

**News Release
Public Information
Department**

September 2000

BROOKLYN MUSEUM OF ART GLASS ENTRANCE PAVILION AND
PUBLIC PLAZA

PROJECT FACT SHEET

Project

Redesign and Renovation of Eastern Parkway Entrance & Related Improvement

Brooklyn Museum of Art Location

200 Eastern Parkway, Brooklyn, NY 11238-6052

Purpose

The redesign and renovation of the building's primary entry along Eastern Parkway with an innovative glass entrance pavilion and accessible public plaza will create a more exciting, welcoming, and focused visitor experience.

The contemporary design intervention will transform the experience of the building and will create an extraordinary new civic space for both residents and visitors to New York City, furthering the Museum's mission to expand and diversify its audience in response to a significant increase in attendance over the past three years.

Other site and interior improvements will provide much needed upgrades to visitor services and mechanical systems.

Brooklyn Museum of Art

page 2

Architects

This project is the third phase of the Museum's award-winning Master Plan designed by Arata Isozaki & Associates/James Stewart Polshek and Partners in 1986. The collaboration of these two design architects continued through the concept stage of the new entrance project. The design was completed by the Polshek Partnership.

Timeframe

The construction program is expected to be completed by the end of 2002.

Cost

Approximately \$55 million

Design Highlights

The accessible new design provides a sheer glass pavilion, symbolically stepping up to and radiating out from the 1897 façade. From the Eastern Parkway Plaza level, a staircase on the West and an amphitheater-style staircase on the East will lead the visitor to a promenade level that will provide new opportunities for viewing activities.

The promenade and plaza areas will provide multiple options for programming, from performances to educational events, as well as providing various areas for informal gatherings for neighbors and members of the community.

Two unique fountains designed to animate the Plaza, will feature lively sequences of water jets in various patterns that will engage visitors and pedestrians. The main fountain employs compressed air that provides an endless variation of kinetic water patterns, and the second fountain features a thin sheet of highly reflective water against black granite, which will interrelate with the new glass pavilion.

Accessibility

The current entrances to the Museum, both from Eastern Parkway and the parking lot, will be reconfigured so that the renovated Grand Lobby can better serve as a centralized and accessible entry space for all visitors, containing a variety of improved visitor services. The new design focuses on accessibility, safety, and much needed ADA compliant toilets. The new design calls for the separation of pedestrian and vehicular traffic, providing a much safer entry experience for all.

Dimensions

The project focuses on the Eastern Parkway entrance and approximately 82,000 square feet of under-utilized plaza space in front of the Museum. The new pavilion entrance and renovated Grand Lobby will provide a total of more than 17,000 square feet of space that provides a more welcoming and centralized visitor experience. This new space is double the size of the existing lobby area.

Total Project Scope

- The redesign and renovation of the main Eastern Parkway entrance to provide better accessibility for larger numbers of people.
- The redesign of the plaza to reclaim approx. 82,000 s.f. for public use.
- Provides improved vehicular and pedestrian traffic flow in front of the Museum creating a safer and more attractive public space.
- Provides improved visitor amenities including additional and upgraded ADA compliant public toilets.
- Provides air conditioning to the existing lobby. Related existing building upgrades will include mechanical systems providing for future climate control for 25,000 s.f. of public space.
- The historic restoration of the principal McKim, Mead & White facades.
- Provides ADA upgrades to the parking areas and to the south parking entry.
- Provides improved circulation of traffic flow in and out of the parking areas.

- Provides a new security command center and a major upgrade of site security.
- The relocation and construction of a new Print Study room and office suite for the Department of Prints, Drawings and Photographs will be provided including furnishings and storage upgrade.
- The renovation and consolidation of the Museum's retail shops.

Project Leadership

Robert S. Rubin, Chairman, Board of Trustees

Arnold L. Lehman, Director

Joan Darragh, Vice Director for Planning & Architecture

Project Management

Brooklyn Museum of Art, Office of Planning & Architecture

Robert Paige, Owner's Representative

Bovis Lend Lease LMB, Inc.

David Reese, Project Executive

Concept Team

Arata Isozaki & Associates and Polshek Partnership Architects

Arata Isozaki and James Stewart Polshek, Design Principals

Design Team

Polshek Partnership Architects

James Stewart Polshek, Design Partner

Duncan R. Hazard, Management Partner

Don Weinreich, Management Associate Partner

Robert D. Young, Design Associate

David Tepper, Job Captain

Kapell and Kostow Architects PC

(Security Upgrade Architects)

Chapman-Ducibella Associates, Security Consultant

Project Consultants

Structural *Robert Silman Associates*

Mechanical *Jaros Baum & Bolles*

Glazing *Dewhurst MacFarlane & Partners*

Landscape *Judith Heintz Landscape Architecture*

Water Feature *WET Design*

Security *Chapman-Ducibella Associates*

Traffic *The Sam Schwartz Company*

Funding

Funding for this major new project will come from approximately half of the \$120 million *Campaign for the Brooklyn Museum of Art 2000–2005*. The campaign will also focus on increasing endowment by \$50 million, on key strategic initiatives, and on maintaining financial stability.

The campaign has raised over half of the goal, with two thirds pledged from the Brooklyn Borough President, New York City Council, and the Mayor's Office, and one third from several Museum Trustees.

As part of the Museum's Campaign, major project support to revitalize the nearly 560,000 square foot City-owned building and the 82,000-square-foot public plaza has been committed from a variety of public and private sources. To date, Brooklyn Borough President Howard Golden has committed \$20.5 million; the City Council has earmarked \$16.2 million; and Mayor Rudolph Giuliani has committed \$5.8 million for a total of \$42.5 million.

The remainder of capital funds and of the endowment enhancement will come from private gifts. The new design for the landmark building will be subject to appropriate New York City regulatory approvals and is currently being reviewed by the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission.

Campaign Details

In addition to funds being allocated for the Museum's new entrance and plaza and for substantial enhancement to the endowment, the Campaign will also provide for strategic and one-time expenditures in such areas as collection management, reinstallation planning, and necessary technological updates.

The Museum also just completed a three-year \$18 million roof renovation project that included the replacement of the 5,000-square-foot skylight above the third-floor Beaux-Arts Court. The 22,000 square foot Court with its 64-foot high skylight has been completely restored to its original grandeur replacing historic plaster detail, wall surfaces, fixtures, and an advanced acoustical system has been installed.

Press Contacts:

Sally Williams
Brooklyn Museum of Art
718-638-5000, ext. 330

Jennifer Essen
Ruder Finn Arts & Communications Counselors
212-593-5881