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Lloyd Library Selects Design Firm to Re-Envision Its Building

The Lloyd Library and Museum enthusiastically announces the selection of DeLeon & Primmer Architecture Workshop (DPAW) for Pre-Design Concepts for a planned major renovation of its facility in the heart of downtown Cincinnati.

Based in Louisville, KY, DPAW is an internationally acclaimed and award-winning design studio that focuses on public projects with a cultural, civic or not-for-profit basis. DPAW has worked with libraries, museums, the Yew Dell Botanical Gardens and Knoxville Botanical Gardens, and the Wild Turkey Bourbon Visitor Center. Additionally, they have impressive experience transforming existing structures across a broad range of architectural styles.

“The Lloyd has long been a space for unique collaborations between scholarship and art. But our current building mainly communicates our functional purpose of preserving knowledge and history,” said Patricia Van Skaik, Executive Director of the Lloyd Library and Museum. “With DPAW, we selected a partner who can beautifully transform our facility while also expressing the spirit, mission, and potential of the Lloyd.”

DPAW’s working methodology draws inspiration from regional traditions of craft and fabrication, placing an emphasis on the potential of conventional materials and construction
methods. Through an immersive process of research and investigation, the studio identifies the nuanced relationship between place, time, and local culture. In implementing this approach, the Workshop purposefully embraces a design rigor aimed at simplicity and precision, with the underlying premise that innovation necessarily equals economy.

With this renovation, the Lloyd looks to improve its solid, serviceable, and intriguing facility in a way that will enable the library to continue its tradition of scholarship, historical preservation, and community engagement. In keeping with the high value that the library founders, the Lloyd Brothers, placed on the environment, this renovated scientific and cultural arts space will place an emphasis on sustainable environmental strategies.

DPAW’s approach syncs well with the Lloyd Library, home to one of the world’s most extensive collections on nature and medicinal plants. “Their emphasis on timeless design will serve us well into the future,” said Heather Estridge, Lloyd Board President and architect. “The entire board is excited to be working with DeLeon & Primmer.”

Founded in the late 1800s and located in downtown Cincinnati, the Lloyd has remained relevant for more than 140 years. In re-envisioning its space with eyes on the present and future, the Lloyd recognizes how its role has expanded from a destination for scholars from around the world to the presentation of acclaimed exhibitions and sought-after programs on contemporary issues, using Lloyd collections as their springboard. Spanning topics including environmental impact, food scarcity and medicinal cannabis, the Lloyd has brought new perspectives to timely issues.

DeLeon & Primmer Architecture Workshop expresses their excitement about the project, “All of us at De Leon & Primmer Architecture Workshop are enthusiastic about the mission of the Lloyd Library and Museum and its dedication to externalizing the remarkable collection and knowledge base of its collections to the public. We feel privileged to be a partner in envisioning this important chapter of the Lloyd’s future and look forward to an exciting design process.”

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The Lloyd Library and Museum is located at 917 Plum St. in Cincinnati, Ohio. For more information or to schedule a visit, contact the Library at (513) 721-3707 or email contact@lloydlibrary.org or visit LloydLibrary.org.