PERKINS EASTMAN ANNOUNCES NEW PROJECT WITH SIDWELL FRIENDS SCHOOL

Commitment to Student Wellness, Learning Sciences Curricula to Guide Design

Washington, DC (May 30, 2019) Top international design and architecture firm Perkins Eastman is proud to announce it has been selected to design a new Upper School for Sidwell Friends School in Washington, DC. The project includes the adaptive reuse of an existing 140,000 sf building adjacent to the campus, which will enable the unification of the school community. The Upper School serves approximately 500 students in grades 9-12.

In a letter to the Sidwell Friends community, Bryan K. Garman, Head of School at Sidwell Friends School, and Meg Flax, Clerk of the Board of Trustees, said: “We chose Perkins Eastman based on the quality and integrity of their work and their ability to understand our community, the defining qualities of our education, and our vision for the future. Keeping in mind the elegance of simplicity, together with them we hope to create the best learning environment and promote the well-being of our students, faculty, and staff by designing spaces that support personal, social, and intellectual growth.”

Sidwell Friends is a PK–12, co-educational Quaker day school founded in 1883 in Washington, DC, and is internationally recognized for its high academic achievement and commitment to social responsibility. Perkins Eastman’s demonstrated commitment to creating high-performance learning environments that enhance the educational experience will reinforce the school’s unique culture and commitment to excellence.

“We are excited to work with the students, faculty, staff, and alumni of Sidwell Friends School to create an architecture that reflects Sidwell’s Quaker values, inspires its community, and demonstrates their commitment to a just world,” states Perkins Eastman’s Sean O’Donnell FAIA, LEED AP, Principal-in-Charge for the design team and leader of firm’s Primary and Secondary Education practice. “We look forward to collaborating with the community to create healthy environments that evoke Sidwell Friends’ philosophy about the joys of exploration and discovery; demonstrate the school’s commitment to environmental stewardship, global citizenship, and service; and enhance personal and community well-being.”
Considered among the top educational design firms in the world, Perkins Eastman’s high-performance educational environments are both visionary and pragmatic, next-generation and contextual. The approach for Sidwell Friends will draw upon the firm’s award-winning research that links environmental design to student and teacher well-being.

While Perkins Eastman’s portfolio spans the globe, some of its most notable designs are located within Washington, DC. These include Dunbar Senior High School, currently the highest-scoring LEED for Schools project in the world; Stoddert Elementary School & Community Center, one of the first Green Ribbon Schools in the United States; LEED-Gold Roosevelt Senior High School; and West Elementary School, currently in design, which is slated to become the first Net Zero Energy school in the nation’s capital.

About Perkins Eastman
Perkins Eastman is a global design firm founded on the belief that design can have a direct and positive impact on people’s lives. The firm’s award-winning practice draws on its more than 1,000 professionals networked across 17 offices worldwide. The firm enhances the human experience in the places where people live, work, play, learn, age, and heal. Perkins Eastman’s portfolio comprises work in a wide range of specialized project types: Primary & Secondary Education, Higher Education, Science & Technology, Healthcare, Civic & Cultural, Hospitality, Large Scale Mixed-Use, Office & Retail, Planning & Urban Design, Residential, Senior Living, Sports & Exhibition, Transportation & Infrastructure, and Workplace. For more information visit perkinseastman.com

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