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Local buildings on Florida top 100 list

The state chapter of the AIA is celebrating its 100th anniversary with a design competition, and voting begins Monday.

news-press.com staff

Five buildings in Southwest Florida have made the list of the Top 100 Buildings & Places in Florida, which was compiled by the Florida Chapter of the American Institute of Architects.

As part of the celebration of its 100th anniversary, AIA Florida has launched its "Florida Architecture: 100 Years. 100 Places." competition, which identifies 100 buildings and places across the state that represent the best in architectural achievement, ranging from the Wentworth Museum in Pensacola to the Fontainebleau Hotel in Miami.

And beginning Monday, AIA Florida is asking the public to rank the nominated buildings and select the top building in Florida through online voting at aiafltop100.org. Write-in nominations will also be accepted. Members of the public can vote as often as they'd like from Monday through March 31.

"We are so pleased these buildings in Southwest Florida have been recognized," said Joyce Owens AIA, The News-Press architectural columnist and state director of AIA Florida from the Florida Southwest chapter.

"Vote often, vote early! Let's put Southwest Florida on the map for more than just great beaches and sunshine. Over the course of the voting period, we will encourage support for these outstanding architectural landmarks by highlighting them in the community and urging our friends and neighbors to vote for them."

The results will be announced the week of April 9.

Structures in Southwest Florida that made the list are:

- Edison & Ford Winter Estates, Fort Myers
- Walker Guest House (Paul Rudolph AIA, architect), Sanibel
- Haldeman Creek House (David Corban AIA, architect), Naples
- St. Agnes Catholic Church (Andrea Clark Brown AIA, architect), Naples
- Neugebauer House (Richard Meier AIA & Partners, architect), Naples

Peter Jones, 2012 president of AIA Florida, said the "Florida Architecture: 100 Years. 100 Places." competition is just one element of what will be a yearlong celebration of the organization's 100th anniversary.

In addition to the winners being announced in April, which has been designated as Architecture

Month, the 100th Anniversary Convention & Trade Show at The Breakers in Palm Beach will take place over the summer and a special Anniversary Celebration Event will take place Dec. 14, Jones said.
