



**For Immediate Release**  
July 31, 2017

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## **Top Five Florida Buildings Recognized in People's Choice Architecture Competition**

**Tallahassee, Fla** - The fourth annual People's Choice Competition, hosted by the American Institute of Architecture (AIA) Florida and the Florida Foundation for Architecture (FFA) gave Florida residents and people from around the world the chance to weigh-in on their favorite Florida building. The competition highlights the work of Florida's architects who help meet the needs of the community through innovative building design. The nominated buildings included hospitals, historic renovations, restaurants, schools and other public buildings.

"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.

Since the competition opened on June 28, over 5.6 million votes poured in from the United States and 21 other countries around the world. With the top five spots in a constant state of flux, the competition was fierce until the voting closed on midnight, July 28. The winner was announced during the 2017 AIA Florida Convention on July 29 at the Florida/Caribbean Design and Honor award ceremony. The top five buildings were as follows:

- Call-Collins House at The Grove restored by MLD Architects with 2,132,281 votes.
- The Hub by DAG Architects with 1,336,577 votes.
- Bryan Glazer JCC by FleischmanGarcia with 1,130,643 votes.
- Historic Hampton House Restoration and Adaptive Reuse restored by Gurri-Matute Architects with 781,903 votes.
- Pasco County Utilities Administration Building by FleischmanGarcia with 85,238 votes.

The winning building, the Call-Collins House at the Grove, is located in Tallahassee, Florida and was restored by MLD Architects. The Call-Collins house was originally built in 1839 and is a well preserved example of Greek Revival architectural style in Florida. The Call-Collins House was restored by MLD Architects by utilizing state of the art preservation and restoration best practices to both preserve and restore historic materials, and incorporate sustainable design. The Call-Collins House is significant for its long-standing association with the political history of Florida and continues to be an

important part of the community as part of The Grove Museum.

"We are extremely excited to accept the award for the Call-Collins House at The Grove Museum historic preservation project. We are honored and humbled that over 2 million people valued our hard work and the rich history of this amazing structure. This building belongs to the citizens of Florida, open to the public and able to be visited and utilized by any and all. We felt from the beginning that this project embodied the intentions of the People's Choice Award and we are very happy that others around the world did too." says J.J. Scott, AIA, President/ Principal Architect at MLD Architects.

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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.

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