The lighting goals for restoring the McKim, Mead & White-designed library, circa 1899, were to highlight H. Siddons Mowbray’s murals and ceiling decorations, preserve a low level of illumination faithful to the era and provide pools of light for the reading areas. The murals are illuminated by 95CRI, 7.5W, 10-degree MR16 LED retrofit lamps concealed within custom wall sconces and book display lights, using details from the period and existing fixtures. Linear LEDs with internal louvers replaced 1970s-era fluorescent tubes within existing stack lights. Layers of light are controlled with lighting presets to enhance visual hierarchy and balance with daylight. Magnetic transformers allow for compatibility with advancing dimmable LED lamps.

"One can see the detail that was put in to create a lighting design that highlighted the existing architecture without disrupting the user’s experience within the space.”

— Lumen Awards Jury

Award of MERIT

McKim, Mead & White Library Restoration
New York, NY

Kugler Ning Lighting Design
Jerry Kugler, Jackson Ning, Sunhee Lim, Jung Eun Ra

ARCHITECT
Peter Gisolfi Associates
Joseph Keating
Michael Tribe

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