2016 ALA/AIA Library Buildings Awards

Billings Public Library, will bruder+PARTNERS ltd with O2 Architects

Chicago Public Library, Chinatown Brach, Skidmore, Owings & Mewrrill LLP with Wight & Company

Hennepin County Walker Library, VJAA

Lawrence Public Library Renovation and Expansion, Gould Evans

Renton Public Library, The Miller Hull Partnership

Ryerson University Student Learning Centre, Snøhetta with Zeidler Partnership Architects

Sawyer Library, Bohlin Cywinski Jackson

2015 ALA/AIA Library Buildings Awards

Cedar Rapids Public Library, OPN Architects Inc.

Claire T. Carney Library Addition & Renovation, designLAB architects

Hillary Rodham Clinton Children's Library and Learning Center, Polk Stanley Wilcox Architects

Mission Branch Library, Mission Branch Library

Slover Library, Newman Architects

Vancouver Community Library, The Miller Hull Partnership
**2013 ALA/AIA Library Buildings Awards**

Anacostia Neighborhood Library, The Freelon Group

Central Library Renovation, Cannon Design

Hamilton Grange Teen Center, New York Public Library, Rice+Lipka Architects

James B. Hunt Jr. Library, Snøhetta and Clark Nexsen

Oak Forest Neighborhood Library, NAAA, AWI, and JRA

South Mountain Community Library, richärd+bauer

**2011 ALA/AIA Library Buildings Awards**

Arkansas Studies Institute, Polk Stanley Wilcox Architects

KAUST Library, HOK

Mattapan Branch Library, Boston Public Library, William Rawn Associates, Architects Inc.

Harmon Library, Phoenix Public Library, Richard + Bauer Interior Design

William Oxley Thompson Memorial Library, Gund Partnership
2009 ALA/AIA Library Buildings Awards

Arabian Library, Scottsdale Public Library, Scottsdale, AZ
Richard+Bauer Architecture, LLC
The 20,000-square-foot library is a freestanding replacement for the small, shared use facility at the Desert Arroyo Middle School. Walls of weathered steel plate reflect the terra-cotta walls of stone as they cant overhead. The interior of the cavernous reading room is clad in an acoustically absorbent perforated wood treatment that provides noise mitigation, allowing for spaces that enable patrons to enjoy reading, studying, and small group activities without excessive noise spillover from adjacent zones. The accessible floor provides recessed mechanical, electrical, and data distribution for long term flexibility and ease of maintenance.

C.V. Starr East Asian Library, University of California Berkeley
Tod Williams Billie Tsien Architects
The building was conceived as a strong symmetrical box, a repository for character language texts and a sanctuary for study. The mass of the 4-story building is embedded in Berkeley’s hilly landscape and thus experienced in a dynamic way. To increase the building’s energy performance, perforated metal screens were installed behind the bronze grilles preventing 45% of direct sunlight from entering the building and favorably reducing the library’s cooling loads. Other efforts to reduce the building’s impact on the environment included the use of occupancy sensors, Bamboo flooring, native plantings in the landscape and storm water recharge basins.

Chongqing Library, Chongqing, China
Perkins Eastman
The 490,500-square-foot new Chongqing Library is a stunning urban complex, which respects the long and unique culture of its predecessor while looking toward this energetic region’s future by projecting a modern image. Features such as hotel rooms for visiting scholars, a public theater, a conferencing center, and restaurant also help redefine the library as a cultural destination. In this way, the library as an institution is inviting and welcoming, rather than intimidating and exclusive. To convey the importance of this new city landmark, the design concept was predicated on the notion that learning, knowledge, and the exchange of ideas must be free, open, and accessible to all.
Biblioteca Central Estatal Wigberto Jiménez Moreno, León, Guanajuato, Mexico
Pei Partnership Architects LLP
The library consists primarily of two volumes interconnected by means of a 2-level glass gallery. The main volume is composed of three levels and the second volume of two levels. A large terrace occupies the third level of the lower volume. On the lower level of the library, the gallery serves as an access and distribution vestibule which leads directly to a central atrium covered by a skylight, which connects the three levels of the principal volume. Three materials dominate the exterior of the building: white cantera, a Mexican stone which covers the outside walls; the glass of the gallery and the main staircase and the steel painted white of the pergolas.

NYPL Francis Martin Library, Bronx, NY
1100 Architect, P.C.
The intended goal of the NYPL Francis Martin Library, a 1956 Bronx branch of the New York Public Library, was to transform the dark, cheerless and outdated space so it would inspire, serve, and connect the members of the community. The renovation of the second-floor children’s reading room is devised to stimulate its users’ imaginations and encourage them to learn through form, color and layout. The finished project has had an immensely positive impact on the children, the Bronx community, the library staff, and the New York Public Library organization.

Gentry Public Library, Gentry, AR
Marlon Blackwell Architect
The existing brick structures, though of little architectural value, were greatly desired by the community to remain visually intact at the exterior. In an effort to elevate the significance of the scarred and patched buildings, they are conceived as historical artifacts. Steel and glass volumes encase existing openings, brick ornament, and selected walls at the ground and second floors. These volumes act as display cases oriented from the interior towards the city, presenting the artifacts to the public. They are intended to extend the gritty expressive character of the library with another layer of time, character, and modernity.

Minneapolis Central Library, Minneapolis
Pelli Clarke Pelli Architects
The new Minneapolis Central Library is a vital civic landmark and cultural center for downtown Minneapolis. The highly sustainable design, which arose from a collaborative, public process, reinvigorates the idea of the grand urban library for new generations. With no interior load-bearing walls, the library will accommodate changes in technology and use of space. The roof is planted with drought-resistant ground cover, creating an 18,500-square-foot roof garden that slows storm water runoff and keeps the building cool. An under-floor
ventilation system reduces cooling costs by 20 percent, and copious daylight and energy-efficient light fixtures help the building exceed Minnesota’s energy code requirements by 27 percent.

**Palo Verde Library / Maryvale Community Center, Phoenix**

**Gould Evans Associates + Wendell Burnette Architects**

The City of Phoenix proposed to re-invigorate the “heart of Maryvale” with an innovative mixed use building program which required a single building complex; a larger Library/Community Center, 16,000 & 27,000 square feet respectively; that incorporated the existing public pool. Maintaining the recreational park guided the site design and building layout. The explicit intent of the design was to be environmentally responsible, and for the public park and its environs to remain the “green” heart of Maryvale. A pedestrian promenade of Arizona Ash threads the park, building programs, and associated parking lots in the east-west direction.
2007 AIA/ALA Library Buildings Award

Robin Hood Foundation Library for P.S. 192, New York City
Gluckman Mayner Architects
This public elementary school library renovation project is part of a broader philanthropic initiative targeting schools in high poverty neighborhoods. The plan for the interior takes advantage of natural daylight by locating the children's reading areas close to fully-revealed windows, minimizing the need for artificial lighting. Major materials, including bamboo flooring, formaldehyde-free wheat straw board, and recycled plastic were selected for their low environmental impact and low cost. The 2,400-square-foot renovation incorporates sustainable and child-friendly materials as well as custom casework into a bright, playful and inviting space for reading. Jury members said, “With very little, this library now has the power to spark imagination. It also maintains an orderly system for instruction by differentiating spaces within a limited area for a variety of functions. Although small, this project should give much inspiration to its students and, as well, to other similar endeavors in impoverished communities.”

Desert Broom Branch Library for the City of Phoenix, Engineering and Architectural Services Dept., Phoenix
richärd + bauer architecture
This library is a new, freestanding 15,000 square foot LEED certified facility, configured to expand to an ultimate size of 25,000 square feet and capable of holding a collection of over 60,000 pieces. Within the framework of the roof, a series of volumes contain the Meeting Room, Utility core, Staff and Computer Training areas. Additionally, the building houses group study areas, youth/teen spaces, a periodicals living room and staff support spaces. A heavy commitment to computers is found throughout the building with wireless capability. The Jury members said, “The sense of place of this desert library is remarkably achieved by its horizontality, broad panoramic views of the landscape and sky, and integration of interior and exterior. The play on vertical lines and curves animates the spaces within, imbuing them with a sense of an evening breeze blowing through.”

Shunde Library for the City Construction and Development Center of Shunde District, Foshan, China
P&T Architects and Engineers Ltd
The library, together with a performing art center and two museums form the new cultural centre of Shunde, a fast-growing district of about 1 million in China. Apart from serving the community as a district main library, it houses also the two exhibition halls on its lower floors. The approach was “design without fat” resulting in climatically responsive façades that minimize energy consumption and the turning of functional elements into features, such as the
reading booths and staircase. Jury members said, “This Chinese library achieves a subtle, poetic response to its Asian culture, reflecting a global architecture that, nonetheless, maintains a compelling sense of place. The jury was impressed not only by its community centered offerings but also by the quality of its design and execution that equals the best of international architecture.”

Ballard Library and Neighborhood Service Center for the Seattle Public Library, Seattle
Bohlin Cywinski Jackson
This is the first major building designed and built within a new municipal center master plan. Anemometers, monitoring wind speed and direction, are integrated on the roof. This information is coupled with information about light, energy usage, rainfall, and other data and transmitted to LED display panels along the building spines as artwork making microclimatic conditions created by the building visible. Jurors said, “A “green roof” spreads protectively over this library like a tent, inviting and beckoning people under it. In this way it states its essential role as community center with peculiar northwest sensibilities. Weather and climate are in touch with the elements that are displayed within, while artistry and craft add to the tangible human scale of this captivating building. This is a true work of art that will endure for ages to come.”

Santa Monica College Library Expansion & Renovation, for Santa Monica College, Santa Monica, CA
CO Architects
The goal was to modernize and enlarge the existing structure. The addition doubled the size and allowed centralization of the electronic information and technology systems, incorporated a variety of study spaces accommodating different learning styles, and increased book stack capacity. A new front porch was designed for the library. Broad and generous, it affords seats and meeting spaces and unifies the existing building with the new addition. This new porch has become the campus heart – a place to meet, to be seen, to interact, and to learn. The Jury members said, “The architects have transformed an out-dated library into a modern community landmark on a college campus. The receptive spaces, subtle introduction of daylight, artful use of materials, and beautifully crafted details do not diminish the old building but rather improve it.”

David Bishop Skillman Library for Lafayette College, Easton, PA
Ann Beha Architects
The existing 75,000 SF library with additions of 30,000 SF was completely re-planned and re-conceived as a whole new architectural entity. The renovated facility provides a café, casual reading/information meeting areas, group study rooms, digital project rooms, a gallery, special programs room, instruction rooms, and computer lab, making it the most popular place to be on campus. The new additions were scaled in proportion, height, and width to reflect the
fabric of the eclectic buildings surrounding them, knitting together significant campus spaces. “Many colleges are currently facing the daunting challenge of renovating and expanding libraries built in the 1960s and 70s during a pre-technology era focused largely on protecting paper media and providing for private study. Here, the architects transformed such a library into a modern center that reflects a new era of openness and connectivity to its community and the world,” said Jury members.

William J. Clinton Presidential Center for the William J. Clinton Foundation, Little Rock, AR
Polshék Partnership Architects, LLP
Principal design goals for the library were the creation of an inviting, memorable and inspiring experience, as well as a visually, intellectually and physically accessible space. Clad in glass and metal, the building’s bridge-like form emphasizes connections and is both a reference to Little Rock’s distinctive “Six Bridges” and a metaphor for the progressive goals of the time. In addition to a permanent exhibition hall, spaces include a temporary exhibit gallery, an education and media center, a Great Hall for symposia, dinners and receptions, café and a gift shop. The Jury members said, “Of primary interest to the jury was the seamless integration of a museum with the rigorous requirements of a library. This allows a perimeter of glass walls to delight patrons with sunlight and views, presumably out into the future.”

Fleet Library for the Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI
Office dA
The architects’ challenge was to preserve the historic character of the space yet follow the program necessary to serve the institution, and adhere to rigid new mechanical, safety, and accessibility requirements, all within the project budget. In order to preserve the integrity of the existing historic room and fulfill the new program, the architects designed two freestanding pavilions at either end of the room, providing study spaces, a reading room, and a circulation island. Jury members said, “This restrained architectural intervention into an historic structure is skillfully done while maintaining distinctive contemporary strivings all its own. Beautifully detailed and crafted, its stepped platform, like the Spanish Steps of Rome, adds a welcome sociability lacking in so many other libraries. Beneath it, the private, recessed computer alcoves and work stations have their own allure.”

La Grande Bibliothéque, for the Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec, Montréal
Patkau / Croft-Pelletier / Menkés Shooner Dagenais Architectes Associés
This public library, the winning entry in an international design competition, consolidates collections dispersed throughout the province to create a resource library for the region and a central public library for the city of Montréal. Four
hundred thousand square feet in size, the building contains four major components: a general library, a children’s library, the Collection nationale (historic documents pertaining to Québec) and an assortment of public spaces. Below grade, the library is joined to a major intersection in the Montréal metro system. The Jury members said, “At once urban, human scaled, and extraordinarily open, the building succeeds by its exquisite use of materials and detailing both inside and outside. There is a peaceful, tranquil feel that provides a welcome contrast to its grand urban gesture, masterfully executed. The architects were at the top of their game.”
2005 AIA/ALA Library Buildings Award

Arcadia University Landman Library, Glenside, PA
R.M. Kliment & Frances Halsband Architects, for Arcadia University
This design placed a new wing on the existing library, creating a curved limestone building that forms a distinctive presence at the heart of the campus. The library provides a variety of spaces and places for reading and study, including a two-story-high reading room that extends the full width of the building and looks out over the campus green.

Austin E. Knowlton School of Architecture Library – The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH
Mack Scogin Merrill Elam Architects with associate architect Wandel and Schnell Architects, for the Ohio State University Austin E. Knowlton School of Architecture
This two-story glass-box, book-lined “room” accommodates 30,000 volumes and seating for 70 people in 40 table seats and 30 lounge chairs--each designed by a famous architect or designer. Located at the end of the building’s circulation system, overlooking a roof garden, the library is both very visible and removed from the major action of the building. As a small indication of the library’s success, it drew more than 20,000 visitors in its first three months of operation while serving a population of 750.

Carnegie Library of Brookline, Pittsburgh
Loysen + Kreuthmeier Architects, for the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh
The architects were charged with turning a nondescript, two-story concrete block with a zero lot line into a dynamic storefront library. A new interior lining peels away from the rigid concrete shell and, with the addition of a light wall, allows natural light from skylights and clerestories to penetrate the spaces. Although the library has doubled in size, the new building, which has applied for LEED™ certification from the U.S. Green Buildings Council, has a zero increase in energy consumption over the old building.

The Georgia Archives, Morrow, GA
Hellmuth, Obata + Kassabaum, for the Development Authority of Clayton County
The architect’s major intentions were to design around how the state agency works, and for how visitors may enjoy the education, research, and cultural opportunities presented, while maintaining adequate security for staff and collections. Notable features are the building’s pervasive natural light, tempered with high-performance glass to eliminate UV penetration, along with sunscreens and porches.
Harry Elkins Widener Memorial Library Renovation, Cambridge, MA
Einhorn Yaffee Prescott Architecture & Engineering PC, for Harvard University
This 1915 library sits at the geographical and intellectual heart of the university. In renewing the building for the 21st century, the project upgraded and modernized the building system infrastructure and the original 10-floor self-supporting stack structure. New systems were threaded through the stacks, and the architects “found” functional space within two large light wells. Existing features and room finishes were preserved whenever possible.

Issaquah Public Library, Issaquah, WA
Bohlin Cywinski Jackson, for the King County Library System
The cedar-sided structure used an exaggerated building height to meet the library’s programming needs, along with a trellis and canopies to help maintain human scale at the street level. Activity in the library’s multipurpose room, adjacent to the agora, is visible to the street.

Salt Lake City Public Library, Salt Lake City
VCBO Architecture LLC, with design architect Moshe Safdie and Associates, for the Salt Lake City Public Library
This 200,000-square-foot facility is part of an ambitious program by the library to double its space for collections, establish a landmark in the city’s civic core, and create a lively interactive public space for the downtown area. It features a triangular main building, adjacent rectangular administration building, glass-enclosed “urban room,” and public piazza. The library also is a 2004 national AIA Honor Award for Architecture recipient.

Seattle Central Library, Seattle
A joint venture of OMA/LMN (Office for Metropolitan Architecture and LMN Architects), for the Seattle Public Library
This project redefines the library as an institution no longer exclusively dedicated to the book, but as an information story in which all forms of media—new and old—are presented equally and legibly. Unlike traditional libraries, Seattle Central Library is organized into platforms, each dedicated to and equipped for specific duties. The spaces between the platforms function as trading floors where librarians inform and stimulate. The library’s unique “book spiral” addresses the ongoing problem of subject classification. The library also garnered a 2005 national AIA Honor Award for Architecture.
2003 AIA/ALA Library Buildings Award

Lee B. Philmon Branch Library, Riverdale, GA
Mack Scogin Merrill Elam Architects, Atlanta
The library sited amongst chain-store detailing and neon signs, making its simple geometries and subtle coloring all the more appealing. Inside, thanks to skylights and large triangular expanses of wall, its 14,000 square feet offers an “oasis of variegated space and light.”

The Jefferson Library at Monticello, Charlottesville, VA
Hartman-Cox Architects, Washington D.C.
The new 15,000-square-foot research library adjacent to a Colonial Revival house contains a two-story reading room, offices, conference room, a work area for research on the presidential papers and a rare-book storage area.

South Court, New York Public Library
Davis Brody Bond, LLP, New York City
This project, a new, 42,500-square-foot, three-story structure, resides in the open south courtyard of the New York Public Library and accommodates the library's public education program as well as administrative/staff support, plus an electronic teaching center, auditorium, administrative offices, and an employee lounge located on the glass-walled top floor.

The Hockaday School Upper and Lower School Library, Dallas
Overland Partners Architects, San Antonio, and Good Fulton + Farrell Architects, Dallas
This new library serves as the centerpiece of a multi-million dollar renovation and new construction project for a prestigious all-girls academy in Dallas. Sited at the heart of the campus, the new library takes maximum advantage of natural light and permits preservation of three large oak trees in the center of the campus.

University of Washington, Suzzallo Library, Seattle
Mahlum Architects and Cardwell Architects, Seattle
Driven by the need for seismic and accessibility upgrades, this project entailed restoration of the complex's 1925, 1935, and 1965 buildings-some 325,000 square feet on seven floors.

Seattle Public Temporary Central Library
LMN Architects, Seattle
The temporary facility is able to provide primary book distribution and computer service hubs for the Seattle Public Library’s 23-branch system as well as administrative offices, children’s library, computer training center, meeting rooms, and space for the 350-person staff.
Shady Hill School Library, Cambridge, MA
Kennedy and Violich Architecture Ltd., Boston
A raised-floor plenum accommodates the infrastructure that brings power and data for use of the Internet and the school's intranet.
2001 AIA/ALA Library Buildings Award

Robertson Branch Library, Los Angeles
Steven Ehrlich Architects, Los Angeles
This new branch library of 10,000 square feet floats the library above the busy streetscape to support both library and parking on a tight urban site.

North Mason Timberland Library in Belfair, WA
Carlson Architect, P.S., Seattle
The new library in Belfair is the heart of this small, rural community. The building is meant to reflect the history and character of this old logging and milling town, its design reminiscent of millrun sheds in the area.

Denver Public Library
The renovation and expansion of the 1956 downtown library designed by Burnham Hoyt, resulted in a building that more than tripled the 150,000 square foot Burnham building to 540,000 square feet.

Friend Memorial Library in Brooklin, ME
Elliott & Elliott Architecture, Blue Hill, ME
The library is a modest building that addressed its community's needs through the replacement of structurally unsound addition to the original building with new space that simplified exterior and provided greater order to the interior.

Rhys Carpenter Library, Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, PA
Helfand Myerberg Guggenheimer, New York City
The library houses Bryn Mawr's Art and Archaeology and Growth of Cities collections. This project expanded Thomas Hall, a 1904 historic collegiate Gothic building by Cope and Stewardson, by way of a new two story structure submerged under a grassy roof terrace.

Fletcher Farr Ayotte PC of Portland, Oregon, in association with Hardy Holzman Pfeiffer Associates of Los Angeles, California, for the Multnomah County Central Library in Portland, Ginnie Cooper, Library Director. This renovation sought to respect the character of this 1913 National Register structure while opening more of the collection to direct public access, improving physical access for disabled users, and provide proper support for modern computer, telecommunications, and security needs.

Woodstock Branch Library, Portland
Thomas Hacker and Associates Architect, Inc., Portland
This new branch library occupies a prominent commercial corner in its Portland
neighborhood and, the simple and direct interior layout balances the commercial traffic outside.
1999 AIA/ALA Library Buildings Award

Dimond Library, University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH
Graham Gund Architects, Cambridge, MA
The expansion and renovation of the Dimond Library provided shelf space for a one million volume collection, improved access to technology.

Arthur Cotton Moore/Associates of Washington, D.C.
The renovation of the historic 600,000-square-foot, 1897 structure restores a national treasure, preserving the grandeur of the past while making accommodation for the future.

Deborah, Jonathan F.P., Samuel Priest, and Adam Raphael Rose Main Reading Room at the New Public Library's Humanities and Social Sciences Library, New York
Davis, Brody Bond, LLP, New York
The restoration of the 23,000-square-foot historically significant reading room successfully integrates modern technologies to maximize efficiency of library service while maintaining the elegance and aesthetic integrity of the 1911 original building.

School of Law Center, Quinnipiac College, Hamden, CT
Jefferson B. Riley, FAIA, and James C. Childress, AIA, of Centerbrook Architects and Planners, LLC, Centerbrook, CT
A new 51,000-square-foot library, accommodating 552,000 volumes, that forms a portion of a law school center at the terminus of the college's "villagetreet."

Annette and Irwin Eskind Biomedical Research Library of the Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, TN
Davis, Brody Bond, LLP, New York, and Thomas Miller & Partners, Brentwood, TN., associate architect
A new 80,000-square-foot facility that serves as a symbolic focus for the medical center, creating a transition between the medical center and the smaller-scale architecture of the older campus.

Carmel Mountain Ranch Library, San Diego
M.W. Steele Group, Inc., La Jolla, CA
A new 13,102-square-foot library. As the only civic building in a new community, the library serves as a center for the community as well as a source for books and media.

Queens Borough Public Library, Flushing, NY Branch
Polshek Partnership, LLP, New York
Located in a vibrant multi-lingual, multi-cultural neighborhood, this new 76,000-square-foot public library stresses free and open access to information, learning and community assembly.
1997 AIA/ALA Library Buildings Award

Great Northwest Branch Library, San Antonio
Lake Flato Architects, Inc., San Antonio
A new 13,150 square-foot branch library. Working within a tight construction budget, the architects used a combination of indigenous stone and refined metal to create exciting interior and exterior contrasts, evoking both the library's rural setting and its utilitarian function. The jury called it "a superb example of the best of regional architecture that works at every level."

New York Public Library, Tottenville Branch, Staten Island, NY
The judges cited the renovation/restoration of the popular 6,645 square-foot branch library for enhancing the historic character of the 1904 building while adding state-of-the-art technology. Additional staff space and an enlarged story room are provided. Elegant, unobtrusive access for people with disabilities is created. The judges admired both the quality of the restoration and the "imaginative set of new interventions" that reflected intelligent choices by the architects in a limited series of changes.

Paul Cummins Library at Crossroads School, Santa Monica, CA
Steven Ehrlich Architects, Santa Monica, CA
Occupying a difficult site on a private alley that doubles as a parking lot and a student courtyard, the new 12,000 square-foot library invites students in through a two-story periodical reading room shaded by a steel canopy that offers a place for the students to gather. The jury commended the architects for capturing the energy and vitality of its student population in a "lively, informal, exuberant building" that enhances its urban setting.

Phoenix Central Library
Given the charge to design a library that would function until the year 2040 and beyond, the architects created a design on five levels in a simple rectangular layout enabling future reconfiguration. Natural light floods the five-story atrium/light well while the large reading room at the top of the building boasts a unique steel roof that seems tethered down rather than supported from below. The judges said the building "reconceives the notion of libraries as we know them, using imaginative and new means instead of relying on traditional devices, solutions and symbols."
Powell Library Renovation and Seismic Upgrade, University of California at Los Angeles
Moore Ruble Yudell, Santa Monica, CA
The architects faced a number of challenges: to retrofit a historic 1929 Romanesque-style building to current seismic/life safety standards; to preserve and enhance the historic elements of the original building while reversing decades of inappropriate renovations and additions; and to provide for current technology and improved efficiency of operation while making the building a friendly place for users. The resulting design provides added functionality through new space, improved lighting and space layouts, ventilation, disabled accessibility and student access to information technology. The jury applauded the "brilliant creation of a new forecourt achieved by the removal of less desirable elements," the "seamless facade," and the design of new areas that have their own character that complements, rather than imitates, the old.

San Francisco New Main Public Library
Pei Cobb Freed & Partners, New York, and Simon Martin-Vegue Winklestein Moris, San Francisco, associated architects
The new 398,908 square-foot library, occupying a full block site linking the contemporary city and the Civic Center, "presents a 21st century vision of the modern civic library while respecting the library's historical," the jury noted. The building's different entrances, each with its own personality, open into two major spaces: a great open staircase that moves through the building displaying its activities and a five-story skylit open space that connects the library's various parts. According to the jury, the exterior represents "where libraries have been" while the inside, equipped to accommodate collections, services, reading spaces and other related functions in a growth pattern geared to the year 2010, represents "where libraries are going."

The Science, Industry and Business Library of the New York Public Library
Gwathmey Siegel & Associates Architects, LLC, New York
The architects were faced with the challenge of maintaining the integrity of the landmark B. Altman department store building while incorporating the most advanced computer technology into its infrastructure and providing flexibility for emerging new technologies. The final design, achieved through intensive work sessions and critiques with staff, users and special consultants, presents technology in an easy-to-use manner and helps both technologically advanced and neophyte users achieve their goals. Jurors praised the interior landscape created by the large two-story main hall, as well as the attention to detail manifested in the superior signage, lightning and visibility from the street.
1995 AIA/ALA Library Buildings Award

William and Anita Newman Library and Technology Center, Baruch College, NY
Davis, Brody & Associates, New York
The jurors said the new library provides well-integrated technology with more traditional library function. "The rehab is sophisticated, yet clean and crisp, with every level of detail solid from the functional work stations to the screening of noise from the atrium."

Lake Shore Facility, Cleveland Public Library
Richard Fleishman Architects, Inc., Cleveland
The facility houses seven major library services: technical services, the library for the blind and physically handicapped, a training facility, a community auditorium, administration and a branch library. "The resulting design fits these diverse functions together well, using extraordinary use of color and a clear design. Separate entrances focus the community, library and service activities."

Betram Goodhue Building, Los Angeles Public Library
Hardy Holzman Pfeiffer Associates, Los Angeles
The 10-year, $214-million project included extensive rehabilitation and select restoration, repair of both arson and earthquake damage, addition of a new wing and the creation of a public park to the west. The new wing has an eight-story atrium called the "Grand Canyon of books" by former City Librarian Elizabeth Martinez.

Amanda Park Timberland Library, Amanda Park, WA
Clint Pherson Architects, Seattle
The vernacular "plank house" of the Quinault people served as the initial design reference for the library which serves a population including members of the Quinault Indian Nation. "The building fits into its site with minimal disruption to the surrounding rain forest. It has a rustic appearance along with modern technological services and links to the local system."

King County Library System Bellevue Regional Library, WA
Zimmer Gunsul Frasca Partnership, Seattle
The regional library is the centerpiece in the master plan to link the commercial downtown with the residential district. It holds the largest collection in the King County Library System. "Although the architecture is intended to express an image of civic importance and monumentality, we noted that there is still a sense of visual accessibility."
The library was designed as a connective element between two user communities -- the central campus and the medical school. It has a circular floor plan derived from the campus plan which provides for central courtyard from which one enters the building as well as daylight to all reader and staff spaces. "The reader spaces are scattered through the building offering a choice of location and ambiance from the bustling 24-hour study room to seclusion on the upper levels."