



*Award of*

# EXCELLENCE

## Museum at the Gateway Arch

St. Louis, MO

### Tillotson Design Associates

Suzan Tillotson, Ellen Sears, and Katherine Lindsay



The design team anticipated a difficult transition from the vast, unobscured daylight park of the Gateway Arch to the subterranean levels of this new museum extension. Extremely well lit interior surfaces mitigate the contrast with daylight and entice visitors to travel below grade.

At night, the new entry sequence acts as a centralized beacon, with tracings of light at the curved façade drawing patrons toward the glowing museum interior. The curved tri-wire wall rings the exterior plaza and continues into the interior canopy entrance. It is softly uplit by LED grazers within a recessed trough, subtly guiding visitors as they enter and depart the museum at night.

Once inside, a ceiling plane comprising a series of aluminum tubes provides indirect lighting. Carefully placed and aimed LED striplights concealed within certain tubes prevent dark zones in the ceiling structure. The painted-white vertical faces and undersides of the beams reflect light down through the tubes, creating a consistent glow for the entire ceiling plane.

The result is a vibrant, uplifting experience throughout the lobby and double-height exhibition spaces, with no visible light sources. Tunable-white LEDs and carefully managed dimming allow for beautiful day-to-night transitions.

#### ARCHITECTS

**Cooper Robertson**  
Scott Newman  
Andrew Barwick  
Erin Flynn

#### **James Carpenter Design Associates Inc.**

James Carpenter  
Joseph Welker  
Kate Wyberg McClellan

#### **Trivers Associates**

Joel Fuoss  
David Lott  
Shawn Dodson

#### OWNER

**US National Park Service and CityArchRiver Foundation**

#### LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT

**Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates, Inc.**

#### LANDSCAPE LIGHTING DESIGNER

**Randy Burkett Lighting Design**

#### ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS

**KJWW Engineering Consultants**  
(now IMEG Corp.)

#### GENERAL CONTRACTOR

**McCarthy Building Company**

#### ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR

**Guarantee Electrical Company (GECO)**

#### EXHIBIT DESIGNER

**Haley Sharpe Design**

#### PHOTOGRAPHY

**Nic Lehoux**

**Sam Fentress**

