



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

JOHN A. DELANEY
MAYOR

CITY HALL SUITE 400
117 W. DUVAL STREET
JACKSONVILLE, FL 32202

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NEWS RELEASE

Jacksonville's design competition for the new Main Library is underway this week with the four internationally-known architectural firms unveiling their designs, the Professional Services Evaluation Committee ranking the designs and Mayor John Delaney announcing a winner. The new, \$95 million, 300,000 square foot Main Library will be constructed just east of Hemming Plaza. The new facility is expected to be dedicated in the summer of 2003. Funding for the project is provided by The Better Jacksonville Plan.

[Update](#)

Today, each of four designers will present their designs to the Competition Advisory Committee and the Professional Services Evaluation Committee in the Grand Banquet Hall of the University Center at the University of North Florida. Each group will have an hour and a half to present designs, floor plans, models, sketches, and renderings, outlining their vision for the new Main Library. The presentations, which are open to the public, are scheduled as follows:

- 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Presentation by Pappas JSA of Jacksonville teamed with Hardy Holzman Pfeiffer Associates of New York and Los Angeles. Hardy Holzman Pfeiffer designed the Louis Stokes Building of the Cleveland Public Library, the Brooklyn Children's Museum and renovations to the Los Angeles Public Library.
- 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Presentation by Rolland, DelValle & Bradley of Jacksonville teamed with Michael Graves & Associates of Princeton, New Jersey. Graves designed the Denver Public Library and the Portland (Oregon) Building.

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- 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Presentation by Robert A.M. Stern Architects of New York. Stern designed the Nashville Public Library, the Hobby Center for Performing Arts in Houston and the Gap Inc. offices in San Francisco. Mr. Stern is the Dean of the Architecture School at Yale University.
- 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Presentation by Vitetta of Philadelphia teamed with Schmidt, Hammer and Lassen of Denmark. Vitetta designed the Philadelphia Free Library branches. Schmidt Hammer Lassen designed the Royal Library in Copenhagen.

Citizens who are interested in seeing the designs may also check The Better Jacksonville web site at www.betterjax.com beginning Monday afternoon.

Tomorrow, beginning at 8:00 a.m. at the University Center at UNF, the Competition Advisory Committee and the Professional Services Evaluation Committee (PSEC) will meet to review the presentations. By city ordinance, PSEC must rank the top three design professionals. PSEC is expected to deliver their decision to the Mayor by 4:00 p.m. Mayor Delaney can concur with the number one selection or, if the Mayor does not approve with the chosen professionals, the competition process will begin again.

From Wednesday, through Friday, all renderings, models, floor plans and sketches will be on display in the Renaissance Room of City Hall for public viewing. The public is invited to the St. James Building to get a first-hand look at the designs during regular business hours. The designs will also be on display during the City of Jacksonville's Olde Fashioned Holiday Party, which will be held from 4:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Thursday. Hundreds of people who come to City Hall to join carolers and other festivities will be able to see the four designs.

On Thursday at 10:30 a.m., Mayor Delaney will announce the winner of the design competition at a news conference in the Renaissance Room of City Hall.

For more information, call Sharon Ashton at 630-7377.