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Florida Buildings Recognized in People's Choice Architecture Competition

Tallahassee, Fla – Florida residents and visitors alike have the chance to vote for their favorite local community buildings, thanks to the fourth annual People's Choice competition launched today by the Florida Association of the American Institute of Architects (AIA Florida). Voters from around the world have cast over one million votes recognizing buildings from Cinderella's Castle to Miami's iconic Fontainebleau over the past three years.

"The annual People's Choice Awards highlights the value of great design in our communities and puts a spotlight on architecture that represents more than just four walls and a roof. The buildings nominated represent unique places in our communities that may inspire and infuse wonder or they may evoke a sense of comfort and calm - but they are all designed by architects." Said Joyce Owens, AIA RIBA, President of AIA Florida. "Over the course of the voting period, we encourage the public to support their favorite outstanding architectural landmarks in Florida and to vote early, vote often!"

The competition highlights the work of Florida's architects, who are skilled professionals that help meet the needs of communities through innovative building design. A total of 41 buildings around the state are included in the contest for the 2017 People's Choice Award.

Nominated buildings range from restaurants, cultural arts centers, schools, public parks and more. Buildings up-for-vote also include recently renovated historic structures that have been renovated for public use.

Examples of submissions from across the state include internationally-known Buddhist temple, Phap Vu and the Florida Hospital for Women, both located in Orlando, the Center for Asian Art at the John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art in Sarasota, and Bo Diddly Plaza in Gainesville.

The public can vote for their favorite buildings at www.floridapeopleschoice.com until midnight, July 28. Buildings will be listed by the structure's name and location. The results of the voting will be announced at AIA Florida's Annual Convention at the Naples Grande Beach Resort in Naples, July 29.

"It is our honor and privilege as members of the architecture profession to share with the public just how much value and impact the profession can have on the community," said Peter W. Jones, AIA, Chair of the Florida Foundation for Architecture. "We have composed a ballot of Florida's iconic new structures

and look forward to the public choosing their favorites.

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The Florida Association of the American Institute of Architects, headquartered in Tallahassee, represents the interests of more than 3,600 members in Florida and the Caribbean. Members adhere to a code of ethics and professional conduct that assures the client, the public and colleagues of an AIA-member architect's dedication to the highest standards in professional practice.

The Florida Foundation for Architecture is a non-profit organization that exists to advocate the value of architecture to audiences beyond the profession. This is accomplished through Foundation events, publications and grants for programs that feature architecture and are open and available to the general public and related professions, as well as architects.

