

## 2015 chicago architecture biennial opening days public schedule. Sep 30, 2015

The first Chicago architecture biennial is the largest architecture and design festival ever to be held in north america | courtesy iwan baan

Chicago is billing the 2015 Chicago Architecture Biennial (CAB) as North America's biggest survey of international contemporary architecture, but the event is not alone. Besides Venice, whose architecture biennial began in 1980, cities worldwide hold biennial exhibitions of art, design and architecture year-round.

The first biennial, which has secured a \$2.5 million lead grant from British oil and gas giant BP, is planned for 3 October 2015, through 3 January 2016. Mayor Rahm Emanuel personally solicited the lead, \$2.5 million donation for the biennial from BP. The city's biennial will present scale models, photographs and more unconventional displays hosted at the Chicago Cultural Center.



The event organizers have Chicago holding its architecture biennial in odd-numbered years with Venice historically presenting even-numbered years. The experts say this is a 10-year, five in Chicago, trial run. DesignApplause is optimistic.

The event will be "the Davos of architecture," said the co-artistic director of the Chicago biennial, Sarah Herda, referring to the Swiss city that hosts global business and political leaders at its World Economic Forum. Herda is the executive director of the Chicago-based Graham Foundation, a grant-making architecture organization that has partnered with the city to host the biennial. Joseph Grima is the other co-artistic director, an architect and writer who co-curated the 2012 Istanbul design biennial.

There will be no admission charge for the Chicago biennial. The Venice event two-day ticket price is 30 euros (\$41). The target audience will be architects and designers, cultural mavens, students and tourists.

Below is a schedule of public events. Some events will require an RSVP.

*2:30-4 PM Biennial Participant Roundtable Moderated by Emiliano Gandolfi and Awarding of the Curry Stone Design Prize*

Location> Claudia Cassidy Theater at the Chicago Cultural Center, 77 E. Randolph Street

Online RSVP via Chicago Architecture Biennial Website