

WHAT IS ARCHINEXT?

ArchiNEXT: HCG Young Designers' Competition (AYDC) challenges the ingenuity and proficiency of young students to design sound yet sustainable architectural masterpieces. It is a platform that tests and showcases the limitless creativity of aspiring leaders in the industry.

Now in its 12th year, ArchiNEXT remains as a prestigious nationwide competition and CSR program dedicated to architecture students. ArchiNEXT recognizes passion and hard work, transforming industrious learners into trailblazers. ArchiNEXT Young Awardees are envisioned to contribute inspiring trends not just to the profession's growth but also to nation-building.

ArchiNEXT is comprised of three key parts: competition, scholarship program, and internship opportunity. ArchiNEXT is a collaborative effort by Hocheng Philippines Corporation in partnership with the United Architects of the Philippines (UAP) and the Philippine Architecture Schools Association (PhilASA).

Today's Visionary, Tomorrow's Icon

THEME

In the 12th Edition of ArchiNEXT, we invite students to rise to the challenge of designing local domestic airports that truly reflect the unique culture and identity of their communities while creating a warm and welcoming atmosphere. With the sky as the limit, we encourage aspiring architects to develop innovative and sustainable gateways that connect not only destinations but also people and traditions. We proudly present the ArchiNEXT 2026 theme – **LIPARAN: Crafting Gateways That Connect Cultures**.

LIPARAN combines the idea of flight with connection and movement. It represents airports as gateways that create linkages of local cultures. **LIPARAN: Crafting Gateways That Connect Cultures** highlights the challenge of designing airports that reflect community identity while welcoming travelers. This theme encourages creating spaces that connect people and celebrate heritage in a sustainable and meaningful way.

DESIGN CHALLENGE

The design challenge invites participants to reimagine regional airport terminals as vibrant cultural gateways that strengthen local communities and boost tourism. Participants are tasked with creating airports that reflect the unique identity and heritage of their regions while providing flexible spaces for social and cultural activities. The goal is to design terminals that not only improve connectivity but also celebrate local traditions and foster economic growth through sustainable and innovative architecture.

By integrating cultural elements and sustainable materials, participants contribute to preserving and promoting the region's distinct character. Designs should balance present-day functionality with future adaptability, ensuring the airport remains a meaningful and welcoming hub for both residents and visitors. This challenge encourages creative thinking that connects people, culture, and place, aiming to leave a lasting positive impact on the community and its tourism landscape.

The scope of the design competition will be limited to the Terminal Building and its immediate environment. This includes vehicle and pedestrian flow such as drop-off areas, sidewalks circulation, parking, landscape and hardscape areas, and public transport pickup and drop-off points. The competition does not cover the design of airport runways, control towers, or other ancillary airport facilities.

CRITERIA

Creativity and Innovation (25%)

- Originality of the design concept.
- Innovative integration of natural elements and green spaces.
- Creative use of materials and technologies.
- Visual impact and enhancement of the environment's aesthetics.
- Harmonious integration with surrounding landscape and architecture.

Efficient Design and Layout (20%)

- Clear organization that supports smooth movement and flow.
- Effective zoning of different functions with strong connectivity.
- Sustainable strategies that improve environmental quality and resilience.
- Use of durable, low-maintenance materials and methods.

Community and Cultural Integration (15%)

- Reflection of local culture and heritage.
- Spaces that promote social interaction and connection.
- Inclusive design accessible to diverse users.
- Encouragement of community ownership and engagement.

Functionality, Practicality & Sustainability (15%)

- Meeting current and future user and operational needs.
- Efficient space use and functional amenities.
- Consideration of maintenance and lifecycle costs.
- Flexibility to accommodate evolving uses and demands.
- Integration of sustainable design strategies and eco-friendly materials.

Constructability (15%)

- Feasibility of design implementation.
- Ease and efficiency of construction processes.
- Realistic application of design solutions within budget and timeline.
- Use of readily available materials and technologies.

Narrative and Conceptual Clarity (10%)

- Clear, coherent presentation of concept and vision.
- Alignment with the theme of lasting legacies.
- Strength of storytelling to inspire and engage audiences.
- Effective communication of design intentions.

MECHANICS

Competition Entry

ArchiNEXT is open to 3rd and 4th-year bona fide Architecture students currently enrolled in any CHED-accredited and recognized College and University in the Philippines. Only one (1) entry per student or group is allowed.

Individual:

- A 3rd or 4th-year enrolled architecture student.
- Must not belong to any group that will submit an entry in ArchiNEXT 2026.

Group:

- Maximum of 3 members only per group.
- All members should either be a group of 3rd-year or 4th-year students or mixed year level.
- All members should be enrolled in the same College/University only.

Application Requirements

- ArchiNEXT 2026 Entry Form
- ArchiNEXT 2026 Endorsement Letter with the school's letterhead signed by the College Dean or Department Chair of Architecture ONLY
- Copy of School ID or Registration Form
- 2x2 ID Photo

Target Site Location

- Participants may choose an existing terminal site within the airport complex to design a completely new structure from the ground up, replacing any current facilities.
- Participants have complete freedom to select any site within the local area that reflects and promotes the region's culture and tourism potential, encouraging community integration and cultural expression.
- Alternatively, if the existing structure has national significance or heritage value, participants may retain and integrate a portion of the space or elements into the new design, promoting preservation alongside innovation and cultural expression.

Technical Requirements

- Floor Area: 2,500 sq. m. (Minimum)
- Lot Area: 10,000 sq. m. (Maximum)

Note: The floor area should comfortably fit within the lot size, allowing sufficient space around for landscaping, circulation, and other site elements, respecting the maximum lot boundary.

The lot allocation should also accommodate parking spaces for cars, buses, jeepneys, motorcycles, and other vehicles as per National Building Code (NBC) requirements, while respecting the maximum lot boundary.

Site Requirements

The social space should be thoughtfully designed to meet the diverse needs of both the community and visitors, fostering a welcoming environment that supports comfort, accessibility, cultural expression, and vibrant social interaction. It can include the following suggested amenities and facilities, with the option to add more based on community needs:

- Seamless Drop-off and pick up zones
- Efficient check-in and security areas ensuring smooth passenger flow.
- Passenger lounges with adjustable seating and amenities for comfort.
- Streamlined luggage collection point
- Comfortable sitting areas with shaded structures for socializing.
- Flexible gathering spaces suitable for various events and activities.
 - Accessible pathways and waiting areas with barrier-free design and clear signage.
 - Pasalubong Center that reflects the unique characteristic and culture of the region.
- Local art installations or cultural displays celebrating heritage.
 - Retail and dining zones offering local products and cuisine to enrich the experience.
- Iconic, accessible public toilets with PWD-friendly designs.

Specified Output

1. Maximum of four design plates in A3 size paper in portrait or landscape orientation. Ensure the text is legible when passing the digital copy. A project title is required.
 - 1st-2nd pages: Project Title, Location and Vicinity Map, Site Development, Aerial Perspectives, Lot Plan
 - 3rd-4th pages: Detailed Floor Plans, Sections, Elevations, Spots, and other pertinent details
 - Label the plates from 1-4.
2. A full narrative of the overall design concept (300-400 words only) on A4 size paper. Include “before” photos of the chosen site on a separate page.

Reminder: Name/s and your school should only be at the back side of the papers.

3. The TOP 10 designs must submit an AI-generated vision illustrating how their airport social space will look 50 years from now, showcasing future technology, culture, and sustainability in a compelling and innovative way.

Submissions

All entries must be submitted online via the official website. Submissions are accepted exclusively through this platform to ensure a smooth and efficient process.

All required documents and materials must be submitted online through the "Submission Tab" on the ArchiNEXT website.

All entries must be submitted exclusively via this platform to ensure a smooth and efficient process. Alternatively, submissions may be completed via Google Forms, with the link to be provided in forthcoming updates on the ArchiNEXT website and Facebook page.

Softcopy

1. Prepare the soft copy versions of the following:
 - Design entry in .pdf or .jpeg format
 - Full narrative of Design Concept in .pdf or .docx format
 - Accomplished application requirements in .pdf format:
 - ArchiNEXT 2026 Entry Form
 - ArchiNEXT 2026 Endorsement Letter with the school's letterhead signed by the College Dean or Department Chair of Architecture ONLY
 - Copy of School ID or Registration Form
 - 2x2 ID Photo

2. Soft copy versions must be labeled as follows:
Project Title_Surname 1, Surname 2, Surname 3

Note: corrupted files will be disqualified.

Deadline

The deadline for submission is on December 31, 2025. Entries sent or shipped past the deadline won't be accepted. Submissions with incomplete output and requirements will be disqualified.

SCREENING PROCESS

Initial Screening

- The ArchiNEXT Team will assign Entry Numbers to all the submissions and filter out the disqualified entries. Grounds for disqualification:
 - Plagiarism
 - Wrong output and/or incomplete requirements
 - Corrupted files
- Qualified entries will be checked by the first batch of judges (initial screening judges) to select the ones that will pass to the next stage of screening.

Pre-screening

- The selected qualified entries from the initial screening will then be reviewed and scored by the first batch of judges (pre-screening judges).
- The top scorers will make up the “Magic Number” and proceed to the Final Screening.

Final Screening

- The “Magic Number” entries will be evaluated and scored by the judges.
- The entries will be ranked based on the evaluation scores of the judges to identify the ten (10) finalists and special awardees. The students will be notified of their inclusion as finalists in no particular order.
- The Top 3 entrants will be notified to prepare a 10 minutes PowerPoint presentation and present during the live deliberation.
- Top 4-10 ranking will be determined during this stage.

Deliberation

- The scores will be reset to zero during the deliberation.
- The students will be given 10 minutes to present their design entry similar to a thesis defense. A 10 minute Q&A portion will commence after the live presentation.
- The entries will then be critiqued and scored based on their presentation. This will determine the TOP 1-3 ranking of the winners.

Note: The screening process is still subject to changes shall there be any valid reason or recommendation from the judges and management. The ArchiNEXT Team will publicly announce modification through the website and our Facebook Page.

PRIZES

Major Prizes

- **Grand Winner:** PHP 120,000.00
- **Top 2:** PHP 60,000.00
- **Top 3:** PHP 40,000.00
- **Top 4 to 5:** PHP 20,000.00
- **Top 6 to 10:** PHP 15,000.00

Special Award Prizes

- **Most Innovative:** PHP 15,000.00
- **Best Presentation:** PHP 10,000.00
- **Most Popular:** PHP 10,000.00
- **Best AI-Generated Vision:** PHP 10,000.00

School Counterpart Prizes

- **Gold:** PHP 25,000.00
- **Silver:** PHP 20,000.00
- **Bronze:** PHP 15,000.00
- **Most Participative:** PHP 5,000.00

Scholarship

- ArchiNEXT 2026 shall accommodate a maximum of 10 applicants who will be awarded financial assistance worth PHP 30,000.00. Scholarship applicants must satisfy and submit the following additional requirements together with their design entries:
- Must be within the top 50% during the Pre-screening round
- Printed and .pdf format of Scholar's Endorsement Letter with the school's letterhead and signed by the Architecture College Dean or Department Chair.
- Certificate of Indigency or certified true copy of parents' combined annual income (combined annual income of PHP 300,000.00 and below)
- Certified copy of recent grades with the school's dry seal
- Applicants with incomplete requirements will not be further screened.
-

Internship

The top 10 finalists in the ArchiNEXT 2026 competition will have the opportunity to be endorsed to one of our renowned partner architectural firms and secure an internship.

Reminders

- In participating, the students agree to have their names and/or designs published in a third-party publication or any other medium without extra fee or charge. Likewise, all entries shall become the property of Hocheng Philippines Corporation.
- Plagiarism of any form shall not be accepted and will be considered disqualified.
- Hocheng Philippines Corporation shall also shoulder the travel cost and accommodation of competition winners only residing in the provinces (outside Metro Manila with at least 4 hours of travel by land).
- Tickets and accommodation are not convertible to cash.