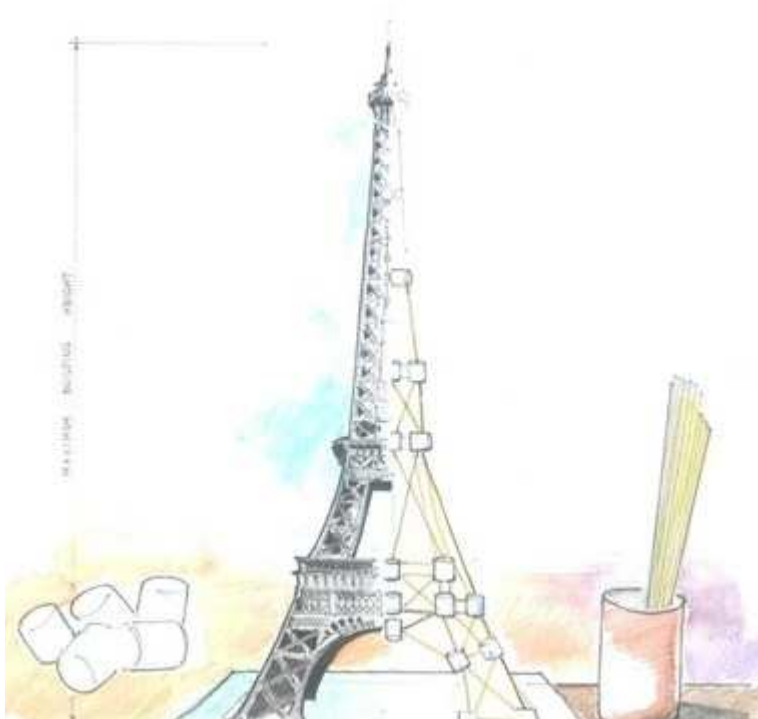**si**live.com
Staten Island Live

Budding Staten Island grade school architects can enter the Spaghetti-Marshmallow Building Contest

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By

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. -- Budding grade school architects will get the chance to design the best architectural structure. While they can choose to build anything from a skyscraper to a farmhouse, the only twist is it must be created solely out of spaghetti and marshmallows.

The contest -- sponsored by the Staten Island Chapter of American Institute of Architects (AIA) -- is calling for entries for its inaugural Spaghetti-Marshmallow Building Contest. "The goal is for children to explore their creativity through the world of architecture," said Jeff Geary, AIA vice president and chairman of the event.

All entrees will be judged by architects from the Staten Island Chapter of the AIA on design and creativity. Contest participants will be grouped into two categories -- second through fifth grade and sixth through eight grade -- and will compete for prizes of $200, $100 and $75, that will be awarded to the top three entries in each category, with additional prizes for honorable mentions. Each contestant will receive a certificate of recognition.

Children who participate in the Staten Island Chapter of the American Institute of Architects' contest need to create all entries solely from spaghetti and marshmallows.

The contest will be held on Friday, Nov. 9, at 6 p.m. Location to be announced.

Contest Rules:

*Be creative.

*Building materials: spaghetti or linguini, marshmallow of any color and size

*No glue.

*Team entries encouraged.

*Maximum height 24 inches.

Interested children should have their parent or guardian email Geary at **aviddesigns@verizon.net** with their name, school, grade and contact phone number along with any questions by Oct. 12.