

Architectural Foundation of San Francisco

Saturday Design Studio 2026

An online digital design and architecture workshop for high school students

Saturdays, October 10 - November 14, 2026

Online group sessions:

Saturdays 6 weeks each, 1 1/2 hours per week (10:00 am - 11:30am)

+ Individual mentoring by a professional: 1 hr. per week (scheduled for you)

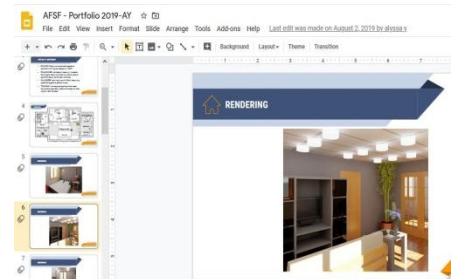
\$500 includes all materials

The **Architectural Foundation of San Francisco (AFSF)** announces ***the AFSF Saturday***

Design Studios 2026, a distance-learning workshop in sustainable design and architecture for high school students. Participants will learn professional digital design tools, receive 1-on-1 mentoring with an architect or engineer, and create a portfolio of photo-realistic and video renderings of their original 3D designs.



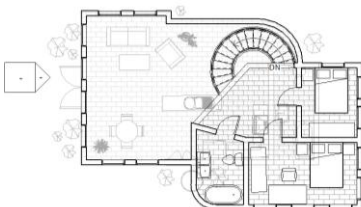
Drawing on the successes of our school-day, after-school and summer programs, our established curricula provide a dynamic, real-world project-based learning experience where students gain high-tech professional skills and insights. As in all our programs, the AFSF Saturday Design Studio provides rigorous academic and professional experiences, providing youth with skills and inspiration to succeed in school, careers and life.



Architects use a range of tools in the design process and the AFSF Summer Design Institutes introduce these to students. Students look at precedents to gain a broader understanding of the project, learn essential architectural terms and formats, and develop presentation skills. And knowing there is no single media for designing a project we introduce students to a range of design tools, both digital and analog.

Drawing on over 30 years of inspired educational programming, our professional teaching staff

and volunteer architectural and engineering mentors provide students with direct instruction on software and design concepts, guidance on all project work, and certification of mastery of the technical tools.

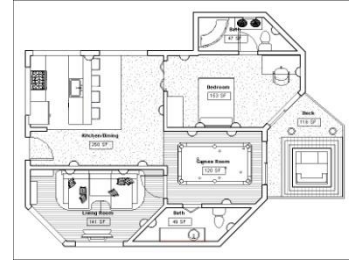


AFSF Saturday Design Studio 2026

Examples of project-based learning activities:

Housing Challenge

Students used *Autodesk Revit* to create a digital model of a 1,000 square-foot furnished apartment, with floor-plans, elevations, photo-quality rendered images, a video walk-through and narrative sales description.



Sustainable Home Design

Students created an original 3D design for a home using *SketchUp*, incorporating sustainable components, technologies and strategies, and rendered in photo-realistic images and an animated fly-through

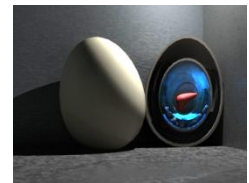


CoVID-safe Schools

Students created 3D proposed solutions to make schools simultaneously safer for in-person learning and more engaging than they were before the crisis.

Biomimicry

After researching how plants and animals meet challenges, students used *Fusion 360* and/or *3DS Max* to create animated 3D-CAD designs of their original ideas for new technologies incorporating those lessons from nature.



In our computer-based projects, students learn and demonstrate mastery of:

Professional design software

Revit; SketchUp
3DS Max, Fusion 360; Lumion

Collaboration & presentation software

Google Drive, Docs & Sheets;
Prezi; Lucidpress, Miro



South Section View

Our curricula are aligned with California state educational standards for fine arts, social studies or science electives. All classes are taught by a fully credentialed instructor.

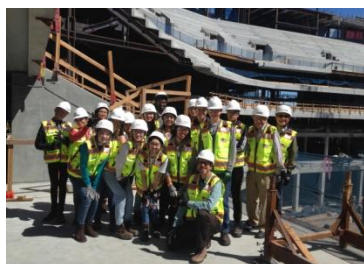
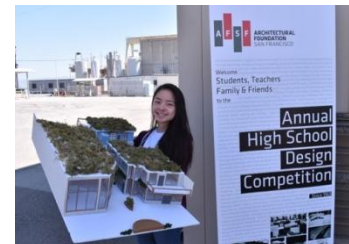
Background on the Architectural Foundation of San Francisco

For over twenty years, AFSF has helped students succeed in high school, gain valuable workplace experience and successfully transition to higher education and the workforce. Our programs offer a unique combination of rigorous academic study, real-work experience and individualized professional mentoring, introducing students to the world of urban planning and design and engaging them in the development of San Francisco's future.



AFSF digitally equips youth from all segments of society. In partnership with the Mayor's Youth Employment & Education Program, the SF Police Dept., City Youth Now, and a range of local agencies, our [after-school](#) and [summer](#) internships provide paid opportunities for underserved youth to gain workplace experience while learning high-tech skills.

The annual AFSF [High School Design Competition](#) propels students to dive deep into a design challenge, employing a wealth of tools, skills and creativity and engaging with professionals. Some of our judges participated when they were in high school, inspiring life-long paths to successful careers.



The [AFSF Summer Design Institute](#) attracts students from around the Bay Area and across the globe. Learning high-tech skills, students collaborate on design projects, present to professional developers and develop portfolios of original creative work they can use in applications to colleges and internships.

Working collaboratively with diverse peers and engaging with professionals helps youth hone their interests and confidently envision themselves in a career. Those who have struggled in traditional classrooms often find that success at AFSF gives them a more inspired view of their future. In our commitment to serving the entire community, we strive to ensure that every interested and qualified student can participate, regardless of means.

Please register here:

<https://www.afsf.org/programs/saturday-design/>