

CHICAGO
ARCHITECTURE
BIENNIAL

SHIFT: Architecture in Times of Radical Change

9.19.25 – 2.28.26

chicagoarchitecturebiennial.org

August 14, 2025

Dear Participants,

Thank you for your thoughtful message and for the generosity of your proposed solution. We respect the conviction behind your position.

We are actively fundraising to meet the budget needs for the 2025-26 Biennial, and are not in a financial position to return funds already committed. Returning any donation with just a few weeks until opening would challenge our ability to raise the additional resources needed for this edition, and for our future.

The Biennial team is very small, but mighty, and striving to create something magnificent and impactful. With five weeks to go, our focus must remain on ensuring the Biennial's success and survival. Moving forward, we will focus our collective energy on delivering this edition of the Biennial, and we invite you to reach out to us individually to discuss your next steps.

While our decision on this matter does not align with your wishes, we hope we can keep our shared focus on the remarkable work and ideas at the heart of this edition. We understand each participant must make their own choice in response to this matter. We remain committed to supporting your work and to fostering the Biennial as a space for open, challenging, and necessary conversations.

With appreciation,
The Chicago Architectural Biennial Executive Team