
KTA / 2025
PROPOSAL
Term of
References

The Everyday

In an era where human existence is increasingly mediated by digital spaces, our relationship with the physical world is transforming. Social interactions, work, leisure, and even architecture are no longer bound solely to tangible environments, but are shaped by interfaces, screens, and algorithms. Spaces once central to everyday experience, such as cafés, sidewalks, public squares, now serve as passive backdrops to digital immersion. People move through cities with their attention fixed on devices, ears tuned to virtual soundscapes, bodies navigating but minds elsewhere. In this condition, we ask: has the mundane lost its significance in an age of increasing non-physical presence?

Toyo Ito, in his seminal essay *Architecture in a Simulated City*, observed how cities like Tokyo had become “hyper-real environments” where surface, symbol, and simulation overtook traditional spatial logic. Ito’s critique presaged a shift where architecture is no longer anchored solely in form and function, but in experience and perception, increasingly shaped by non-material forces. In this light, Lefebvre’s critique of everyday life becomes ever more urgent: space is not merely a neutral backdrop to human activities but an active force in the production of social life. His assertion that “the user’s space is lived—not represented or conceived” reminds us that despite the growing abstraction of human existence into data and simulations, spatial experiences remain fundamentally anchored in the body, in presence, in the physical world. The question is no longer whether everyday architecture matters, but how its meaning has evolved.

Once about noticing the beauty of the unnoticed—the play of light in stairwells, the rhythm of footsteps on a sidewalk, the unscripted gestures in shared spaces—it now involves an awareness of how digital overlays filter, distract, or distort these spaces. It is no longer just a matter of physical presence but a layered experience, shaped by the tension between the tangible and the virtual, between what is designed and what is appropriated. This shift invites us to rethink architecture itself. Beyond the built world, it lingers and woven in the everyday as a narrative, a mood, a cultural presence that exists as much in stories, lyrics, and films as in bricks and mortar.

In this reality, the everyday can be re-enchanted—not through monumental gestures, but through a renewed attentiveness to the ordinary. In spaces that risk fading into the periphery of a digitally saturated world, we are called to rediscover meaning in the banal, the habitual, the ambient. Architecture, then, becomes not only a discipline of form-making, but a tool for perceiving, framing, and amplifying the lived world.

This evolving condition of space and perception is not just a theoretical concern—it is a pedagogical one. As architecture students respond to different urban, social, and digital contexts, their final projects become more than individual expressions: they are mirrors of institutional pedagogy, cultural filters, and speculative tools.

By anchoring this year’s KTA summit in the discourse of The Everyday, we aim to create a space where design meets critique, where students not only present final projects but engage in conversation about the deeper conditions shaping them. Through competition, open talk, public lecture, and exhibition, this summit becomes a site to benchmark architectural education, to critically reflect on the contemporary condition, and to reclaim the relevance of the ordinary in a rapidly dematerializing world.

KTA 2025

KTA is the annual architectural student platform hosted by the Department of Architecture, Institut Teknologi Sepuluh Nopember, Surabaya, Indonesia. Over two decades, KTA has brought together final project works from architecture students across the region.
This year, KTA as an international architectural student summit scheduled for 8–12 September 2025, bringing together students, educators, and thinkers from across the world. The summit comprises four interlinked events: international final project competition, open talk, public lecture, and curated exhibition
The overarching discourse centers on The Everyday—a critical examination of how digital mediation has reshaped our experience of physical space, and what that means for the future of architecture. Anchored in both theory and practice, this summit functions as a benchmarking platform for architectural pedagogy across the region and a catalyst for rethinking the relevance of the everyday in architectural imagination.

Objectives

Through the series of events in KTA 2025, we aim to:

- Benchmark architectural pedagogy across regions through students' final project works
- Create a space for critical discourse on the everyday
- Foster collaboration, exchange, and network-building among architecture students
- Encourage interdisciplinary dialogue between students, academics, practitioners, and the public
- Re-enchant the ordinary through design, discussion, and curation

Program Schedule

Monday 8 September 2025	Tuesday 9 September 2025	Wednesday 10 September 2025	Thursday 11 September 2025	Friday 12 September 2025
Opening Ceremony				Closing Ceremony
Exhibition	Exhibition	Exhibition	Exhibition	Exhibition
		Open Talk		
			Public Lecture	Competition Final Crits

**The event will be held in a hybrid format (online and on-site)*

Final Project Competition

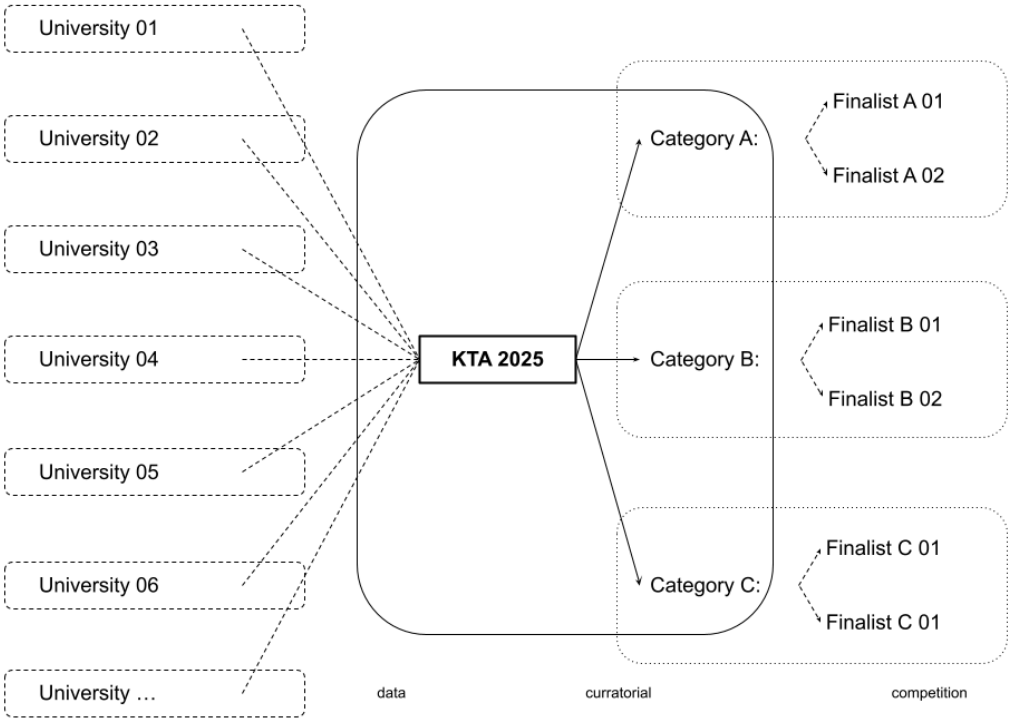
KTA 2025 International final project competition showcasing selected works from participating universities. Serves as a benchmarking tool, separate in theme from The Everyday. The KTA 2025 Final Project Competition takes a generative and reflective approach. Rather than requiring participants to apply under predefined categories, all submitted works will be curated collectively. This curatorial process will allow patterns, themes, and trajectories to emerge organically from the submissions themselves.
Through this method, the competition becomes not just an evaluative platform, but a tool for mapping architectural education across regions. The resulting groupings—based on project focus, typology, method, or discourse—will inform both the competition categories and the selection of finalists. These categories serve as a reflection of the diversity, direction, and discourse embedded within architectural pedagogy today.

Eligibility:

1. Participants must be architecture students (bachelor degree) whose final project has been examined and officially submitted during the 2024–2025 academic year.
2. Participants must have received a minimum grade of AB (3.50/4.00 or equivalent).
3. Participants must provide either a recommendation letter from their university or a scanned academic transcript showing the final project grade.
4. All submitted works must be guaranteed free of plagiarism in any form. Proven plagiarism at any stage will result in disqualification.
5. Participants must upload all required materials as specified in the competition guidelines.

Competition Process Overview:

1. **Submission Phase:** Final project works are submitted either through participating universities or directly by students.
2. **Curatorial Phase:** The curatorial and internal jury team reviews all submissions, identifying emergent themes and classifying projects into organic competition categories.
3. **Announcement of Categories & Finalists:** Finalists are selected within each identified category. These categories will be publicly announced as part of the curatorial findings.
4. **Final Judging & Awards:** A final round of jury evaluation will be conducted hybrid within each category, selecting one winner per category.



Jury Process:
The jury evaluation will be conducted in two stages:
Internal Jury & Curation Phase
All submitted works will be reviewed by the curatorial team and internal jury. Projects will be mapped and grouped into emerging categories. Two finalists will be selected from each category.

Internal Jury:
To be confirmed.

Final Jury Phase
Finalists will present their projects in front of the jury. One winner will be chosen per category.

Final Jury:

1. Prof. Kenta Kishi (Akita University of Art, Japan)
2. Fauzia Evanindya (FFFAAARRR Studio)
3. Dr. Ar. Resza Riskiyanto, S.T., M.T., IAI (Diponegoro University, IAI Jawa Tengah)

Submission Materials:
Participants are required to submit their work in digital form, named using the provided registration number (e.g., KTA2025-100.zip). The registration number and upload link will be provided upon completion of the registration and payment process at https://www.events-arch-its.org/kta2025.

Required contents of the file:

- A1 Poster (1 sheet)
  - Size: A1 (841 × 594 mm), vertical layout
  - Format: PDF, max size 20 MB, 300 dpi
  - Language: Indonesian or English
  - Content must include:
    - Design concept / conceptual framework
    - Visuals such as plans, elevations, sections, renderings
    - Participants are free to determine scale and graphic presentation
    - No identifying information (name, university, etc.) is allowed
    - Registration code must be placed in the upper-right corner (Arial, 11pt)
    - Filename: A1_<RegistrationNumber>.pdf (e.g., A1_KTA2025-100.pdf)

- A4 Project Report
  - Format: PDF, vertical layout
  - Length: 300–500 words
  - Language: Indonesian or English
  - Text only — images not allowed
  - Must include:
    - Project title
    - Typology / function
    - Main spatial program
    - Location
    - Building and site area, number of floors
    - Context, theme, or issue addressed
    - Design concept: form, program, layout, structure, construction

- Project Drawings
  - Format: PNG or JPG, 300 dpi
  - Content: any drawings that clearly represent the project ideas (e.g., perspectives, elevations, sections, diagrams)
  - No limit on number of drawings
  - Each file should be named as: G_<DrawingNumber> (e.g., G_01.jpg)
  - These files may be used for KTA publications

Registration:

NATIONAL (residing in Indonesia)

Fee	: IDR 300,000 per participant
Bank	: Bank Negara Indonesia (BNI)
VA Account	: KTA, Architecture-ITS
Virtual Account Number	: 8257715040610002
Account Name	: ITS PTN BADAN HUKUM UTK OPERASIONAL PENDD. PROF
Note	: For non-BNI users, please use inter-bank transfer and enter the full virtual account number.

INTERNATIONAL

Fee	: 25 USD per participant
Bank	: Bank Negara Indonesia (BNI)
VA Account	: KTA, Architecture-ITS
Virtual Account Number	: 8257715040610002
Account Name	: ITS PTN BADAN HUKUM UTK OPERASIONAL PENDD. PROF
Account Holder	: REKTOR ITS BHPP
Swift Code	: BNINIDJAXXX
Address	: Kampus ITS Sukolilo, Surabaya 60111

Registration Steps:
Visit https://www.events-arch-its.org/kta2025
Click on the Registration menu
Complete the form and payment
Registration number and upload link will be sent via email

Rules:

1. Participants must comply with all procedures, deadlines, and file naming instructions.
2. The competition is individual. Submitted work must be the original work of the participant.
3. Jury decisions are final and non-negotiable.
4. Participants may re-upload files during the submission period, but the final upload should be a complete set (not partial updates).
5. Any violation of the rules will result in disqualification without a refund.
6. All intellectual property rights remain with the participants.
7. Registration fees are non-refundable.
8. Submission indicates full acceptance of all competition rules.

Disqualification Criteria:

1. Layouts that contain any identifying information about the participant
2. Files that do not follow naming and formatting standards
3. Incomplete submissions at the end of the submission period
4. Participants who do not meet the eligibility criteria (e.g., graduation year)

Awards:

Awards will be given to two finalists per category, with one winner chosen per category. All categories will receive equal prize values, and the number of categories will be determined based on the internal curation process.

Each category:

- Winner: IDR 5,000,000 + Goodie Bag
- Runner-up: IDR 2,000,000 + Goodie Bag
- Certificate (Top 5 each category)
- Exhibition

The number of categories will be announced after the internal curation process.

Competition Timeline:

Registration	: 30/06/2025 - 08/08/2025
Curation	: 11/08/2025 - 15/08/2025
Finalist Announcement	: 25/08/2025
Exhibition	: 08/09/2025 - 12/09/2025
Final Jury	: 12/09/2025

Open Talk

The Everyday as Critical Ground: Reflections from Practice & Pedagogy

In cities across the world, architecture often begins after the blueprint ends. When formal systems fail short to meet daily needs, communities adapt: tarps become roofs, sidewalks become kitchens, fences become canvases. These improvisations—what Indonesians call *akal-akalan*—are often dismissed as informal, illegal, or unprofessional. But what happens when we see them instead as a form of spatial intelligence? What if we embrace them not as problems, but as pedagogical tools, design references, or collaborative practices?

This forum invites students to explore the boundaries of what counts as architecture. It invites reflection on how architecture intersects with daily practices, habits, and lived experiences, and how it is (or isn't) addressed in architectural education and practice. How do everyday gestures—repair, negotiation, improvisation—generate knowledge that escapes the studio, syllabus, or regulation? Can we shift from being authors to enablers? How do we design with rather than for?

We welcome critical and creative reflections on the intersection of architecture and the everyday: from critiques of studio culture and institutional rituals, to domestic negotiations, use of space, or the politics of maintenance. Whether through writing, mapping, photography, or storytelling, students are invited to share how architecture is produced through lived experience—not only by design, but by doing. Rather than positioning architects solely as authors, this forum asks: what if we are witnesses, collaborators, or archivists of the everyday spaces?

Participant Eligibility:

This forum is open to the public. We encourage contributions from diverse backgrounds and geographies, especially those engaging with the lived realities of space, pedagogy, and practice. We welcome submissions from students (undergraduate and graduate), lecturers and educators, researchers and academics, practitioners across related disciplines.

Submission Format:

Submissions should present a critical reflection, case study, or conceptual exploration on architecture and the everyday, in alignment with the forum theme.

- An essay no more than 1200 words in English or Bahasa Indonesia, following the template provided in the website
- Submissions may include visual elements such as images, diagrams, along with references if necessary
- Accepted formats: .docx
- **Best essays will be selected** by the committee. Selected authors will be invited as speakers in the forum (hybrid) and receive a **certificate of appreciation.** Their writings will also be **published** as part of the official KTA 2025 publication.

Open Talk Timeline:

Open call	: 16/08/2025 - 30/08/2025
Abstract submission	: 16/08/2025 - 30/08/2025
Review	: 01/09/2025 - 04/09/2025
Open talk	: 10/09/2025

Public Lecture

The Everyday: Where Architecture Lives

Architecture, as Attoe once posed, revolves around three guiding questions: *What is it? What should it do? And how should it be designed?*
But what if we begin with a different question: *Where is architecture?*
This lecture explores architecture through the lens of urban habitability, understanding how it unfolds not only through built form, but through the ways we live; streets that hold memory, rituals of gathering, acts of care, and narrative of places. It may be speculative, ephemeral, or improvised, yet still deeply architectural in how it organizes bodies, choreographs relations, and produces place.
Rather than departing from architecture's formal traditions, this lecture opens its edges. It proposes a broader perspective that includes not only what is built, but also what is felt, narrated, performed, or remembered. It recognizes that architecture often takes form within the realm of the everyday: in unnoticed gestures, habitual spaces, and ordinary encounters that quietly shape how we dwell.
Not beyond the building, but within and around the vibrant and often invisible architectures of everyday life. It asks: If architecture doesn't always build, what does it do? And if it is everywhere, how do we learn to see it?

Public Lecture Timeline:

Registration	: 04/08/2025 - 29/08/2025
Public Lecture	: 11/09/2025

Exhibition




TOP 5
FINALIST
ARCHITECTURAL
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FINALIST
ARCHITECTURAL