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> ON THE COVER: South Central Regional Library, Louisville (Ky.) Free Public Library Photo: Brandon Stengel



Richland Library Ballentine, Irmo, South Carolina

Nestled in the woods, Richland Library Ballentine was designed to provide a tranquil escape for the community to learn and create. Its central space was modeled after a living room, with a corner space available for artistic pursuits and a large window that provides a view of the surrounding woodlands. PROJECT: New construction ARCHITECT: Liollio Architecture SIZE: 14,000 square feet cost: \$8.6 million PHOTO: Paul Warchol

Central Library, Austin (Tex.) Public Library

Austin's massive new library merges urbanity with nature. Situated downtown and overlooking Lady Bird Lake and Shoal Creek, the library is a technologyrich hub with indoor and outdoor reading areas, makerspaces, an art gallery, cooking demo spaces, and a rooftop garden. A rainwater harvesting system and solar panels add sustainable elements to the building. PROJECT: New construction ARCHITECT: Lake/Flato Architects/Shepley Bulfinch SIZE: 200,000 square feet cost: \$125 million PHOTO: Atelier Wong Photography



South Central Regional Library makes the most of its tree-filled site. Despite its considerable size, the silver geometric facility blends into the environment thanks to its sloping, grasscovered roof and large windows that allow for unfettered views of foliage throughout the building. PROJECT: New construction ARCHI-TECT: JRA Architects/MSR SIZE: 40,000 square feet cost: \$14.5 million PHOTO: Brandon Stengel









South Central Regional Library

Since opening last July, the 40,000-square-foot South Central Regional Library has enhanced service for more than 160,000 people in south central Jefferson County, with new books and cutting-edge technology. The eco-friendly, LEED Gold-certified facility houses more than 100,000 books and features two large community meeting rooms; several smaller rooms for studying, reading, and collaborating; and dedicated spaces for teens and children. An average of 18,160 people visit South Central Regional Library each month and have checked out 272,000 books and other materials.

The branch is also home to the COLLIDER artist-in-residence program. The COLLIDER hosts an array of artists and craftspeople from across the community. The artist-in-residence program has made innovative and interactive arts education accessible to hundreds of adults, teens, children, and families in the community and is made possible through generous funding from Councilwoman Madonna Flood. To learn more about the COLLIDER, visit www.LFPL.org/Collider.

Award-Winning

In June, the South Central Regional Library received The American Architectural Award for 2018. The American Architectural Awards®—presented by The Chicago Athenaeum Museum of Architecture and Design, together with The European Center for Architecture Art Design and Urban Studies and Metropolitan Arts Press—are the nation's highest and most prestigious distinguished building awards program that honor new and cutting-edge design in the United States. South Central was one of only 100 projects recognized nationally.

The South Central Regional Library design team included JRA Architects of Louisville, Meyer Scherer & Rockcastle Ltd. of Minneapolis, MKSK of Louisville, and library staff.

If You Visit

The South Central Regional Library is located at 7300 Jefferson Boulevard. Hours of operation are: Sunday: 1–5 p.m., Monday–Thursday: 9 a.m.–9 p.m., Friday and Saturday: 9 a.m.–5 p.m.



