

CONFLUENCE: Where People, Place, and Innovation Meet

Call for Proposals

June 2–5, 2027 | Miami, Florida

Hosted in partnership with

FIU School of Architecture
Florida International University

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Theme & Background: CONFLUENCE: Where People, Place, and Innovation Meet

The Environmental Design Research Association's 58th Annual Conference will take place June 2–5, 2027, in Miami, Florida, in partnership with the Florida International University School of Architecture.

Environments are shaped at the intersections of people, places, ideas, and action. **CONFLUENCE: Where People, Place, and Innovation Meet** invites the EDRA community to explore the generative spaces where new questions emerge, established assumptions are challenged, and new possibilities take shape. At the intersections of people and environments, research and practice, culture and place, evidence and experience, technology and design, and knowledge and action, we discover opportunities to advance understanding and transform the environments we share. Confluence is not simply about bringing perspectives together; it is about what becomes possible through their exchange.

Miami provides a fitting setting for these conversations. The city is shaped by cultural exchange, environmental complexity, rapid urban transformation, and ongoing questions about resilience, belonging, health, housing, mobility, and equitable development. As a dynamic intersection of cultures, landscapes, and global influences, Miami offers a particularly relevant context for examining how environmental, social, and technological forces converge to shape the future of our communities. In partnership with Florida International University, EDRA58 will create opportunities to examine how ideas, disciplines, and communities converge to influence the future of built and natural environments.

EDRA58 invites researchers, educators, designers, practitioners, policymakers, students, and community partners to share work that explores these and other intersections across scales and forms, from individual experience and community well-being to urban futures, regional systems, and planetary change. Submissions may consider questions such as:

- How can transdisciplinary collaboration generate new knowledge, innovative approaches, and meaningful solutions to complex environmental and societal challenges?
- How might diverse ways of knowing, experiencing and analyzing environments inform research, design, policy, and action?
- What new possibilities emerge when research and practice, human needs and environmental imperatives, tradition and innovation converge?
- How can the integration of diverse perspectives, disciplines, and forms of knowledge contribute to more inclusive, healthy, resilient, and sustainable environments?

EDRA58 welcomes work representing diverse disciplines, geographic contexts, methods, professional perspectives, and stages of development. We invite participants to exchange ideas, challenge boundaries, forge connections, and imagine new pathways forward. Together, we will explore the transformative potential of confluence in shaping environments that enrich lives, strengthen communities, and sustain our shared future.

Topical Areas/Tracks

EDRA58 invites submissions across the following topical areas. The examples included under each track are illustrative rather than exhaustive. Submitters should select the track that most closely reflects the primary focus and contribution of their work. The Program Committee may reassign submissions when another track is better suited to the proposal.

Track 1: People: Human Experience, Health, and Belonging

How do environments shape human experience, behavior, health, and quality of life? This track explores relationships between people and the built and natural environments they inhabit. It welcomes research, practice, teaching, and community-engaged work addressing human-centered and participatory design; environmental psychology; health and well-being; accessibility and inclusion; belonging and identity; social interaction and public life; and the ways people perceive, use, experience, and adapt environments. Particular attention is given to understanding human-environment relationships and creating responsive, inclusive, and meaningful places that reflect the needs, values, and lived experiences of individuals and communities.

Track 2: Place: Identity, Culture, and Community

How do culture, history, memory, and identity shape the places we inhabit? This track examines the social, cultural, and historical dimensions that give places meaning. It welcomes research and design perspectives addressing cultural landscapes, heritage and memory, placemaking, sense of place and attachment, community identity, cultural sustainability, and designing across cultures. Submissions may consider Indigenous and local knowledge, community participation and values, and how environments express, preserve, or challenge collective identities. Particular attention is given to the role of place in sustaining cultural continuity, fostering belonging, and strengthening connections among people, history, and the environments they create and inhabit.

Track 3: Planet: Resilience, Health, and Sustainability

How can environmental design contribute to healthier, more resilient, and more sustainable futures? This track explores relationships among environmental design and the health and resilience of human and ecological systems. It welcomes research and innovative practices addressing climate adaptation, environmental resilience, regenerative and nature-based solutions, environmental and planetary health, resource use, and design responses to uncertainty, risk, and change. Work may range from materials, buildings, and landscapes to neighborhoods, cities, regions, and interconnected environmental systems. By integrating ecological, social, health, and spatial perspectives, the track seeks to advance inclusive, adaptive, and sustainable futures for people and the planet.

Track 4: Innovation: Emerging Technologies, Methodologies, and Collaborations

How are new technologies, methods, and interdisciplinary practices changing how we understand and shape environments? This track examines how emerging technologies, artificial intelligence, data-informed methodologies, and interdisciplinary collaborations are transforming environmental design research and practice. Topics may include AI and generative design, digital transformation, visualization and simulation, emerging research methods, evolving human-technology relationships, and new models of scholarly or professional practice. Submissions may explore opportunities for experimentation and creative problem-solving while also critically examining questions of access, ethics, bias, accountability, and the effects of emerging technologies on people, communities, and environments.

Track 5: Research and Action: Evidence, Engagement, and Impact

How can research move beyond understanding environments toward meaningful action and transformation? This track explores how environmental design knowledge is developed, evaluated, applied, and translated into meaningful outcomes. It welcomes action-oriented, participatory, and community-based research; community-engaged scholarship; translational research; post-occupancy evaluation; mixed and emerging methods; performance measurement; and evidence-based or data-informed decision-making. Submissions may demonstrate how research-practice partnerships connect scholarship with professional practice, public policy, education, or community action and translate evidence into practical interventions and measurable social, environmental, or organizational impact. The track particularly welcomes work that demonstrates pathways from research findings to implementation, evaluation, and lasting impact.

Track 6: Transformation: Cities, Communities, and Systems

How can knowledge, design, policy, and collaboration contribute to meaningful change across cities and communities? This track examines the forces reshaping cities, neighborhoods, communities, and interconnected urban systems. Topics may include urban and community transformation, smart and connected places, mobility and transportation, housing and affordability, density, public space, infrastructure, and community livability. Submissions may consider how places respond to demographic, technological, economic, environmental, and social change. The track welcomes integrated approaches that bridge research, policy, planning, design, and practice to advance more equitable, vibrant, resilient, connected, and adaptable communities.

Track 7: Confluence: Intersections, Provocations, and New Directions

What becomes possible when different disciplines, perspectives, and ways of knowing come together? This track explores opportunities that emerge at the intersections of disciplines, methods, practices, and forms of knowledge. It welcomes interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary inquiry connecting art, science, technology, policy, research, design, and community knowledge. Submissions may bring multiple conference tracks into conversation, challenge conventional boundaries, introduce new or

unconventional questions, or demonstrate how co-creation and research-practice-community partnerships generate new perspectives and possibilities. The track particularly encourages proposals that cross traditional disciplinary boundaries, connect seemingly disparate areas of inquiry, or introduce provocative ideas that may not fit neatly within established categories. By fostering unexpected connections and productive provocations, the track seeks to expand disciplinary boundaries and inspire new directions for environmental design research and practice.

Track 8: Open Submissions

This track welcomes environmental design research and practice that does not align closely with the seven defined topical areas or that extends beyond the conference framework. Submissions may include theoretical or conceptual explorations, empirical studies, methodological innovations, case studies, design investigations, practice-based research, or specialized areas of interest to the EDRA community. The open track provides an inclusive forum for emerging subjects, unconventional approaches, and critical perspectives that contribute meaningful insights and open new avenues for environmental design inquiry and practice.

Knowledge Networks and Collaborative Sessions

EDRA Knowledge Networks are communities of practice that connect members around shared interests and areas of expertise. Knowledge Networks are encouraged to organize collaborative sessions that advance their areas of inquiry, introduce participants to their work, and connect conference themes with ongoing research and practice.

Submitters proposing a Knowledge Network-sponsored session should identify the sponsoring Knowledge Network during submission. Knowledge Network sponsorship does not guarantee acceptance; all proposals remain subject to the applicable submission and review requirements.

To learn more about EDRA Knowledge Networks, visit https://www.edra.org/knowledge-networks. For questions about Knowledge Network participation, contact **headquarters@edra.org**.

Key Dates

November 2026	EDRA58 Submission Portal Opens: **Coming Soon — Date to Be Announced**
December 2026	Early Bird Registration Opens
January 15, 2027	Call for Proposals Deadline: Intensives, Abstract-Only Individual Presentations, Full Papers, Group Presentations, Posters, and Digital Media Shorts
January 31, 2027	Graduate Student Mentoring Workshop Application Deadline
February 15, 2027	Proposal Decisions Issued.
February 26, 2027	Revised Submissions Due: Proposals accepted pending revisions must be updated by this date to receive final acceptance and remain eligible for inclusion in the conference program.
February 26, 2027	Graduate Student Mentoring Workshop Decisions Announced
March 15, 2027	Presenter Registration Deadline: For individual presentations, Display Posters, and Digital Media Shorts, at least one author or co-author must register and present. For group presentations, including Intensive Sessions, all listed presenters must register to remain in the EDRA58 program.
March 15, 2027	Graduate Student Mentoring Workshop Participation Confirmation Deadline
May 1, 2027	Final Digital Poster and Digital Media Short Files Due
June 2–5, 2027	EDRA58 Conference in Miami, Florida, USA

Submission Types and Requirements

All proposals must be submitted through the EDRA58 online submission platform. Submitters will select one submission type and the topical track that most closely reflects the proposal's primary focus.

The Program Committee will use accepted proposals to develop a cohesive conference program. Individual presentations may be grouped with other accepted presentations addressing related subjects. Session lengths and scheduling will be determined by the Program Committee based on the submission type, program needs, and available space. Acceptance of an individual presentation does not guarantee placement in a specific session or grouping.

Submission Types at a Glance

Submission type	Format	Length
Intensive Session	Half-day or full-day group session	Half day or full day
Graduate Student Mentoring Workshop	Individual graduate research presentations	Full day
Individual Presentations	Abstract-Only or Full Paper presentations	15–20 minutes
Group Presentations	Symposia, Workshops, or Collaborations	60 - 90 minutes
Display Poster	Visual presentation and discussion	Poster session schedule
Digital Media Short	Brief multimedia presentation	Up to 6 minutes

Each submission type has specific content, formatting, and participant requirements, as detailed in the following sections. Submitters should review the applicable guidelines carefully before preparing and submitting their proposals.

General Submission Requirements

All submissions must meet the following requirements to be considered for review. Additional requirements for each submission type are provided in the sections that follow.

Submission Platform: All proposals must be submitted through the EDRA58 online submission platform by the applicable deadline. Submissions sent by email or another method will not be accepted. The submission portal will open soon, and a direct link, instructions, and related resources will be available on the EDRA58 website at https://www.edra.org/edra58

Maximum Number of Submissions: An individual may participate in a **maximum of three proposal** submissions across all submission types and in any role, including as a lead author, co-author, presenter, organizer, or facilitator. The Graduate Student Mentoring Workshop is included in this limit. Submissions exceeding the three-proposal limit will not be accepted.

Examples:

- Leading one intensive session, co-authoring one paper, and presenting in one symposium equals three submissions.
- Co-authoring four posters exceeds the submission limit.
- Organizing and presenting in the same symposium counts as one submission, not two.

Duplicate Submissions: The same work or topic may not be submitted under multiple submission types. For example, an abstract submitted as part of a symposium should not also be submitted as an individual presentation or display poster. Closely related submissions must represent substantively different work. The Program Committee reserves the right to determine whether submissions are sufficiently distinct.

Anonymous Peer Review: Submissions will undergo double-anonymous peer review, also commonly referred to as double-blind review. Proposal titles, abstracts, papers, and other materials provided to reviewers must not include author names, institutional affiliations, acknowledgments, or other identifying information unless specifically requested in the submission instructions. Submitters are also responsible for removing identifying information from uploaded documents, including document properties and file metadata, where applicable. Self-references should be presented in a manner that does not reveal author identity.

Author names, contact information, affiliations, and biographies will be collected separately through the submission platform and will not be shared with reviewers. Biographies may be updated through the Speaker Center following acceptance.

Formatting and References: Where applicable, submissions must follow the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, Seventh Edition. References are not included in stated abstract word limits unless otherwise noted in the applicable submission guidelines. Submitters should use consistent APA Seventh Edition citation and reference formatting throughout their proposals.

Submission-Type Requirements: Each proposal must follow the content, length, formatting, and participant requirements established for its submission type. Incomplete submissions or submissions that do not meet the stated requirements may not be forwarded for review. The Program Committee may

return incomplete submissions or deem them ineligible for review if required information or materials are missing.

Responsibility of the Submitting Author or Organizer: The individual submitting the proposal is responsible for ensuring that all required information is complete and accurate and that all listed authors, presenters, organizers, and facilitators have agreed to participate. The submitting individual will serve as the primary contact for communications regarding the proposal. This individual is also responsible for communicating relevant submission and acceptance information to all participants listed in the proposal.

Continuing Education Credits

Selected EDRA58 sessions may be considered for continuing education credit through professional organizations, such as the American Institute of Architects (AIA), the International Design Continuing Education Council (IDCEC), or the Evidence-Based Design Accreditation and Certification program (EDAC).

To be considered, a proposal must include four specific, measurable learning objectives describing what attendees will learn or be able to do after participating in the session. Learning objectives should use action verbs such as identify, describe, analyze, compare, evaluate, or apply.

During submission, authors may indicate which professional organization's continuing education requirements are most relevant to the proposed session. This selection does not guarantee that credit will be offered. The EDRA58 Program Committee will identify accepted sessions for continuing education consideration based on their content, learning objectives, professional relevance, and applicable credentialing requirements. Final eligibility and approval will be subject to the requirements of the relevant continuing education organization. Presenters may be asked to provide additional information following acceptance.

Approved sessions will be identified in the conference program, and applicable requirements will be communicated before the conference. Display Posters, Digital Media Shorts, and Graduate Student Mentoring Workshop presentations are not eligible for continuing education credit and do not require learning objectives.

Detailed Submission Guidelines

The submission platform will prompt the submitting author or organizer to enter or upload each required component listed below. Submitters are encouraged to prepare their materials before beginning the online submission. Unless otherwise noted, biographies and identifying information will be retained

separately and will not be shared with reviewers. All materials intended for peer review must be prepared in accordance with the double-blind review requirements outlined above.

Intensive Sessions

Full Day: 8:30 am–5:30 pm
Half Day: 1:00 pm –5:00 pm
Date: Wednesday, June 2, 2027

Intensive sessions provide an opportunity for participants to explore a single topic or theme in depth over an extended period. Intensives may use a variety of formats - including presentations, charrettes, workshops, working sessions, or other interactive approaches - to engage attendees and support focused learning, discussion, or collaboration. Proposals should demonstrate a clear structure, opportunities for participant engagement, and meaningful outcomes that justify the extended session format.

Submission Requirements

The organizer must indicate whether the proposed intensive requires a half-day or full-day session.

An intensive session proposal must include:

- **Session title**
- **Summary abstract:** A maximum of 500 words describing the session's purpose, goals, format, and intended outcomes. The abstract must include a detailed agenda with time allocations. The agenda should identify the sequence of activities, presentations, discussions, and breaks, as applicable.
- **Presenter abstracts:** Each presenter must provide an abstract of no more than 300 words describing their contribution to the session. For full-day intensives, presenters participating in both the morning and afternoon blocks must describe their contribution to each block.
- **Participants:** One lead organizer and at least one presenter are required. A maximum of five presenters may participate in each half-day block. The proposal should clearly identify the lead organizer and all presenters, including the blocks in which each presenter will participate.
- **Biographies:** Up to 100 words for each organizer and presenter.
- **Learning objectives:** Four learning objectives describing what participants will learn or be able to do as a result of the session.
- **References:** Up to three APA Seventh Edition references; excluded from the abstract word limit.

Graduate Student Mentoring Workshop

Format: Full-day mentoring workshop
Date: Wednesday, June 2, 2027

The Graduate Student Mentoring Workshop provides graduate students with an opportunity to present and discuss their ongoing research with senior mentors in environmental design research and affiliated

fields. The workshop is intended to strengthen thesis and dissertation research, help emerging scholars build professional networks, and provide focused scholarly and professional guidance. The workshop emphasizes constructive feedback, peer exchange, and mentorship to support students in advancing their research and developing their academic and professional trajectories.

Eligibility

Graduate students who are current EDRA members and enrolled in a master's or doctoral program in environmental design or an affiliated field are eligible to apply. Applicants must be enrolled in an eligible graduate program at the time of application and must maintain their EDRA membership through the conference.

Submission Requirements

The student applicant is responsible for submitting all required information through the EDRA58 Graduate Student Mentoring Workshop application form. Applications will be collected through a separate online form rather than the EDRA58 conference proposal submission platform. The application form will prompt students to provide the information and supporting materials listed below.

Application Deadline: January 31, 2027.

Application instructions and a direct link to the form will be available on the EDRA58 website.

A Graduate Student Mentoring Workshop submission must include:

- **Statement of interest:** A maximum of 250 words explaining why the applicant wishes to participate in the workshop and what they hope to gain from the experience.
- **Research summary:** A maximum of 500 words describing the research's theoretical framing, its current stage of development, research questions and objectives, and the specific questions or challenges the applicant would like to address during the workshop.
- **Keywords:** Five keywords describing the research.
- **Letter of support:** A letter from the applicant's academic advisor, uploaded as a PDF. The letter should briefly describe the student's research progress, its significance, and the advisor's support for the student's participation in the workshop.

The research described in the GSMW submission may not also be submitted as an abstract for another EDRA58 presentation type. This restriction applies to substantially the same research or research findings; applicants may submit other work provided that it represents a distinct research contribution.

Anonymous Review Requirements

To preserve anonymous review, the statement of interest and research summary must not identify the applicant, institution, or advisor. Applicant information and the advisor's letter will be collected

separately. The advisor's letter will not be shared with peer reviewers and will be used only for eligibility and selection purposes, if applicable.

Requirements Following Acceptance

Accepted students will receive additional instructions and deadlines for preparing and uploading their workshop presentations following acceptance. Students should be prepared to present their research and participate in discussions and feedback sessions with assigned mentors and fellow graduate students.

Mentor Participation

EDRA58 invites experienced researchers, educators, and practitioners in environmental design research and affiliated fields to serve as mentors for the Graduate Student Mentoring Workshop. Mentors provide constructive feedback on graduate research, share scholarly and professional expertise, and support students in refining their research questions, methodologies, and approaches.

Individuals interested in serving as mentors will be invited to complete a separate online Mentor Interest Form by March 1, 2027. The form will collect information about each prospective mentor's professional background, areas of expertise, research interests, and availability to participate in the full-day workshop on Wednesday, June 2, 2027.

Mentor participation will be coordinated by the Graduate Student Mentoring Workshop organizers based on student research topics, areas of expertise, and workshop needs. Submission of a Mentor Interest Form does not guarantee selection.

Application instructions and a direct link to the Mentor Interest Form will be available on the EDRA58 website. Selected mentors will receive information about their assigned students, workshop format, preparation expectations, and participation requirements before the conference.

Individual Presentations

Format: Individual oral presentation
Presentation length: 15–20 minutes

Individual presentations provide an opportunity to share original scholarly or professional research that makes a distinct contribution to environmental design research and practice. Submissions must comply with the originality and prior publication requirements outlined in this document. Submissions should present original contributions to environmental design research. Submitters may choose one of two individual-presentation types:

- **Abstract-Only Presentation**
- **Full Paper Presentation**

Individual submissions will receive one of three initial decisions: accepted, accepted pending revisions, or not accepted. Submissions accepted pending revisions must be updated by the deadline listed in the Key Dates section to receive final acceptance.

The Program Committee will group accepted individual presentations into sessions based on topic, conference track, program needs, and available space. Presenters should be prepared to participate in a session with other presentations addressing related themes or research areas.

Abstract-Only Presentations

An abstract-only presentation proposal must include:

- **Presentation title**
- **Abstract:** A maximum of 500 words describing the research question or purpose, theoretical or professional context, methodology or approach, findings or anticipated findings, and significance of the work.
- **Keywords:** Three to five keywords.
- **Learning objectives:** Four measurable learning objectives. These should describe what attendees will learn or be able to do after the presentation.
- **References:** Up to three APA Seventh Edition references; excluded from the abstract word limit.
- **Presenter biographies:** Up to 100 words for each participant.

The research must be completed before it is presented at EDRA58. Abstract-only submission must therefore report completed research, including findings and conclusions, rather than proposed or ongoing research.

Full Paper Submissions

A full paper presentation proposal must include:

- **Presentation title**
- **Abstract:** A maximum of 500 words summarizing the research question or purpose, theoretical or professional context, methodology, findings, and significance of the work.
- **Keywords:** Three to five keywords.
- **Learning objectives:** Four measurable learning objectives. These should describe what attendees will learn or be able to do after the presentation.
- **Full paper:** A maximum of 20 single-spaced pages, including tables, images, and references.
- **Images:** Up to five images may be included to illustrate the paper's framework, methods, data, or findings. All images must be incorporated into the full paper document.
- **Presenter biographies:** Up to 100 words for each participant.

Full papers must:

- Follow the EDRA58 full paper template available through the submission platform.

- Incorporate all images, references, and citations into one document.
- Follow APA Seventh Edition guidelines.
- Be uploaded as a Microsoft Word or compatible file in `.doc`, `.docx`, or `.rtf` format.
- Be prepared for double-anonymous peer review, with all identifying information removed from the manuscript and document metadata.

Submissions that do not meet the full paper formatting and file requirements may not be forwarded for review.

Full Paper Award Consideration

Submitted full papers may be considered for EDRA's Best Paper and Best Student Paper awards. Student authors must identify their student status during the submission process. Complete eligibility requirements and award information are provided in the Awards and Scholarships section.

Student status and award eligibility should be clearly identified in the submission platform, separately from the anonymous manuscript, to preserve the integrity of the peer-review process.

Group Presentations

Format: Organized group presentation
Session length: 60-90 minutes

Group presentations allow multiple presenters to examine a shared topic, facilitate an interactive learning experience, or demonstrate collaboration between research and practice. Group presentations will be scheduled for 60–90 minutes, depending on the presentation format, program needs, and available space. Final session durations will be determined by the EDRA58 Program Committee and communicated to accepted presenters.

EDRA58 accepts three group-presentation formats:

- Symposium
- Workshop
- Practitioner and Researcher Collaboration

The lead organizer is responsible for collecting and submitting all required information through the EDRA58 submission platform. The lead organizer must ensure that all participants have reviewed and approved the submitted proposal and have agreed to participate in the session.

Symposia

A symposium brings together a coordinated group of presenters to examine a shared theme, emerging conceptual or methodological issue, or area of exploratory research or work in progress. The facilitator is responsible for creating a coherent session, maintaining a professional level of discourse, and allowing

sufficient time for audience questions and discussion. Symposia should demonstrate a clear intellectual connection among the presentations and provide opportunities for discussions across contributions.

A symposium proposal must include:

- **Session title**
- **Summary abstract:** A maximum of 500 words describing the symposium's theme, goals, objectives, organization, and agenda. The agenda should identify individual presentations, the facilitator's role, and time allocated for discussion and audience questions.
- **Presenter abstracts:** A separate abstract of no more than 300 words describing each presenter's contribution to the symposium.
- **Participants:** One organizer or facilitator and two to three presenters. The organizer or facilitator may also serve as a presenter.
- **Biographies:** Up to 100 words for each participant.
- **Learning objectives:** Four measurable learning objectives. These should reflect the overall learning outcomes of the symposium rather than individual presentations.
- **References:** Up to three APA Seventh Edition references; excluded from the abstract word limit.

Workshops

A workshop is an interactive session designed to collaboratively explore a research or practice construct, advanced design approach, methodology, or professional practice concept. Workshops should emphasize active participation, discussion, skill-building, collaborative inquiry, or applied learning. Time devoted to formal presentations should be limited. Proposals should clearly identify the intended audience, participant activities, facilitation approach, and expected outcomes.

A workshop proposal must include:

- **Session title**
- **Summary abstract:** A maximum of 500 words describing the workshop's purpose, goals, intended audience, interactive format, and agenda. The agenda should identify the sequence of activities and the time allocated to each activity.
- **Participants:** One organizer and one to four presenters or facilitators. The organizer may also serve as a presenter or facilitator.
- **Biographies:** Up to 100 words for each participant.
- **Learning objectives:** Four measurable learning objectives. These should describe the skills, knowledge, or competencies participants are expected to develop through the workshop.
- **References:** Up to three APA Seventh Edition references; excluded from the abstract word limit.

Practitioner and Researcher Collaborations

Practitioner and Researcher Collaboration sessions provide a forum for cross-disciplinary teams to demonstrate how research has been integrated into design, planning, policy, management, or professional practice.

Sessions may examine a specific project involving the built or natural environment, including projects in which research has informed design decisions, adaptive-management practices, or policy. The presentation should explain the problem addressed, relevant place or project, research methods, collaborative process, and resulting outcomes. Submissions should demonstrate the complementary contributions of research and professional practice and explain how their integration has informed project decisions, implementation, or outcomes.

A Practitioner and Researcher Collaboration proposal must include:

- **Session title**
- **Summary abstract:** A maximum of 500 words describing the problem addressed, project or setting, research methods, collaboration, outcomes, and session agenda.
- **Participants:** One organizer and one to four presenters. The presentation team must include at least one researcher and one practitioner. The proposal should identify the professional or research roles of each participant and explain their respective contributions to the collaboration.
- **Biographies:** Up to 100 words for each participant.
- **Learning objectives:** Four measurable learning objectives.
- **References:** Up to three APA Seventh Edition references; excluded from the abstract word limit.

Visual Presentations

Visual presentations provide opportunities to communicate research, design work, policy studies, prototypes, and professional practice through visual or multimedia formats. EDRA58 accepts two visual-presentation types:

- Display Poster
- Digital Media Short

Display Posters

Display posters provide an opportunity for direct discussion between presenters and conference attendees. Posters may feature completed or in-progress research, research-informed design projects, professional or student studio work, experimental or empirical prototypes, policy studies, or other work suited to visual presentation.

Presenters are expected to attend the designated poster session, stand by their displays, and discuss their work with attendees. Poster presentations should communicate a clear central message and encourage meaningful interaction and exchange with conference participants.

A display poster proposal must include:

- **Presentation title**
- **Abstract:** A maximum of 500 words describing the research, project, process, or design; its methods or approach; and its significance or anticipated contribution.
- **References:** Up to three APA Seventh Edition references; excluded from the abstract word limit.
- **Optional poster mock-up:** Presenters may upload a draft or mock-up of the proposed poster as a PDF. The mock-up is not required but, if provided, must follow the anonymous-review requirements and must not exceed 20 MB.
- **Presenter biographies:** Up to 100 words for each participant.

Accepted poster presenters must:

- Upload a digital copy of the completed poster through the EDRA58 submission platform by the deadline listed in the Key Dates section.
- Prepare the poster in one of the following sizes:
    - 48 W x 36 H inches, landscape orientation
    - 36 W x 40 H inches, portrait orientation
- Use images with a resolution of approximately 300 dpi or higher.
- Bring a professionally printed copy of the poster to the conference.
- Attend and stand by the poster during the designated presentation period.
- Ensure that the final poster corresponds to the accepted proposal and includes appropriate author names and institutional affiliations.

The poster should function as a stand-alone piece of communication and clearly convey its primary message without requiring attendees to access external content. QR codes should be used only to provide an extended reference list. Three to five principal references should appear directly on the poster.

All text, figures, and visual elements should be legible at typical viewing distances. Presenters should also ensure that visual content is accessible, appropriately credited, and accompanied by explanatory text where necessary.

Additional installation and exhibition instructions will be provided following acceptance.

Digital Media Shorts

A Digital Media Short is a brief multimedia presentation that communicates a research story, research-informed project, or practical application through video, audio, slides, animation, or another digital format. The completed presentation may not exceed six minutes. This format encourages concise,

creative, and engaging communication of research, design ideas, and professional work through visual storytelling and digital media.

A Digital Media Short proposal must include:

- **Presentation title**
- **Abstract:** A maximum of 500 words describing the proposed content, purpose, format, and significance of the work. The abstract must identify the type of digital media that will be used.
- **References:** Up to three APA Seventh Edition references; excluded from the abstract word limit.
- **Optional visual sample:** Presenters may upload a PDF containing images or other samples illustrating the proposed digital media. If provided, the sample must comply with the anonymous-review requirements and may not include identifying information.
- **Presenter biographies:** Up to 100 words for each participant.

The completed digital media file is not required during the initial proposal submission.

Requirements Following Acceptance

Accepted presenters must upload the completed Digital Media Short through the EDRA58 submission platform by the deadline listed in the Key Dates section. The final presentation:

- May include video, audio, slides, animation, or a combination of digital media.
- May not exceed six minutes.
- May not exceed 150 MB.
- Must be submitted in a digital file format compatible with the playback equipment and technical requirements established by the conference organizers.
- Must include captions or subtitles for spoken content to support accessibility.
- Must include appropriate credits and permissions for third-party images, audio, video, and other copyrighted materials.

Additional technical specifications, including accepted file formats, audio requirements, and playback instructions, will be communicated to accepted presenters before the conference.

Review, Acceptance, and Presenter Requirements

Selection and Review Process

All complete submissions that meet the applicable submission requirements will undergo double-anonymous peer review. Materials provided to reviewers will not include author or presenter names, institutional affiliations, biographies, or other identifying information. Authors are responsible for

removing identifying information from their submission files, including document properties, file names, acknowledgments, and references that could reveal their identities.

Reviewers will evaluate submissions based on:

- Relevance to the selected conference track and the broader goals of EDRA58
- Clarity and organization of the proposal
- Significance and potential contribution to environmental design research or practice
- Appropriateness and rigor of the proposed research, methods, professional approach, or session format
- Potential value to conference attendees
- Feasibility within the proposed presentation format and allotted time
- Quality and relevance of the learning objectives, when required
- Appropriateness of the proposed format for communicating the work and engaging the intended audience
- Evidence of meaningful contributions to scholarship, design inquiry, professional practice, education, or community engagement, as applicable to the submission type.

The EDRA58 Program Committee will make final programming decisions after considering reviewer recommendations, the quality and relevance of submissions, balance across conference tracks, scheduling requirements, room availability, and the overall needs of the conference program. The Program Committee may also consider the diversity of topics, perspectives, methodologies, geographic contexts, and disciplinary approaches represented in the overall program. Acceptance decisions are final.

Decision notifications and revision requests will be sent through the EDRA58 submission platform to the submitting author or lead organizer. That individual is responsible for communicating the decision and any required next steps to all co-authors, presenters, organizers, and facilitators associated with the submission.

Presenter Registration and Participation

Acceptance of a proposal does not automatically register its authors or presenters for EDRA58. Presenters must complete conference registration and pay the applicable registration fee by the presenter registration deadline listed in the Key Dates section.

For individual presentations, display posters, and Digital Media Shorts, at least one author or co-author of each accepted submission must register and present the work. For group presentations, including intensives, all listed presenters must register by the presenter registration deadline to remain in the final program. For group presentations and intensives, the lead organizer is responsible for confirming that all participating presenters have completed registration or have received an approved exception from EDRA.

Accepted presentations will not be included in the final conference program if the applicable registration requirement is not completed by the presenter registration deadline.

Presenters are not required to be EDRA members; however, EDRA members qualify for reduced conference registration rates. Registration categories, fees, and membership information will be available on the EDRA58 website.

In-Person Participation

EDRA58 is planned as an in-person conference. At this time, all presenters are expected to attend and present in person in Miami.

Virtual presentation options are not currently guaranteed. Any exceptions to the in-person participation requirement will be considered by EDRA on a case-by-case basis and communicated directly to accepted presenters. Presenters facing significant barriers to in-person participation should contact EDRA Headquarters as early as possible to discuss their circumstances.

Presenter Cancellations and Changes

Accepted presenters are expected to fulfill their presentation commitments. If a presenter is unable to attend EDRA58, the submitting author or lead organizer must notify EDRA Headquarters as soon as possible.

Requests to substitute presenters or modify an accepted session must be submitted to EDRA for review and approval. Substitutions are not guaranteed and may be subject to applicable registration requirements. Any proposed substitute must be appropriately qualified to present the accepted work and must agree to comply with EDRA58 presenter requirements. Changes to the content, format, or composition of an accepted session may also require Program Committee approval.

EDRA reserves the right to modify or cancel a presentation if presenter participation requirements cannot be met.

Accepted work that is not presented at EDRA58, without prior notification or an approved exception, will not be included in the conference proceedings. Presenters who fail to appear for their scheduled sessions without notifying EDRA may have that nonparticipation considered when future conference proposals are reviewed. Documented emergencies and other circumstances reviewed and approved by EDRA will be considered separately.

Presenter Information

Presenter names, affiliations, biographies, and contact information will be collected through the EDRA58 submission platform. Accepted presenters will have an opportunity to review or update their information

through the Speaker Center before the conference program is finalized. Presenters are responsible for ensuring that their information is accurate and submitted by the deadlines communicated by EDRA.

Proceedings and Publication Requirements

By submitting a proposal to EDRA58, the submitting author grants EDRA permission to publish the accepted abstract or paper in the EDRA58 conference program, proceedings, website, or other materials associated with the conference. This permission is intended to allow EDRA to reproduce and distribute accepted conference materials for conference-related purposes. Authors retain copyright to their original work unless otherwise agreed in writing. Any additional permissions required for publication, distribution, or future reuse will be communicated to authors as applicable.

Originality and Prior Publication

Authors must affirm that the submitted abstract or paper:

- Represents original scholarly or professional work.
- Is not simultaneously submitted to another conference or publication in substantially the same form, where such submission would create a conflict with the applicable publication or review policies.
- Has not previously been published or presented elsewhere in substantially the same form.

The same work may not be submitted to EDRA58 under more than one submission type. Submissions that build on previously published or presented work may be considered if they offer a distinct and substantive contribution. Authors should clearly identify and explain the new contribution where relevant.

Use of Artificial Intelligence

Authors must disclose the use of generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools in preparing their submissions, including the generation or substantive modification of text, images, data, analyses, or other scholarly content. Routine spelling, grammar, and formatting assistance does not require disclosure.

Any disclosure should identify the AI tool used and briefly describe how it contributed to the submitted work. To preserve anonymous peer review, disclosures included in reviewer-facing materials must not contain identifying information.

Authors remain fully responsible for the accuracy, originality, integrity, and proper attribution of all submitted content, including material generated or modified with AI tools. AI tools may not be listed as authors or co-authors. Authors must verify AI-generated information and ensure that the use of AI does not violate copyright, confidentiality, privacy, research ethics, or other applicable requirements.

Author and Co-Author Approval

The submitting author is responsible for ensuring that:

- All listed authors and co-authors have reviewed and approved the submission.
- All authors have agreed to the work's submission, presentation, and publication by EDRA.
- The author list, order, affiliations, and other identifying information are accurate.
- Any required institutional, client, participant, or project approvals have been obtained.
- All individuals who have made a substantive contribution to the work are appropriately acknowledged, and all listed authors meet the applicable authorship criteria.

The submitting author will serve as the primary contact during the submission, review, revision, and publication process. The submitting author is also responsible for communicating relevant updates, deadlines, and publication requirements to all co-authors.

Copyright and Permissions

Authors are responsible for obtaining permission to reproduce any copyrighted images, figures, tables, text, or other third-party material included in their submissions or final publication files. Proper attribution must be provided in accordance with applicable copyright requirements and APA Seventh Edition guidelines.

EDRA is not responsible for claims resulting from an author's failure to obtain the necessary permissions or approvals.

Authors should ensure that they have the right to share any photographs, maps, visualizations, project documentation, or other materials included in their submissions, particularly when these materials involve identifiable individuals, community participants, client projects, or proprietary information. Where applicable, authors must obtain appropriate consent and permissions before submission and publication.

Publication and DOIs

EDRA anticipates publishing accepted abstracts and full papers in the EDRA58 conference proceedings. Specific publication formats, author requirements, publication timelines, repository access, indexing, and the availability of Digital Object Identifiers are still being determined. Additional information will be provided to accepted authors as it becomes available.

Awards and Scholarships

EDRA58 offers several opportunities to recognize exemplary scholarship, design, service, and professional contributions and to support student participation. Some awards are determined through conference submissions, while others require separate applications or nominations. Eligibility, selection procedures, and award details may vary by program.

Conference Awards

Best Paper Award

Full papers submitted by the Call for Proposals deadline may be considered for the EDRA Best Paper Award. To be eligible, authors must submit the complete full paper with the abstract and follow all requirements described under Full Paper Submissions.

Papers accepted for presentation will be reviewed by the EDRA Awards and Recognitions Committee to select the award recipient. Selection will be based on the scholarly quality, originality, significance, and contribution of the submitted work to environmental design research and practice.

Best Student Paper Award

Full papers authored by students may be considered for the EDRA Best Student Paper Award. Authors must identify their student status during the submission process.

To be eligible:

- The complete full paper must be submitted with the abstract by the Call for Proposals deadline.
- The work must have been completed within the preceding year.
- All authors must have been students when the work was completed.
- All primary authors must have been students at the time the work was completed and submitted.
- Faculty, professional, or non-student participation must have been limited to the level ordinarily expected for supervised or graded student work.

These requirements do not exclude participatory or collaborative projects involving client groups, faculty advisors, or project coordinators. Faculty advisors and other collaborators may be acknowledged as contributors, but the intellectual leadership and substantive work must remain primarily attributable to the student author(s).

Best Student Design Poster Award

Student-authored display posters may be considered for the EDRA Best Student Design Poster Award. Authors must identify their student status during the submission process and meet all Display Poster submission and presentation requirements. The student or students must have played the primary role in developing the poster and the work it communicates.

Award recipients will be notified before EDRA58 and recognized during the conference. Additional information will be available at https://www.edra.org/edra58-awards.

EDRA Awards

The Certificate of Research Excellence and Great Places Awards use separate calls for submissions and are not part of the EDRA58 conference proposal review process.

Certificate of Research Excellence (CORE)

EDRA will issue a separate 2027 Call for Submissions for the Certificate of Research Excellence program. Complete program information, eligibility requirements, and submission instructions will be available at https://www.edra.org/edra-core.

Great Places Awards

EDRA will issue a separate 2027 Great Places Awards Call for Submissions. Complete award categories, eligibility requirements, and submission instructions will be available at https://www.edra.org/great-places-awards.

Annual Awards

EDRA's annual awards recognize significant contributions to environmental design research, practice, teaching, service, and organizational impact. These awards follow a separate nomination and selection process and are not determined through EDRA58 conference submissions.

- **EDRA Career Award:** Recognizes a career of sustained and significant contributions to environmental design research, practice, or teaching.
- **EDRA Service Award:** Recognizes exemplary service to EDRA or the field of environmental design research.
- **EDRA Achievement Award:** Recognizes an innovative contribution or coherent body of work that advances environmental design research through knowledge generation, public service, or professional practice.
- **EDRA Organization Award:** Recognizes an organization whose research, practice, policy, or educational work advances EDRA's mission.

The nomination schedule, complete eligibility requirements, and submission instructions will be announced separately at https://www.edra.org/awards-and-recognition.

Please Note: EDRA is currently updating its website with information for the 2027 awards programs. The links above direct to the appropriate award pages, which will be updated as additional details, deadlines, and application instructions become available.

Nana Kirk Student Travel Scholarship

The Nana Kirk Student Travel Scholarship program, formerly known as the Student Travel Award program, provides a limited number of scholarships in the form of reduced or complimentary conference registration. Depending on available funding, additional conference-related support may also be offered.

The scholarship is available to current EDRA student members in good standing who have been accepted to present at EDRA58. Applicants whose memberships are not current must join EDRA or renew their membership before applying.

In 2018, the EDRA Board renamed the scholarship in memory of Nana Kirk, an EDRA member, former member of the Board of Directors, and recipient of the 2012 EDRA Service Award. Nana embodied the passion and commitment EDRA's student members bring to social justice, diversity, and equality in environmental design.

Application instructions and the EDRA58 deadline will be announced separately after presentation decisions are issued. Scholarships are limited and subject to available funding.

- Nana Kirk Scholarship information
- Join or renew EDRA membership

Additional Financial Support

EDRA may offer additional student registration or travel support through designated scholarship funds, including the Ambassador Fund, subject to available funding. If additional support opportunities become available for EDRA58, eligibility requirements and application instructions will be announced separately.

Accessibility and Participant Support

EDRA is committed to providing an accessible, inclusive, and welcoming conference experience. Presenters and attendees who require accommodations are encouraged to contact EDRA Headquarters as early as possible so appropriate arrangements can be explored. EDRA will make reasonable efforts to work with the conference venue and service providers to support meaningful participation.

Accessibility and Accommodations

Accommodation requests may include, but are not limited to:

- Sign language interpretation
- Accessible presentation or conference materials
- Mobility and physical-access accommodations
- Dietary accommodations
- Other disability-related participation needs

Whenever possible, accommodation requests should be submitted at least 60 days before the conference. Requests submitted after this date will be considered, although the availability of certain accommodations may be limited by the amount of advance notice provided. EDRA will work with the conference venue and other partners to address accommodation requests.

To request an accommodation, contact **headquarters@edra.org**.

Presenters are also encouraged to prepare accessible materials, including readable slides, sufficient color contrast, clear image descriptions, and captions or transcripts for prerecorded media. Presenters should also use legible font sizes, avoid relying on color alone to communicate information, and provide verbal descriptions of important visual content during presentations whenever possible. Where applicable, digital presentation materials should be prepared with accessibility in mind, including descriptive links, readable text, and captions for audiovisual content.

International Presenters

International presenters who require documentation to support a visa application may request a conference invitation or acceptance letter after their proposal has been accepted.

EDRA recommends beginning the visa application process as soon as possible after receiving notification of acceptance. EDRA can provide documentation confirming an accepted presentation or planned conference participation but cannot guarantee visa approval or intervene in government processing decisions. The document does not constitute a commitment by EDRA to provide financial support, cover travel expenses, or guarantee participation in the conference.

To request documentation, contact **headquarters@edra.org**.

Questions and Technical Support

For questions about EDRA58 programming, submission requirements, conference policies, membership, accessibility, or presenter participation, contact:

EDRA Headquarters
headquarters@edra.org
https://www.edra.org/edra58

Technical assistance information for the EDRA58 submission platform will be available on the conference website when the submission portal opens.

For questions about a specific submission, authors should include their submission ID and title in their correspondence, where available.

Support and Partner with EDRA58

Support Student Participation

EDRA's student scholarship fund helps reduce financial barriers to conference participation by supporting eligible student members with registration and other conference-related expenses. Contributions of any amount help students participate in EDRA58 as presenters, researchers, and attendees.

To support student participation, visit https://www.edra.org/products/studentscholarshipfund

Sponsorship and Exhibitor Opportunities

EDRA58 offers opportunities for organizations to connect with an international, multidisciplinary community of researchers, practitioners, educators, students, and environmental design professionals.

Sponsorship and exhibitor opportunities may include conference visibility, recognition in event materials, exhibit space, and other opportunities to engage with EDRA members and attendees. Complete options, benefits, availability, and pricing will be included in EDRA's 2027 Sponsorship and Partnership Opportunities.

EDRA's peer-review, acceptance, and award-selection processes remain independent of sponsorship and exhibitor participation.

To learn more or express interest, contact **headquarters@edra.org**.

Organizing Committee

EDRA58 is being developed through a partnership between the EDRA58 Program Committee and the Florida International University Local Organizing Committee.

EDRA58 Program Committee

Lisa Tucker, Ph.D., Program Committee Chair
EDRA Chair-Elect; Professor and Director, Center for Historic Preservation, College of Architecture, Arts, and Design, Virginia Tech

- **Alina Osnaga, Assoc. AIA, TiD-S, NOMA,** EDRA Secretary; Architectural & Neuroscience Researcher
- **Mireya Jocelyn Gomez-Nava,** EDRA Board Member and Student Representative; Graduate Student Mentoring Workshop Lead; PhD Researcher in Urban Studies at Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh, UK
- **Zhe Wang, Ph.D.,** EDRA Awards and Recognitions Committee Chair; Professor, Central South University of Forestry and Technology

EDRA58 Local Organizing Committee

Marilys R. Nepomechie, FAIA, DPACSA, Local Committee Chair
Florida International University, Associate Dean for Architecture, College of Communication, Architecture + The Arts; Distinguished University Professor, School of Architecture

- **Ebru Özer, PhD, FASLA,** Florida International University, Professor and Chair, Department of Landscape Architecture + Environmental and Urban Design
- **Sam Moshaver, PhD,** Florida International University, Assistant Professor, Department of Interior Architecture
- **Tania Torrado, MIArch, IIDA,** Florida International University, Adjunct Professor, Department of Interior Architecture

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