



Junk Battle!

**LA's architecture and
design schools are
taking on Big Junk.**

Over the first half of 2018, design and architecture programs across LA County are creating something amazing and useful out of their own institutions' waste streams – culminating with a blowout event April 20.

A Pando Populus event produced by NCompass in collaboration with UCLA Office of Sustainability, Common, and What Design Can Do, in association with UCLA Design Media Arts, ArtCenter, CalArts, LA Trade Tech/Architecture, Pasadena City College, and USC.

JUNK BATTLE! brings the County's design and architecture students together to focus on one of LA's toughest challenges: what to do about mountains of waste.

“Imagine TED meets architecture-and-design studio meets hackathon meets innovation black belts,” says Creative Director John Bielenberg, “and you’ve just imagined what JUNK BATTLE! can be.”

Unfolding in architecture and design programs across LA County over the first half of the year, JUNK BATTLE! culminates in a blow-out competition April 20, 2:00 – 6:30, at the LA Cleantech Incubator (LACI) in the downtown Arts District. Specialist symposium follows (date TBD) in collaboration with UCLA.

CASE STUDY: UCLA

UCLA case study highlights the challenge. The university purchases close to a billion dollars' worth of goods every year. A large percentage of which winds up in area landfills. UCLA targets a zero-waste goal by 2020. But to reach it, they have to change the game.

The essential challenge is the same for institutions large and small across the County.

**So we're bringing LA County's
architecture and design community
together with experts on waste and
recycling to take on Big Junk.**

Full courses currently in progress at UCLA, ArtCenter, CalArts, and LA Trade Tech/Architecture are producing JUNK BATTLE! competition entries. Submissions anticipated from a dozen teams. Two dozen individuals. With Pasadena City College, USC, and other institutions Countywide collaborating.

The work culminates in a JUNK BATTLE! competition (April 20 at LACI), and includes:

- **TED-style talks bringing the County's leading innovators and visionaries together to raise the bar on what's possible in terms of waste and recycling and frame new inspirations.**
 - **JUNK BATTLE! design competition among student teams from leading architecture and design programs.**
 - **Blow-out, zero-waste reception celebrating the best in upcycled design.**
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The specialist symposium (date TBD) assumes that business-as-usual no longer works and asks what more can be done for a zero waste future. We bring together some of the key people who can make that future happen.

JUNK BATTLE! will be a hit if we:

Engage some of the most creative young minds in the County to focus their attention on waste and recycling. Spotlight ideas on zero waste.

Create a buzz-worthy prototype that will become a yearly event.



JUNK BATTLE! COURSES AND COMPETITION

JUNK BATTLE! courses and competition bring together LA County's architecture and design schools to upcycle institutional waste in the most useful and creative ways imaginable.

Courses are currently being taught and work is already underway at four architecture and design anchor institutions across LA County.

Other institutions are aiming to participate in the JUNK BATTLE! event day, by joining existing teams at one of the four anchor schools, helping with logistics, and pre-planning for their own involvement in next year's JUNK BATTLE!, 2019.

JUNK BATTLE! shines a spotlight on waste and recycling, addressing an enormous institutional challenge.

JUNK BATTLE! TEAMS

Teams for the JUNK BATTLE! competition are based in architecture or design programs (higher ed) from throughout LA County, and may involve full- or part-time students.

- We expect teams to develop in relationship to graduate seminars in some cases, and from semester-long classes in others. Teams may also be extra-curricular.**
 - Students from outside of these programs (e.g., engineering) may join an architecture or design submission.**
 - We assume a total of 5-12 students per team. Up to 3 teams per institution.**
 - Professional architects and designers may serve as consultants to the student teams on a time-limited basis – say, up to 2 hours per consultant, virtually or in person, to be used by teams wisely.**
 - Institutions provide faculty guidance, studio space, and junk storage space.**
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JUNK BATTLE! SUBMISSION CRITERIA

The idea of the JUNK BATTLE! competition is to make something both useful and amazing from a big pile of institutional junk.

- **We anticipate that results will vary widely, from a tiny house to something with wheels to playground equipment to a collection of things to wear.**
 - **Submissions must be transportable and fit into a specified size of cargo container or truck for transport to the event site.**
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JUNK BATTLE! RESOURCES

Resources for the JUNK BATTLE! competition will be limited by the rules of engagement.

- **Junk will be provided by the sponsoring institutions according to rule-book specs: for example, limit by weight or number of junk pieces; community-originated, etc.**
 - **Specialist consultants from the fields of architecture, design, and storytelling are available to the students to advise on their work.**
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JUNK BATTLE! COMPETITION DAY

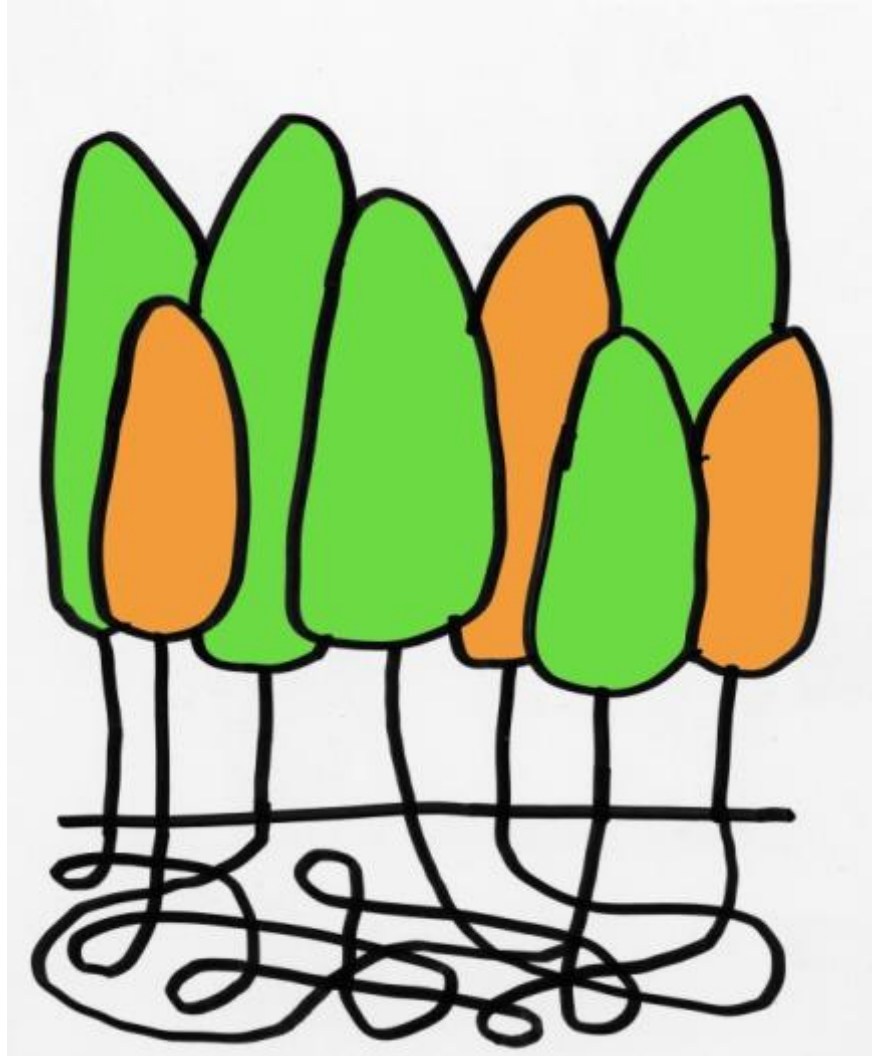
- **Program elements include: TED-style talks; and breaks during which audience members have the opportunity to view ad hoc presentations of submissions in scattered locations around the space.**
 - **Includes “ugly” foods, zero-waste, and up-cycling.**
 - **Popular voting and celebrity judging.**
 - **Celebrity judging and pitches:**
 - **Includes quick pitches by contestants introducing team; junk used; inspiration; what purposes it serves; how it relates to a vision for the future of waste management, etc.**
 - **Final vote tally while party continues over drinks and food. Announcement of winners.**
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SPECIALIST SYMPOSIUM

- **Organized by the Office of Sustainability at UCLA.**
 - **Curated event focused on insights from the zero waste roadmap, challenges and solutions to implementation.**
 - **Includes “ugly” foods, zero-waste, and up-cycling.**
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We're a team of producers, designers, philosophers, educators and sustainability officers who want to move LA forward in ecological terms.

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JUNK BATTLE! teams include: **John B. Cobb, Jr.** is chair of the board and Member, American Academy of Arts and Sciences. **Ed Bacon** is senior rector (ret.), All Saints Pasadena. **John Bielenberg** is founder of Future Partners (Silicon Valley) and the Think Wrong Institute at the University of Kansas. **Devon Hartman** is founding executive director of CHERP (Community Home Energy Retrofit Program). **Paul Koretz** is Los Angeles City Councilmember (5th District). **Josie Maran** is founding CEO of Josie Maran Cosmetics. **Vickere Murphy** is district representative for Senator Anthony J. Portantino. **Rebecca Schmitt** is an executive and entrepreneur named one of Folio Magazine's Top Women in Media. **Eugene Shirley** is president, Pando Populus. **Brandt Williams** is a serial entrepreneur and founder of Made2Market.

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