

Lausanne Jardins 2019 launch of the international competition for ideas

Polish your seeds, nurture your imagination: The competition for the 6th Lausanne Jardins has officially been launched! It is aimed at landscape architects, designers, architects, creators and artists the world over to produce some 20 gardens focusing on the theme of open ground. Those gardens will be embedded in the public domain during the summer of 2019, following a route that crosses the city from East to West.

Organised by the City of Lausanne and Association Jardin Urbain, Lausanne Jardins became a leading cultural event in the Vaud capital as soon as it began in 1997. Every five years, during the course of one summer, temporary gardens occupy the streets, squares, neglected sites, building façades and roofs.

Along a route, an invitation to stroll in the contemporary art of gardening – but not only that: Lausanne Jardins is also an invitation to rethink the city and reappropriate public spaces. The 2019 festival aims to put pressure where it hurts and serve as a life-size laboratory to experiment with future communal living areas.

The 6th Lausanne Jardins focuses on the issue of open ground in order to raise public awareness of the value of the few urban spaces that have never been layered with concrete or tarmacked, and that have remained connected to the ground below, which gives the world above much of its richness. The 2019 festival offers a down-to-earth route, from Valency Park to Guillemin Park, along the No. 9 bus route: a surface tour of the underground.

To design and bring to life the 20 or so gardens along the route, Lausanne Jardins 2019 addresses landscape architects, designers, architects, creators and artists the world over. Multidisciplinary teams are strongly encouraged, although each must feature at least one gardening professional who will act as project leader.

The competition will take place in two phases. Initially, teams will be selected based upon their portfolio. Contestants may submit their application until 29 September. After the selection process, a maximum of 120 teams will be asked to develop their landscape installation project by 20 January 2018. All documents required (rules and regulations, description of the sites, etc.) may be downloaded on www.lausannejardins.ch.

The Directorate for Housing, Environment
and Architecture

For further information, please contact :

- **Natacha Litzistorf, Head of the Directorate for Housing, Environment and Architecture, 021 315 52 00**
- **Monique Keller, Kurator Lausanne Jardins 2019, 079 412 73 64**

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