

# IDEAS CITY

New Museum, Storefront for Art and Architecture, and NYC Department of Transportation  
Announce Street Architecture Competition for

IDEAS CITY 2015

May 28–30, 2015

New York, NY...On the occasion of IDEAS CITY 2015, the biennial Festival created to explore the future city and to effect change, the New Museum and Storefront for Art and Architecture in partnership with the New York City Department of Transportation (DOT) are launching a Competition for the design and construction of an outdoor structure—a work of “**Street Architecture**” that facilitates new forms of collective gathering and engagement with the city.

The 2015 edition of IDEAS CITY will take place in **downtown New York** from **May 28 to 30, 2015**, and is the third iteration of the biennial Festival organized by the New Museum in partnership with the Architectural League of New York, Bowery Poetry Club, Cooper Union, the Drawing Center, and Storefront for Art and Architecture.

The theme, **The Invisible City**, will be an invitation to explore the question of visibility and related dynamics, including transparency and surveillance, citizenship and representation, expression and suppression, and participation and dissent, as defining forces within the contemporary city.

## The Challenge

A number of stages will be distributed throughout the neighborhood surrounding the New Museum that will become hubs of activity for a **street festival** taking place on **Saturday, May 30** as part of IDEAS CITY 2015. The Competition solicits designs for a work of mobile architecture suited for hosting daring feats of oratory. The winning Competition entry will occupy a designated pedestrianized outdoor space in the vicinity of the New Museum and will host programs and activities including live talks, debates, screenings, performances, games, and workshops. Proposals that address **new forms of civic engagement for the urban context** and that support **interdisciplinary discourse** and consider spaces, typologies, and objects including but not limited to **the Podium, the Mobile Theater, the Speakers Corner, the Megaphone, the Gavel, and the Protest Booth**, are encouraged.

The Selection Committee includes Eva Franch i Gilabert, Director, Storefront for Art and Architecture; Joseph Grima, Director, IDEAS CITY; Lisa Phillips, Toby Devan Lewis Director, New Museum, and Cofounder, IDEAS CITY; Amale Andraos, Dean, Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation; Liam Gillick, artist; and Emily Colasacco, Director, Urban Art/Summer Streets at New York City Department of Transportation (DOT) and an engineer at Buro Happold.

Competitors are required to register their intention to enter by January 23, 2015. Instructions are found on Storefront’s website at [storefrontnews.org](http://storefrontnews.org). Submissions must be delivered to Storefront for Art and Architecture by February 23, 2015. The winning entry will be directly contacted in late February 2015; a public announcement will follow in March 2015.



Image: “MirrorMirror” tents designed by the Buffalo, New York-based architecture and design firm Davidson Rafalidis for IDEAS CITY 2013. Photo: Jesse Untracht-Oakner

The IDEAS CITY 2015 Street Architecture Competition is organized by Storefront for Art and Architecture and sponsored by the New Museum with the support of the New York City Department of Transportation.

The inaugural winning design from 2011 was “The Worms,” created by the emerging New York City–based designers Family and PlayLab, and was followed in 2013 by the “MirrorMirror” tents by the Buffalo, New York–based architecture and design firm Davidson Rafailidis.

### **About IDEAS CITY**

IDEAS CITY was founded by the New Museum as a major collaboration between dozens of downtown arts, education, and community organizations to harness the power of the creative community and imagine our collective future. This initiative is built upon the core belief that arts and culture constitute a driving force behind the vitality of urban centers worldwide.

The inaugural Festival was launched in May 2011. It included a three-day conference of symposia, lectures, and workshops with visionaries and leaders, including exemplary mayors, architects, artists, and technology experts; a street festival with an innovative urban installation along the Bowery featuring over one hundred organizations and small businesses presenting model products and practices for a better city; and hundreds of independent projects and public events attracting over 70,000 participants. The overwhelmingly positive response led to the Festival’s establishment as a unique biennial event—the IDEAS CITY Festival takes place every other May in New York City, while IDEAS CITY Global Conferences are organized periodically in key cities around the world. Visit [ideas-city.org](http://ideas-city.org).

### **Support**

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**Storefront for Art  
and Architecture**



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