Two teams of students in Utah State University’s Department of Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning were honored at spring semester’s end with the Third Annual Dean’s Prize for their projects that reimagined a prominent area of the USU campus.

Students in the Site Planning and Design class were challenged to redesign various aspects of the area around the entrance to the Fine Arts Complex, including the Performance Hall Plaza, north parking lot and entry to the area from 700 North. Students created posters detailing the changes they would make and their implementation plans.

“We chose this project because this area provides a specific benefit to the USU community,” said Assistant Professor David Evans, who instructs the course. “The students’ work provides a collection of tools that the university leadership can use as a touchstone as they make decisions about improvements to the campus.”

Cameron Blakely, Jaymes Monson and Mason Powell received second place honors while Alyson Hill, Braden Miskin and Miria Smith received first place honors.

According to Evans, these teams stood out among the competitors because of their ability to show off key master plan components and the ways they created stories with the space.

“This experience really taught me what it’s going to be like once I graduate and get hired at a firm,” Powell said. “I was able to work with a team to produce a quality proposal for a client, just like I would in the real world.”

The projects were evaluated by a panel of judges that included Vice Provost Janet Anderson, Caine College of the Arts’ Dean Craig Jessop, LAEP Associate Professor Dave Anderson, Associate Vice President for Facilities Charles Darnell and College of Agriculture an Applied Sciences’ Associate Dean Brian Warnick.

“This project is an awesome opportunity to see how you can make a big difference well beyond just one assignment,” said Ken White, dean of the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences and sponsor of the prize. “I look forward to seeing big things from this group of students.”

For more information and USU’s Department of Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning, visit laep.usu.edu.

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USU LAEP Students Receive Dean’s Prize for Redesign Project - Shelby Ruud

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