

INITIAL DESIGNER CANDIDATES

SUMMER 2022

An initial list of 177 candidates was drawn from multiple sources and expert suggestions, with an emphasis on candidates with experience in memorial or cultural design projects, both from the United States and abroad.

177



DESIGNER ADVISORY BOARD INPUT

FEBRUARY 2023

The Designer Advisory Board (DAB) contributed additional names and a system of filters, and a ranking was applied to narrow the list. The project team considered project experience, memorial experience, firm location, experience with Washington, D.C. agencies, etc., as well as ensuring ethnic and gender diversity and an equitable mix of architects, landscape architects, artists, and writers/thought leaders.

89



CANDIDATES RECEIVE NDAs

FEBRUARY 2023

The project team reviewed the combined candidate list, eliminated duplicates, and applied the initial evaluation criteria; a further-narrowed list of 37 designer candidates was sent NDAs.

37



RFQs ISSUED TO CANDIDATES

FEBRUARY 2023

The project team sent RFQs + project information to the 23 candidates that submitted signed NDAs, making a special effort to ensure every candidate was contacted via all possible methods and given the opportunity to respond to the RFQ.

23



RFQs RECEIVED AND REVIEWED

MARCH - APRIL 2023

RFQs were received from 17 designer candidates and reviewed by the GWOTMF project team and the DAB during a daylong session in Washington, D.C. This group ultimately advanced a shortlist of qualified candidates for final consideration.

17



FINALISTS SELECTED AND INTERVIEWED

MAY - JUNE 2023

The GWOTMF invited 5 world-renowned finalists to present before the project team, DAB, and Board of Directors and, though one candidate subsequently withdrew, firms presented in Dallas, TX on June 8 and engaged in a Q&A session with the GWOTMF Board of Directors, who then cast their votes and were the sole decision makers in selecting the Memorial's designer.

5



LEAD DESIGNER SELECTED

SUMMER 2023

Marlon Blackwell, FAIA

Recipient of the 2020 AIA Gold Medal

