

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Alicia Arroyo, AIASF Marketing + Communications Manager
PH: +1 415 874 2624
EMAIL: aarroyo@aiasf.org

AIA San Francisco Selects Aidlin Darling Design to Design the Center for Architecture + Design

San Francisco, CA | March 13, 2020 – The American Institute of Architects (AIA San Francisco) and the Center for Architecture + Design (the Center) have selected Aidlin Darling Design to conceive the new headquarters located in the Hallidie Building storefront at 140 Sutter Street. The Hallidie Building, named in honor of San Francisco cable car pioneer Andrew Smith Hallidie, is a historic landmark designed by architect Willis Polk between 1917-1918 and is notable as one of the first glass curtain façades in the United States.

The new AIA San Francisco and the Center for Architecture + Design headquarters will be a hub to provide collaborative administrative, event, and educational program space for members, allied professionals, and the public. The Center will include a gallery space and a small retail space for resources on San Francisco architecture, as well as expanded space for member programs.

An open invitation to local architecture firms to submit qualifications for the design of the Center for Architecture + Design occurred in late 2019. The Architectural Advisory Committee (AAC) and Relocation Task Force (RTF) selected three firms to submit proposals. The AAC and RTF members included architecture and design leaders and experts with experience developing public collaborative space and workspace interiors across the country. After careful consideration of the proposals, each of the short-listed teams enthusiastically presented their vision and concept for the headquarters.

“The clear vision for the new headquarters presented by Aidlin Darling, and their enthusiasm for the project, made them a natural choice. I am delighted to have them on board” says, Adrienne Steichen, 2020 AIA San Francisco, Board President.

Aidlin Darling Design’s conceptual approach fulfills AIA San Francisco’s vision to make the Center for Architecture + Design serve as a visibly accessible, high-profile facility showcasing the vital role of architects and designers, and as a dynamic hub to engage professionals, students, and the public. Their proposed strategies meet the goals of the AIA San Francisco membership to create a hub that represents the forefront of design thinking and will be a model for sustainable design best practices. The Architectural Advisory Committee recognized the adaptability of the conceptual approach and praised its emphasis on community identity and outreach in built form, the use of locally sourced fabrication, procurement, and installation; and its spirit of the citizenry and community sustainability.

-more-

Aidlin Darling Design feels that visual porosity is a crucial element in raising the potential of true engagement with the community. With the headquarters new location on the ground floor, there is a great opportunity to visually engage with the public through the façade of the building.

AIA Francisco and the Center for Architecture + Design will be relocating their headquarters on the sixth floor of the Hallidie Building to the Center for Architecture + Design storefront in early 2021.

Aidlin Darling Design is a multidisciplinary San Francisco-based design firm. Established in 1997, by Joshua Aidlin and David Darling, the studio has a broad focus, including institutional, commercial, and residential architecture as well as furniture and interior design. Their work explores their closely-held conviction that design can enlighten the human spirit by engaging all of the senses. This notion is reflected in a diverse range of projects, including a restaurant in the new SFMOMA, a high school in Santa Rosa, and Stanford University's Windhover Contemplative Center, a non-denominational art chapel that serves as a spiritual retreat for students and faculty. Recent works include a cultural art center in San Francisco, a communal workspace pavilion for Expedia Group's headquarters in Seattle, and an art gallery within the Tenderloin neighborhood of San Francisco.

Learn more about [Aidlin Darling Design](#) and their most recent achievement as Contract Magazine's [2020 Designers of the Year](#).

###

About AIA San Francisco | www.aiasf.org

Serving the Bay Area for over a century, the American Institute of Architects, San Francisco (AIASF), is committed to enhancing the quality of life in the Bay Area by promoting excellence in architecture, design, and the built environment. AIASF represents members practicing architecture, as well as allied community professionals in San Francisco and Marin counties. As a resource for our members and the public, AIA San Francisco strives to improve the quality of life in the Bay Area through community involvement, education, advocacy, public outreach, and member services.

About Center for Architecture + Design | www.centersf.org

The Center for Architecture + Design (the Center) is a 501(c)3 organization dedicated to creating a public-focused dialogue on architecture, design, and the built environment in the San Francisco Bay Area. Established in 2005, the Center enhances public appreciation for architecture and design through exhibitions, lectures, tours, film series, and other programs including the annual Architecture + the City festival and San Francisco Living: Home Tours.