



FRAMING A
MODERN MASTERPIECE
THE CITY+THE ARCH+THE RIVER | 2015

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Five Teams Advance to Design Phase of International Competition
Public invited to meet teams and see examples of past work
at April 28 event hosted by Joe Buck

ST. LOUIS – Five teams have been selected to advance to the design phase of the international competition to reinvigorate the area around the Gateway Arch and connect it to downtown St. Louis, the Mississippi River and the Illinois bank, it was announced today.

The leaders of the [design teams](#) entering the third and final stage of the competition are:

- [Behnisch Team](#) led by Behnisch Architekten – Stuttgart, Germany, Los Angeles
- [MVVA Team](#) led by Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates – New York City
- [PWP Landscape Architecture, Foster + Partners, Civitas](#) – Berkeley, Calif.
- [SOM, Hargreaves, BIG](#) – Chicago
- [Weiss/Manfredi, Architecture/Site Design/Urbanism](#) – New York

“The goal of the first two steps of the process was to identify design teams with the talent, capacity and commitment to create thoughtful design solutions addressing the complex issues of the site and its relationship to the city, the river and the Illinois side. With this selection, that goal has been accomplished,” said Competition Manager [Donald J. Stastny](#), of StastnyBrun Architects. “The selected teams represent local, national and international perspective, and we look forward to working with them over the next few months as their visions evolve and they create their designs.”

“Having this level of architectural, engineering and landscape design power focused on such a visible urban park is exciting,” said Tom Bradley, superintendent of the [Jefferson National Expansion Memorial](#). “We are committed to incorporating our parks into the life of their surrounding communities. I look forward to seeing the designs in August.”

The five teams will begin now and work through the spring and summer on design concepts, which will be put on public exhibition on Aug. 17, 2010. Details will be provided closer to that date.

The [eight member jury](#) – which counts a Pulitzer Prize-winning architecture critic, a professor in the humanities, a former deputy director of the National Park Service, a real estate economist, a museum curator, renowned architects and renowned landscape architects among its members – presented its decision to [competition managers](#) after meeting with the nine teams that competed in Stage II of the competition.

The final jury pick will be announced Sept. 24, 2010. The project will be constructed by Oct. 28, 2015, the 50th anniversary of the completion of the Arch.

The public is invited to meet the design teams on April 28 at the [Roberts Orpheum Theater](#) downtown. Joe Buck will moderate a discussion about how their past work will influence their efforts to win this competition.

The “Meet the Design Teams” event will begin at 7 p.m. It is free and open to the public. Preregistration is helpful and available through the competition Web site, www.cityarchrivercompetition.org.

St. Louis native Joe Buck is the top play-by-play man for Major League Baseball and the National Football League on FOX Sports.

“I am looking forward to moderating a forum that promises to be informational, educational and exciting for the future of our community,” Buck said.

Buck will be joined in hosting “Meet the Design Teams” by Stastny, the competition manager.

The [Roberts Orpheum Theater](#) is located at [416 North 9th Street](#) in downtown St. Louis. Public parking is available across the street.

Also while in St. Louis, the teams will explore the competition area, be briefed on project issues and the values of the national park, and get to know the region and its people.

To help the teams understand, from a personal standpoint, what the Arch stands for and the values it represents to our region and our nation’s history, members of the public are invited to share their thoughts, stories, photos and video. Competition organizers will post selections to the Web site and include them in a presentation to the competitors. This will help the teams in their effort to meet the design goals. Submissions can be posted to the [Community Connections page](#) of the Web site or to the [City Arch River facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) accounts.

Continuing education credits, HSW, will be awarded by the [American Institute of Architects St. Louis](#) for the April 28 event.

About the Competitors

Entries were received from 49 teams from around the world. In February, 2010, that number was pared to the nine that met with the jury last week. Five teams now move into the design phase.

About the Competition

The goal of The City + The Arch + The River international design competition is to create an iconic setting for the international icon, the Gateway Arch, honoring its immediate surroundings and weaving connections and transitions from the city and the Arch grounds to the Mississippi River, including the east bank in Illinois.

The competition, launched Dec. 8, 2009, has three stages. Portfolio submissions in Stage I included a description of the lead designer, a statement of design intent and philosophy of the lead designer, a profile of the design team and examples of their work.

Stage II involved the formation of the complete teams capable of executing the project, submission of required qualifications and a jury interview. This phase culminated today, with the narrowing of the field to five teams. The “Meet the Design Teams” evening will include these teams.

Stage III, which starts now, includes a three month design concept competition to explore the finalists’ design approach and test their working methodology.

The final jury pick will be announced on Sept. 24, 2010. The project will be constructed by Oct. 28, 2015.

The new design is called for in the National Park Service’s General Management Plan for the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial, which was developed with extensive public input over an 18-month period and approved Nov. 23, 2009.

The competition is sponsored by the [CityArchRiver 2015 Foundation](#), which includes National Park Superintendent Tom Bradley, St. Louis Mayor Francis G. Slay, community leaders from Missouri and Illinois, academics, architects and national park advocates.

Financial contributions to the CityArchRiver 2015 Foundation are being handled by the [Greater St. Louis Community Foundation](#), a public charity with more than \$140 million in charitable assets and representing more than 350 individual funds.

Donors to the competition include: Emerson, Gateway Center of Metropolitan St. Louis (Malcolm W. Martin Memorial Park), Peter Fischer, Emily Rauh Pulitzer, Civic Progress, Wachovia Wells Fargo Foundation, Danforth Foundation, John F. McDonnell, Bryan Cave LLP, Greater St. Louis Community Foundation, National Park Foundation, Monsanto, Alison and John Ferring, Bank of America, David C. Farrell and others who choose to remain anonymous.

Competition information at www.cityarchrivercompetition.org.

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