



East Baton Rouge Parish Library

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NEWS RELEASE

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ARCHITECTURAL FIRM FOR NEW MAIN LIBRARY CHOSEN

The City of Baton Rouge and Parish of East Baton Rouge Design and Planning Selection Board voted on Thursday, December 13, to select the architectural firm, The Library Design Collaborative: A Joint Venture, to design the new Main Library in BREC's Independence Park.

The Board originally met on Thursday, November 29, to review the qualifications of eight candidates. From those eight, three were selected to present oral presentations. The other two short-listed firms were Chenevert Architects, Inc. in association with Robert A.M. Stern Architects and Post Architects + Schwartz/Silver Architects. Each firm was allowed thirty minutes for their presentation followed by a fifteen minute question and answer period. The Board, which consisted of seven members in attendance including the president of the Library Board of Control, voted five in favor of The Library Design Collaborative and two in favor of Post Architects + Schwartz/Silver Architects.

The Library Design Collaborative is comprised of Stephen Jackson with Cockfield Jackson Architects of Baton Rouge, LA, Denelle Wrightson with PSA-Dewberry, Inc. of Fairfax, VA, and Kenneth Tipton with Tipton Associates of Baton Rouge, LA. Jackson will serve as project manager and design coordinator, Tipton will serve as principal-in-charge of exterior architecture, and Wrightson will serve as principal-in-charge of interior architecture. Jon

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Emerson & Associates will serve as landscape architecture consultants. Other sub-consultants of this firm include: McKee & Deville Consulting Engineers, Inc.; Nesbit & Associates, LLC; PSA-Dewberry, Inc. (Technology Studio); Assaf, Simoneaux, Tauzin & Associates, Inc.; SJB Group.

The Library Design Collaborative formed in 2004 when they first heard about the Main Library project. They have 84 years of combined professional practice and have extensive national and public library experience. “This is truly the highlight of my career,” says Jackson. “Our team is very excited and looking forward to designing for the community of East Baton Rouge Parish.”

The timeline for this project includes up to twelve months for schematic design and construction documents, followed by eighteen months of construction. The anticipated move-in date is 2011. “We are very excited,” says Library Director, Lydia M. Acosta. “We have worked with them individually in the past and are confident that The Library Design Collaborative will deliver not only a functional and creative design, but one that will be an architectural gem that this community will be proud of and enjoy for years to come.”

For more information, please call (225) 231-3710.

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