



ASCE Western Great Lakes Student Symposium

Spectator Guide



HOSTED BY UNIVERSITY OF ST. THOMAS AND
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA - TWIN CITIES





Symposium Information

For the first time in over a decade, the Western Great Lakes American Society of Civil Engineers Student Symposium is in the Twin Cities. We welcome spectators to come watch, cheer and learn a little about civil engineering!

The Western Great Lakes ASCE Student Symposium is one of twenty-two annual regional student symposia, offering ASCE student chapters the opportunity to showcase their skills and engage in friendly competition. This event is co-hosted by the ASCE Student Chapters of the University of Minnesota - Twin Cities and the University of St. Thomas. Nineteen universities from across the Western Great Lakes region will gather from April 16th-18th, 2026 in Minneapolis and Saint Paul to participate in various competitions related to civil engineering!

We're excited to welcome spectators to observe the competitions occurring as part of the Symposium. We ask that spectators are respectful of the competitions, the competition venues, and the registered symposium attendees.

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Symposium Schedule

DRUG AND ALCOHOL-FREE EVENTS

THE USE OF DRUGS AND ALCOHOL IS PROHIBITED AT ALL ASCE STUDENT SYMPOSIUM EVENTS.

Friday, April 17th	7:00 AM	4:00 PM	Concrete Canoe Competition	Lake Hiawatha
	9:00 AM	3:00 PM	Surveying Field Tasks	Lake Hiawatha
	9:00 AM	12:00 PM	Concrete Cornhole	Lake Hiawatha
	11:00 PM	3:00 PM	Volleyball Tournament	Lake Hiawatha
	1:00 PM	4:00 PM	Geowall Competition	UST - SCC High Bay
	1:00 PM	3:00 PM	3D-Printed Bridge Competition	UST - SCC 101
Saturday, April 18th	6:00 AM	4:00 PM	Steel Bridge Competition	UST - LPA Arena
	9:00 AM	12:30 PM	Concrete Canoe Presentations	UST - OWS 150
	9:00 AM	11:15 AM	Sustainable Solutions Presentations	UST - SCC 238
	9:00 AM	11:30 PM	Surveying Presentations	UST - OWS 250
	8:00 AM	12:00 PM	Construction Institute	UST - SCC 308, 309
	10:00 AM	2:00 PM	Career Fair	UST - SCC Performance Hall
	11:00 AM	1:00 PM	Sustainable Solutions Poster Session	UST - SCC High Bay
	11:00 AM	1:00 PM	Survey Poster Session	UST - SCC Atrium

LPA Arena = Lee and Penny Anderson Arena
SCC = Schoenecker Center

OWS = Owens Science Hall
ASC = Anderson Student Center



Concrete Canoe

Concrete Canoe Races

Where: Lake Hiawatha Beach

When: 7AM-4PM, April 17th

Teams will first set up their canoes for aesthetic judging. Races are expected to start by 11AM, or as soon as weather conditions permit. The races are composed of men's sprints, women's sprints, coed sprints, and slalom, each in heats of 4-5 teams.

Concrete Canoe Presentations

Where: UST Owens Science Hall 150

When: 9AM-12:30PM, April 18th

Concrete Canoe teams must also give a 5-minute technical presentation, with 7 minutes of questions.



Concrete Canoe Presentations

<u>Timeslot</u>	<u>School</u>
9:00 AM	UMN
9:15 AM	UIUC
9:30 AM	UW - Madison
9:45 AM	MSU Mankato
10:00 AM	NDSU
10:15 AM	UW - Platteville
10:30 AM	UIC
10:45 AM	Break
11:00 AM	UST
11:15 AM	MSOE
11:30 AM	Marquette
11:45 AM	Bradley
12:00 PM	UMD
12:15 PM	Northwestern



Surveying

Surveying Field Tasks

Where: Lake Hiawatha, south of Concrete Canoe

When: 9AM-3PM, April 17th

Teams will complete their choice of four timed surveying field tasks. Please move if asked by a competitor or judge!

Surveying Presentations

Where: UST Owens Science Hall 250

When: 9AM-11:30AM, April 18th

Each team will present the results of their work preparing a topographic map.

Surveying Presentations	
<u>Timeslot</u>	<u>School</u>
9:00 AM	Northwestern
9:10 AM	NDSU
9:20 AM	Bradley
9:30 AM	UIC
9:40 AM	Break
9:50 AM	MSOE
10:00 AM	UST
11:00 AM	UIUC
11:10 AM	UW - Madison



Concrete Cornhole / Volleyball

Concrete Cornhole

Where: Lake Hiawatha, north of Concrete Canoe

When: 9AM-12PM, April 17th

Participating teams will submit their cornhole boards (made of concrete) for inspection and weighing by the judges. Single-elimination tournament play with standard bags (not made of concrete) will follow, with each game played to 21 points.

Volleyball

Where: Lake Hiawatha, north of Concrete Canoe

When: 11AM-3PM, April 17th

All attending schools are invited to play a friendly game of volleyball in a single-elimination tournament.





GeoWall / 3D-Printed Bridge

GeoWall Competition

Where: UST Schoenecker Center High Bay

When: 1PM-4PM, April 18th

Teams will construct model mechanically stabilized earth retaining walls using kraft paper taped to a poster board wall facing. Each team will set up their MSE retaining walls into their box, filling with sand until failure or until the box is full.

Geowall Competition Order	
<u>Order</u>	<u>School</u>
1	UMD
2	UW - Platteville
3	IIT

3D-Printed Bridge Competition

Where: UST Schoenecker Center 101

When: 1PM-4PM, April 18th

Teams will bring their premade 20" span bridges composed of entirely 3D-printed parts to test with 70 lbs of load.

3D Printing Presentations	
<u>Timeslot</u>	<u>School</u>
1:00 PM	NDSU
1:10 PM	Bradley
1:20 PM	IIT
1:30 PM	UND



Steel Bridge

Steel Bridge

Where: UST Lee and Penny Anderson Arena

When: 6AM-4PM, April 18th

Teams will start setting their 24'-long bridges for aesthetics/poster judging at 6AM. Timed bridge assembly is expected to start around 8AM. Teams will move from assembly, to bridge weighing, to lateral load testing (50lbs) and then vertical load testing (2500lbs), with three lanes each for building and vertical load testing.



Steel Bridge Build Order

<u>Order</u>	<u>School</u>
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1 UMN

2 UST

3 NDSU

4 Lakehead

5 UMD

6 UW - Platteville

7 UW - Madison

8 UND

9 MSOE

10 UIC

11 UIUC

12 Bradley

13 Northwestern

14 IIT

15 ONU

16 Marquette



Construction Institute

Construction Institute

Where: UST Schoenecker Center 308, 309

When: 8AM-12PM, April 18th

The Construction Institute Competition challenges teams to apply real-world, hands on construction management skills by responding to a Request for Information outlining a specific construction engineering challenge. Teams have 2 hours to develop and submit their solution.

Spectators are invited to watch the final presentations of the teams, expected to begin around 11AM.

Construction Institute Competition Order

<u>Order</u>	<u>School</u>
1	UW - Madison
2	UIUC
3	IIT
4	UIC



Sustainable Solutions

Sustainable Solutions Presentations

Where: UST Schoenecker Center 238

When: 9AM-11:15AM, April 18th

Teams will present their innovative designs that address real-world environmental and infrastructure challenges using sustainable engineering practices.

Sustainable Solutions Presentations	
Timeslot	School
9:00 AM	Northwestern
9:15 AM	UST
9:30 AM	UND
9:45 AM	UMN
10:00 AM	Break
10:15 AM	UIUC
10:30 AM	UW - Platteville
10:45 AM	UW - Madison
11:00 AM	UIC



Sustainable Solutions Poster Session

Where: UST Schoenecker High Bay

When: 11AM-1PM, April 18th

The Sustainable Solutions Poster Session offers a more interactive setting where teams showcase their projects through visual displays. Attendees can walk through, ask questions, and even vote for their favorite project!



MAPS, DIRECTIONS, AND PARKING INFORMATION

Lake Hiawatha - April 17th

DIRECTIONS:

Concrete Canoe, Concrete Cornhole, Volleyball, and the Survey Competition will be hosted on the NE side of Lake Hiawatha.

Search "[Lake Hiawatha Park](#)" on maps for closest directions: **2701 E 44th St, Minneapolis, MN 55406**

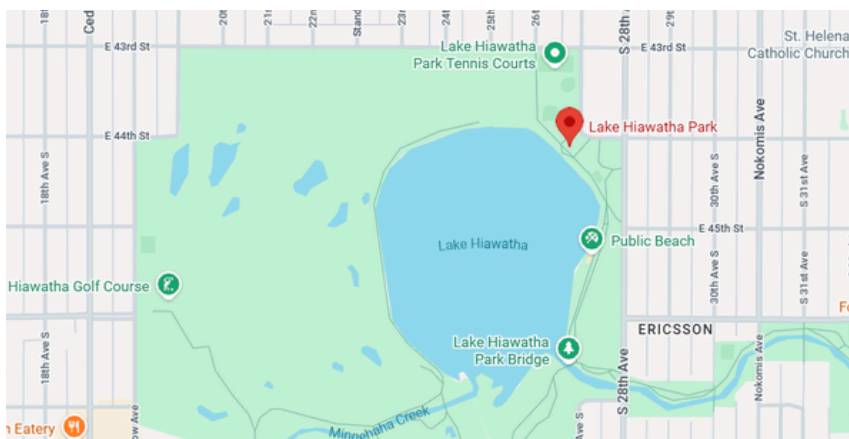
PARKING:

There are lots of free street parking surrounding the lake as well as the neighborhood.

There will be designated drop off zones and parking along South 28th Ave for the competition teams. Please don't block competition team trucks.

Food is provided for registered attendees only.

Feel free to bring a camping chair while watching!





MAPS, DIRECTIONS, AND PARKING INFORMATION

St. Thomas Campus - April 18th

DIRECTIONS:

Steel Bridge, Sustainable Solutions, GeoWall, Construction Institute, and team presentations will be hosted on the University of St. Thomas Campus.

Search "[UST Anderson Parking Facility](#)" on maps for closest directions:

Corner of, Grand Ave & Cretin Ave S, Cretin Ave S, St Paul, MN 55105

PARKING:

There is lots of free street parking around the University of St.

Thomas, as well as several paid parking facilities.

Anderson Parking Facility is the closest parking ramp to all competitions. Parking fees are metered by the hour.

Please note that parking on the 3rd and 4th floor of the parking ramp is reserved parking for competition teams. Do not park on these floors.

Food is be provided for registered attendees only, however the LPA Arena concession stand will be open on Saturday.





Safety Information

If an injury does occur during the symposium, it should be reported to the competition head judge, symposium safety officer, or activity leader immediately so that appropriate action can be taken based on the injury. If it is a true emergency, please call 911 first.

Contact information for the symposium safety officer and key host school representatives are listed below. Please keep this list close during the symposium and we encourage you to program the symposium safety officer's phone number into your cell phone.

Symposium Safety Officers

Travis Welt - (651) 962-7743
Travis.Welt@stthomas.edu

Steven Barbachyn - (269) 492-5426
SBarbach@umn.edu

Host School Faculty Advisor

Rita Lederle - (651) 962-7745
Rita.Lederle@stthomas.edu

Jia-Liang Le - (612) 625-0752
jle@umn.edu

Closest Hospital or Urgent Care

Regions Hospital ER
640 Jackson St
St. Paul, MN 55101

M Health Fairview
University of Minnesota Medical Center
East Bank Emergency Room (500 SE
Harvard St, Minneapolis MN 55455)



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