



**AMERICAN SOCIETY OF THEATRE CONSULTANTS  
&  
THE UNITED STATES INSTITUTE FOR THEATRE TECHNOLOGY**

**2025 ASTC/USITT STUDENT VENUE RENOVATION CHALLENGE**

ASTC and USITT are pleased to announce the eighth competition between college students and ASTC theatre consultants. Student projects will be presented at the USITT 2025 Conference and Stage Expo in **Columbus, Ohio on March 5-8, 2025.**

Working together with a professional theatre consultant as a mentor, students will discover and explore how performance venues are designed or renovated and the challenges theatre consultants solve in creating the unique facilities theatre professionals work in every day. Students will learn to see performance spaces differently and will be exposed to career paths within the entertainment industry that they might not otherwise be aware of.

Two cash prizes are available for the winners of the competition. One team will be presented the ASTC - Edgar L. Lustig Award, a \$3,000 cash prize. A second prize, the USITT - Director's Award of \$1,000 will be presented to a team that shows special merit. The Awards will be presented at the end of the team presentations and will be announced nationally by ASTC and USITT and noted on both organizations' websites and other social media platforms.

Teams may consist of undergraduate and/or graduate students and will be under the supervision of a Faculty Advisor. Teams will select a theoretical project for a building that is on or near the team's campus. They will survey and study the current conditions and develop a plan to transform the subject space to meet the team's stated concept goals.

Potential projects might include:

- Substantial improvements to an existing theatre
- Conversion of non-performance space into a new performance space
- Changing the form and function of an existing theatre

Faculty Advisors are encouraged to consider including this project in their curriculum for academic credit as an independent study or seminar class.

Additional details and examples of previous projects are available on the ASTC website [www.theatreconsultants.org](http://www.theatreconsultants.org)

Applications and concept statements are to be sent to the email address below. You may find your nearest ASTC member at [www.theatreconsultants.org](http://www.theatreconsultants.org) or contact [RenoChallenge@theatreconsultants.org](mailto:RenoChallenge@theatreconsultants.org) and we will find an interested member to mentor your team.

Application forms and detailed Instructions to participants will be available from the ASTC website <https://theatreconsultants.org/astc-usitt-challenge/> or using the QR code below.

### **Important Dates and Facts**

Save the dates below to make sure students and advisors plan this project for the 2024-25 academic year. We encourage you to organize your team as early as possible.

**September 30, 2024 5:00 PM EDT** Application and Preliminary Concept Statements due.

**October 28, 2024 by 5:00 PM EST** Final Concept Statement and Participants List with names of all team members. Faculty Sponsors shall submit a list with the names and email addresses of all participants.

**February 3, 2025 5:00 PM EST** Project Submissions Due. An electronic submission (.pdf, or PowerPoint) will be due for review and comment by the Judges in advance of the USITT Conference. Teams will then have the opportunity to revise and update their presentation prior to the live presentation.

**March 5-8, 2025** Conference Presentation: The final presentation will be during a public session at the USITT 2025 USITT Conference and Stage Expo in Columbus, Ohio. The exact day and time to be determined by the Conference schedule. At least one student member of the team is required to present the team's work at the conference session in person.

### **Student Travel Assistance Stipends**

To help students defray the cost of attending the conference, \$600 travel stipends are available. Five stipends are available for the teams to request financial travel assistance. Travel assistance can be requested by the Faculty Advisors beginning **October 28, 2024**. The stipends will be awarded on a first come basis until all five are awarded. The stipends are limited to one per team.



For more information contact [RenoChallenge@theatreconsultants.org](mailto:RenoChallenge@theatreconsultants.org)