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Award-Winning Architects to Lead Major Cincinnati-based Project

Nationally recognized architects are bringing their work to Cincinnati through the upcoming renovation of the Lloyd Library and Museum. Project architects De Leon & Primmer Architecture Workshop recently received one of the nation’s most prestigious awards, the American Academy of Arts and Letters Award in Architecture. In the last year, De Leon & Primmer were also selected to be featured in CBS’ America by Design television series, and were recipients of their third AIA National Architecture Award.

De Leon & Primmer Architecture Workshop, based in Louisville, Kentucky, focuses on public projects with a cultural, civic, or not-for-profit basis. They have worked with libraries, museums, botanical gardens, and visitor centers. Additionally, they have impressive experience transforming existing structures across a broad range of architectural styles.

In late 2021, the Lloyd Library and Museum, whose collections focus on art, medicine and nature, began work with De Leon & Primmer Architecture Workshop. Their resulting concept designs will convert the Lloyd Library and Museum’s 51-year-old building into a new welcoming facility with expanded services and capacity. DeLeon & Primmer drew from libraries around the world as well as Lloyd collections, and even its Instagram feed, for inspiration. After conducting focus groups, gathering information, and evaluating emerging library trends, DeLeon & Primmer developed visionary designs for an attractive, functional, and cost-effective space, inside and out. Positioned near the center of the proposed Central Parkway Corridor Project, the renovated Lloyd Library promises to play a vital role in the development and improving the quality of life in the Central Business District, nearby neighborhoods, the Greater Cincinnati Area, and for Cincinnati visitors.
Lloyd Library Board President Donna McMillan looks forward to the impact of the redesigned and expanded Lloyd Library, stating, “The renovation opens our building up, welcoming the community inside. Our treasures are visible and accessible reflecting our role as an educational and cultural venue.” The renovation will provide more opportunities for the community to meet, view exhibitions, use Lloyd acclaimed collections, and attend sought-after programs that address critical issues of today. At the same time, the Lloyd will retain its 140+ year reputation as a destination for global scholarship. Through this renovation, the Lloyd Library and its supporters will increase book storage by 3,000 square feet; provide flexible program space for up to 120 participants; and feature two outdoor event spaces and a recreational reading and exhibition area.

Roberto de Leon and Ross Primmer (pictured here) express 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.”

Watch for more to come!

The American Academy of Arts and Letters was founded in 1898 as an honor society of the country’s leading architects, artists, composers, and writers. The Academy seeks to foster and sustain an interest in literature, music, and the fine arts though its awards, exhibitions, and financial support. The annual architecture awards program began in 1955.

Located at 917 Plum St. in Cincinnati, Ohio, the Lloyd Library is free and open to the public, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Friday and the third Saturday of the month. For more information or to schedule a visit, contact the Library at (513) 721-3707 or email contact@lloydlibrary.org or visit LloydLibrary.org.