

# CALL FOR ENTRIES

## SUBURBIA TRANSFORMED, One Garden at a Time:

EXPLORING THE AESTHETICS OF LANDSCAPE EXPERIENCE  
IN THE AGE OF SUSTAINABILITY

**A COMPETITION FOR BUILT RESIDENTIAL LANDSCAPES** sponsored by:



THE JAMES ROSE CENTER

for landscape architectural research and design

506 East Ridgewood Avenue  
Ridgewood, New Jersey 07450

[www.jamesrosecenter.org](http://www.jamesrosecenter.org)

Co-Sponsors:



GARDEN  
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For most, James Rose is remembered as one of three Harvard Students who rebelled against their Beaux Arts training in the 1930s, helping to usher landscape architecture—kicking and screaming—into the modern era. Yet somewhere after Harvard and well into the real world, Rose lost any faith he may have had in the modern planning and design professions he had helped to inspire. By the mid 1950s he had retreated from public practice and spent most of the later part of his career designing private gardens that were in direct contrast to the environmental excesses and cultural banality of the contemporary post-WWII suburbanization he saw all around him.

These built critiques were made with found objects, recycled, left-over materials, native plants and whatever he could scavenge from the sites themselves. He called them “space-sculptures-with-shelters,” and they reflected the creative, spatial and artistic nature of the garden in ways that were greener, more economical and less wasteful of resources. In doing so, Rose incorporated a conservation ethic into a modern design aesthetic, skillfully choreographing outdoor spatial experiences that inspire us to better perceive our relationship to the environment. Today, in the age of sustainability, it is equally, if not more, important to consider contemporary green technologies within the context of the aesthetics of human landscape experience.

Through a juried competition, *Suburbia Transformed, One Garden at a Time* will assemble contemporary projects achieving this goal into an exhibition and catalogue. The emphasis is on how emerging sustainable strategies and tactics are used to create human landscape experiences that are beautiful, inspiring, perhaps profound; and which might serve as examples for transforming the suburban residential fabric, one garden at a time.

**ELIGIBILITY** Open to all, including landscape architects, landscape designers, architects, individuals, teams, or firms

**SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS** Through this competition, we seek to explore solutions to the ubiquitous small-lot, detached single-family, residential condition in the hope that we may better understand how to transform suburbia. Therefore, only submissions on 2-acre or less residentially-zoned single-family properties will be considered. A submission with a newly built house is allowed as long as the lot was part of a pre-existing subdivision or town property. Distance from an urban center is not relevant for the purpose of this competition.

Each entry must be submitted on a CD in .pdf format to include the four components in the order listed below and sent to:

The James Rose Center  
506 East Ridgewood Avenue  
Ridgewood, NJ 07450  
Attention: Design Competition

Submission components:

1. A 250-word or less description of the overall project addressing how the project responds to the competition goal and design criteria
2. Existing Conditions Plan showing topography, planting, and structures (including first floor plan where appropriate), as well as any other relevant site and immediate context conditions
3. Site Design Plan
4. Eight to fifteen images keyed to the site plan with captions describing relevance to the competition goal and design criteria. High quality high-resolution images are recommended—photographs, drawings and plans must be in .jpg format at a minimum of 300 ppi (pixels per inch).\*

\* More detailed submission information will be provided together with confirmation of your entry form. Entrants are responsible for obtaining permission for photographs with photographers for publication and reproduction by the James Rose Center. The James Rose Center will provide proper photography and other project credits when using photos, but will not assume responsibility for any copyrights or photography fees. The James Rose Center retains the right to publish, exhibit, and publicize photos submitted in selected entries.

The CD shall be identified only by the number you have received upon confirmation via email of your Entry Form. Place the CD in a transparent case also labeled with the entry number. No logos or other form of identification shall be seen on the submissions. CD Submissions must be received by April 16, 2010 no later than 5:00 PM. All submissions become the property of the James Rose Center.

The jury will review the submissions and select up to twelve outstanding projects. Those selected shall receive \$100 to prepare display boards, identifying the designers and suitable for exhibition. Layout specifications for exhibited work will be provided to the selected designers. These boards shall be sent to the James Rose Center for public exhibition by May 17, 2010. Exhibited work shall become the property of the James Rose Center.

**DESIGN CRITERIA FOR JUDGING** Selected submissions must provide landscape experiences that are beautiful, inspiring and/or profound; in so doing they should:

- Make the most of what's already on the site (earth, rocks, plants, structures, water) before importing or removing anything
- Consider the relationship of the site to larger environmental systems
- Use local, inexpensive, low-energy-consumptive, non-polluting materials and construction techniques before others
- Consider means for guiding future growth and evolution of the garden

## JURORS

- **Shane Coen**, Principal, Coen + Partners, Minneapolis, New York
- **Patrick M. Condon**, Professor, James Taylor Chair in Landscape and Livable Environments, University of British Columbia
- **Gary R. Hilderbrand**, FASLA, FAAR, Principal, Reed Hilderbrand Associates Inc. Watertown, Massachusetts
- **Elizabeth K. Meyer**, FASLA, Associate Professor of Landscape Architecture, University of Virginia
- **Dean Cardasis**, FASLA, Director, James Rose Center; Professor, Rutgers University; Principal, Cave Hill Landscape Architects

## SELECTED OUTSTANDING PROJECTS RECEIVE

- Public Exhibition at the James Rose Center
- Publication of work in Garden Design Magazine among others
- Publication of work in Exhibition catalogue
- Copies of catalogue at reduced rate
- Recognition on the James Rose Center and NJASLA websites among others
- A framed custom Awards Certificate, presented at the Opening Reception
- Professional photograph of Award Presentation for use by selected designers for publicity

## SCHEDULE

April 9, 2010	Entry Form and Fee due
April 16, 2010	CD submission due
April 30, 2010	Jury convenes
May 3, 2010	Selected outstanding projects announced
May 17, 2010	Display Boards due for Exhibition
May 22, 2010	Opening Reception at Rose Center
May 22 to July 25, 2010	Exhibition, James Rose Center

**TO ENTER** Fill out the Entry Form available on the website, [www.jamesrosecenter.org](http://www.jamesrosecenter.org). An Entry Fee of \$95 must be received with the Entry Form by April 9, 2010. You may either return the form via email to [designcompetition@jamesrosecenter.org](mailto:designcompetition@jamesrosecenter.org) and pay online using PayPal, or mail the form with a check payable to the **James Rose Center** to:

The James Rose Center  
506 E. Ridgewood Ave.  
Ridgewood, NJ 07450  
Attention: Design Competition

We will confirm receipt of your entry form via email and assign you a number to identify your submission. This number must be placed on your CD submission. No other identifying marks are allowed.

**QUESTIONS** Please email questions to [designcompetition@jamesrosecenter.org](mailto:designcompetition@jamesrosecenter.org) by March 15, 2010. Answers shall be posted on the James Rose Center website by April 1.

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The James Rose Center, a non-profit landscape research and study foundation, is headquartered in Ridgewood, New Jersey at what was formerly the home of James Rose, built in 1953 for himself and family members. Before he died in 1991, Rose set in motion the establishment of the Center and created a foundation to support the transformation of his Ridgewood residence for this purpose.

The mission of the Center is to contribute to a more sustainable suburban condition through preservation, research and design. It provides and/or sponsors authoritative lectures, tours, classes, symposia, professional historical documentation, modern landscape preservation, consultation and research, student and professional awards programs and student internships. To learn more about the Center and this competition see [www.jamesrosecenter.org](http://www.jamesrosecenter.org).