BE A PART OF
Design LAB 2017
“BRIDGE”

What Makes Design LAB Unique?

You!
We recruit professionals working in the built environment to assist teachers who are implementing Design LAB. It is the volunteers who make this program come to life for the students who look forward to their volunteer’s visits. Professionals (including architects, contractors, designers, engineers, and more) help guide students through a real-world, themed design problem, emphasizing critical thinking, problem solving, visual and verbal communication, creative expression, and presentation skills.

Offered Free
It is because of our sponsors and talented volunteers that we are able to offer this project-based design education program to K-12 classes in the Cincinnati Area at no cost to the school.
In 2018, we reached 1800 students in 105 classrooms through 55 educators and 80 volunteers.

Annual Challenge
Design LAB isn’t the same program each year, there is a different challenge annually. The challenge for 2017 is BRIDGE, which will push students to evolve their thinking of what a bridge is and what their functions can be. Students will research, design, and build models of their innovative bridges.

The Exhibit
The students’ work is analyzed, critiqued, and celebrated during a week-long exhibit at the Cincinnati Public Library’s Main Branch.

Why Volunteer?

We only require one visit each month, a total of only 4 visits. Most volunteers end up doing more than that because they enjoy the time in the classroom so much. It is not necessary or expected, but you may find yourself spending more time than you signed up for, simply out of personal fulfillment.

Give back to your community.
There is no better way to give back to the community than by working with students. For some of these students, this program is the only opportunity they have to use their imagination or think past the situation they are in. We have two volunteers who who were participants of this program when they were in school and are now working as professionals in the built environment. You could be the deciding factor for what impact your students make when they grow up or which profession they decide to pursue.

What’s Expected of Volunteers?

Show up.
Volunteers are required to show up at their school when they have scheduled to be there and to participate in the entirety of the program. The students get very excited to see you, so it is incredibly important to hold true to that commitment.

Be engaged.
As a volunteer, it is expected that during your classroom visits you assist your teacher— helping the students you are working with and giving them encouraging feedback.

Questions?
Contact Christen Lubbers at eddir@architecturecincy.org or 859.816.5858

2017 SCHEDULE
January 3
Project Kick Off
January 3 - April 28
Research Design and Creation Period
April 29 - May 6
Design LAB Exhibit Week

BUILD AWARENESS. BUILD KNOWLEDGE. BUILD COMMUNITY.