



Contact: Lisa Davis James, 801/230-9399

## **The Leonardo Announces Architects, Exhibit Designers**

Local Architects, Support Groups Also Announced

SALT LAKE CITY, Sept. 15, 2005—The Leonardo at Library Square Foundation ([www.theleonardo.org](http://www.theleonardo.org)) and Salt Lake City Corp. today announced the selection of an architect for the art, culture and science center being created in the former Salt Lake City main library building.

The firm of EwingCole was selected through an open RFP process administered by the city to develop a comprehensive Building Program for the retrofitting and renovation of the building. Headquartered in Philadelphia, EwingCole is a nationally recognized, fully integrated architecture, engineering, interior design and planning firm. EwingCole's Cultural Practice and Academic Practice Group has developed considerable expertise in planning, renovation and preservation projects with prominent educational and cultural venues, including the Smithsonian Institution, the Franklin Institute, the Liberty Science Center and the National Gallery of Art.

EwingCole has selected the following Utah-based groups to provide local contact and essential support services:

- Architect: AJC Architects
- Structural Engineer: Reaveley Engineers & Associates Inc.
- Mechanical Engineer: Colvin Engineering Associates – Mechanical
- Electrical Engineering: BNA Consulting

“Many of EwingCole’s projects involve the renewal of community landmarks and historic structures that are near and dear to the communities where they are located,” said Walter Crimm, Principal in Charge at EwingCole. “The transformation of the old library into The Leonardo is an opportunity to create a dynamic destination that honors the past, and creates new opportunities for local citizens and visitors from around the country and world. Working together with our local partners, the city, The Leonardo, and the public, we look forward to creating a new landmark that reflects the uniqueness of the region, celebrates its rich cultural heritage, and showcases technical and artistic innovations.”

The Leonardo also announced that it has selected Oakland, Calif.-based Gyroscope Inc. to prepare a comprehensive conceptual Design Document for the whole facility and to coordinate all aspects of exhibit planning/programming during the building programming phase. Since 1989, Gyroscope has provided exhibit design services to a diverse list of clients, including science centers, family learning centers, art installations, natural history museums, zoos, aquaria and children’s museums. Gyroscope’s founders have created exhibits for major national and regional museums, including: The Tech Museum of Innovation in San Jose; Exploration Place in Wichita, Kansas; Liberty Science Center in Jersey City; the Chicago Children’s Museum; and a new science and learning center at the Bishop Museum in Honolulu.

“As a developing museum, The Leonardo has a chance to take a leadership role in helping define what a great museum can be,” said Chuck Howarth, principal in charge at Gyroscope. “Museums around the world are currently undergoing a period of change, as old models for informal education give way to newer ones. This evolution is driven in part by technology, but even more by advances in our understanding of how visitors use and learn from exhibits. It’s an exhilarating opportunity to help The Leonardo become a national model for learning.”

### **About The Leonardo**

Inspired by Leonardo da Vinci—one of history’s most versatile visionaries—The Library Square Foundation for Art, Culture and Science, dba The Leonardo, will be a one-of-a-kind art, culture and science center that encourages visitors to explore subjects from new perspectives.

The Leonardo will open in the former Salt Lake City main library building on Library Square. From this exciting location, The Leonardo and the magnificent new City Library will create a dynamic public square for research and learning.

Three founding partners have come together to develop The Leonardo: Global Artways ([www.globalartways.org](http://www.globalartways.org)), Salt Lake City’s arts education program; the Center for Documentary Arts ([www.cdautah.org](http://www.cdautah.org)), and; the Utah Science Center ([www.utahsciencecenter.org](http://www.utahsciencecenter.org)).