural Conflict and Public Debate - largely influencing commerce, culture and urbanization. In 2015, the site became a Provincial Heritage Park, designed by HTFC and Cohlmeyer Architecture. The design of the park resonates the site's deep historic roots, with gardens and structures built strategically in the place of former structures. The site sits on an area of lawn, between a pathway leading into the park, and the Main Street sidewalk [ southbound ]. Main street is a major transportation route connecting the North and South of the City of Winnipeg, thus receives high levels of pedestrian and vehicular traffic. Significant structures nearby include Union Station [ to the northeast ] and the underpass entering The Forks [ directly to the east ]. Upper Fort Garry Gate is the only surviving historical structure in the park today, which serves as the main entrance into the park. The park attracts visitors and passersby daily. The chosen installation for this site is required to have an element of interpretation, or pay homage in some way, to the meaning and history of the site. See: http://www.upperfortgarry.com/information/discovering-ufg/historical-overview/
Site Three, the Riverbank Discovery Centre site in Brandon, Manitoba is located along a gently sloping grassed area adjacent to the Riverbank Discovery Centre. Located in the valley of the Assiniboine River that meanders through Brandon, Manitoba’s second largest city, the Assiniboine River begins its journey in eastern Saskatchewan, flowing over 1000 kilometres until it reaches the Red River at The Forks. The lands within the floodplain are subject to seasonal flooding and tend to be used for agricultural and recreational uses. The Riverbank Discovery Centre, located on the banks of the Assiniboine, is home to the Brandon and Regional Tourism Centre, Brandon Riverbank Inc., Brandon First and Ducks Unlimited Canada Provincial Field Offices. The site is contained by a series of pedestrian pathways that extend throughout the river valley allowing for both tourists and residents to explore the many diverse wildlife and ecologies that inhabit this land. Decorative lighting found along the adjacent pathways are inviting, allowing visitors to explore from dusk until dawn. To the disappointment of many, much of the Discovery Centre’s lands have been devastated by extensive overland flooding; a naturally occurring event that has hit this site twice in the last five years. The grassed site is roughly 200 feet by 75 feet [at it’s widest point] with a handful of immature trees recently planted around the perimeter.
**Registration:**

Registration and Registration Fees must be received by December 21st, 2016. Proponents can register online by emailing a completed Registration Form [Download Here] to info@coolgardens.ca. Cool Gardens will confirm the registration by providing a unique Registration Number via email.

In order to receive ample submissions for all sites, Cool Gardens may limit the number of submissions for a given site in which case, an announcement will be posted on the www.coolgardens.ca website.

A Registration Fee of $50 CDN is payable online at: [https://squareup.com/store/storefrontmb/](https://squareup.com/store/storefrontmb/) or by cheque / money order to ‘Storefront Manitoba’. Cheques or money orders that are sent by mail must be postmarked no later than the payment deadline. Please include your Competition Registration Number in the memo line of the cheque or money order.

*Forward payment by mail to StorefrontMB, 120 Yale Avenue, Winnipeg, MB, R3M 0L7.*

**Eligibility:**

This Call for Proposals is open to teams and individuals consisting of designers, architects, landscape architects, and/or artists. Individuals may be students, interns, or practitioners. Multiple submissions are permitted although a separate registration fee will be required for each submission.

**Submission Requirements:**

Proposals meeting the criteria outlined below shall be submitted in English, electronically, to info@coolgardens.ca before the deadline. Email size must not exceed 7.5MB. Files must follow the format and entry requirements listed below for both team information and design proposal information.

*All submission documents must clearly indicate the Registration Number.
*Design Proposal documents must only indicate the Registration Number.

**Part One: Team Information**

- Four page maximum [ format for 8.5" x 11" printing ]
- Name of proposed project
- Individual or team members’ names with brief CV
- Name of one main contact person, including contact coordinates
- A maximum 100-word description of the individual or team including academic or professional association affiliation
- Four images of selected projects for which team members have been responsible. Images must be accompanied by a brief description for each project.

**Part Two: Design Proposal Information**

Information on individuals and team members will be withheld from the jury until the final selection. Information provided will be used to verify eligibility and assess whether teams have the capacity and expertise required to manage the design and construction of the installation.

**Page One:**

- Project Summary [11" x 17” format, landscape] [Include Registration Number]
- 100 to 150 word text describing overall design idea and experience offered to visitors
- Minimum of one 3D rendering showing the garden in its entirety
- Discretionary Images: concept diagram(s), precedents, etc.

**Page Two:**

- Design Details [11” x 17” format, landscape] [Include Registration Number]
- 4 main views or plan / elevations of the garden indicating size and specific materials proposed
- Diagram(s) and / or detail(s) indicating method of installation / construction

Submission documents must be landscape format PDFs with 300dpi resolution and be organized into two separate PDF documents labelled accordingly: TI_registration number and DPI_registration number. Eg.: TI_456 and DPI_456
Fine Print:

- Cool Gardens & SfMB reserve the right to use and distribute submission documentation & images for promotion and publication.
- Cool Gardens reserves the right to reject any and all submissions for a specific site
- The scope of Cool Gardens 2017 is contingent upon funding