



Archinect

PRESENTS

DRY FUTURES

DRY FUTURES: ARCHINECT LAUNCHES COMPETITION SEEKING FUTURE-FOCUSED DESIGN RESPONSES TO CALIFORNIA'S HISTORIC DROUGHT

(Los Angeles, CA – July 28, 2015) – Archinect is launching a new competition oriented around the unfolding drought crisis in California. The “[Dry Futures](#)” competition seeks imaginative, pragmatic, idealist, or perhaps even dystopic, design proposals for the future of California’s drought.

California – and much of the Western United States – is currently in the midst of a severe and unprecedented water crisis. In a recent op-ed for the *Los Angeles Times*, Jay Famiglietti, a senior water scientist at NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory, laid out the dire situation in California, brought on by historic drought and depleting water supplies: “Right now the state has only about one year of water supply left in its reservoirs, and our strategic backup supply, groundwater, is rapidly disappearing.”

The stakes couldn’t be higher: not only is California the most populous state in country, it is by far the largest agricultural producer. According to many experts, the drought in California correlates to both unsustainable human practices and the larger product of unsustainable human activity: climate change. With current responses largely amounting to “too-little-too-late,” the clock is ticking for California.

Water may very well end up being the determining issue of the next century, and architects, progenitors of the built environment, have a responsibility to act. Responding to the architect’s role in water usage, Hadley Arnold, co-founder and director of the California-based Arid Lands Institute, and holder of an MArch from SCI-Arc, notes: “Ten years ago, we had to answer the ‘what does this have to do with architecture?’ question with some frequency. We’re not asked that question anymore.”

Dry Futures is divided into two categories: one for speculative projects (ie. proposals that involve realities, futures or technologies not yet imagined), and one for pragmatic responses (ie. proposals that could actually be implemented within current economic and technological conditions). Paul Petrunia, Archinect’s founder/director, believes architects are uniquely suited to address the drought: “Today, architecture is more about imagining how the built environment can improve and thrive in the new millennium. The architect is uniquely suited to understand and respond to this historic drought’s impact on our cities.” The competition winners will receive a cash prize, and a curated selection of disaster-preparedness supplies.

Submissions to Dry Futures will be reviewed by a panel of heterogenous professionals, suited to the multi-valent issues that the drought provokes in the built environment. Jurors include **Allison**

Arieff (Editorial Director of SPUR), **Charles Anderson** (Founder/Principal of WERK), **Geoff Manaugh** (Founder of BLDGBLOG), **Hadley and Peter Arnold** (Co-Founders/Directors of the Arid Lands Institute), **Jay Famiglietti** (Senior Water Cycle Scientist at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory), **Colleen Tuite** and **Ian Quate** (Co-Founders of GRNASFCK), and **Peter Zellner** (Principal and Design Lead at AECOM, Los Angeles).

The competition launches on Tuesday, July 28, 2015. Submissions will be open until Tuesday, September 1, with jury deliberations taking place September 7 - 11. Winners will be announced on September 14.

To submit to "Dry Futures", and for more detailed information, visit dryfutures.com.

We are happy to arrange an interview concerning the Dry Futures competition with Mr. Paul Petrunia, Archinect's Founder/Director. Please contact dryfutures@archinect.com to arrange.

Editors: For questions regarding editorial covering the competition, please contact dryfutures@archinect.com.

ABOUT ARCHINECT

The goal of Archinect is to make architecture more connected and open-minded, and bring together designers from around the world to introduce new ideas from all disciplines. Initially developed in 1997 by Paul Petrunia, the site has since become a top online destination for progressive-design oriented students, architects, educators, and fans. Archinect's member-based community system allows anyone to participate by registering and contributing.

Quick DRY FUTURES details:

SCHEDULE

Competition launches: Tuesday, July 28, 2015

Submission deadline: Tuesday, September 1, at 10p.m. PST

Jury review: September 7 - 11

Winners announced: Monday, September 14

PRIZES

1st PLACE: CASH + 2 week food supply, Wings of Life Survival Pack, Just in Case Kit

2nd PLACE: 1 week food supply, Grab and Go Packs, Just in Case Kit

3rd PLACE: 72 hour food supply, Grab and Go Packs, Just in Case Kit

Note: All placing submissions will be exhibited online on Archinect and Bustler.

WEB LINKS

Competition Website: www.dryfutures.com

Facebook: facebook.com/Archinect

Twitter: [@Archinect](https://twitter.com/Archinect) [#DryFutures](https://twitter.com/DryFutures)