Team 2
Patkau Architects + Ayers Saint Gross

I'm totally confused by the "cloud". Didn't understand the plan very well.
Didn't hear as much on the "community heart" as I'd like.
Idea that some parts could have separate hours.

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- Love cloud, love curtains for great hall.
- Sidewalk cafe nice, like central atrium.
- Need to get much more light into basement floor.
- Library not garden needs animation.
- Great hall is still a bore, strip lighting is awful.
- Love use of facade as projection scrim.
I think the "ultimate stakeholder group" is not sold on devoting the addition to private use. It would have loved to have seen/heard the architects’ ideas about possible public uses.

The Cloud does not resonate with me — connection to MLK Jr. and/or MLK seems forced. (Note taken of MLK Jr.’s mind being described as "luminous.")

I like the fine-textured design of the (residential) addition. But courtyard seems hard and lifeless.

Surface of building as screen for projecting verbal ideas is wonderful.
Team 2
Patkau Architects + Ayers Saint Gross

I am in agreement about need to luminous heart
I like the cloud-like form although not sure I completely understand
I like cutting out center of floors to sew together
drapes great hall? not sure worthwhile

like elevators - opens up bldg and ties together more. I like more than closed elevators
would like to see more interior greenery
I really appreciate presenting Mies van der Rohe design as well as adding interesting contemporary elements and creating open center and courtyard. The "cloud" is a contradicting term since it brings light into the building and clouds may have negative connotations. Your feature is full of light and optimistic, just like MLK's dream.

Maybe consider different name. Otherwise I'm supporter of your great design. Good luck.

Eva Kodovska
Design student at Corcoran College of Art + Design, D.C.
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Team 2
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- MLK - not prepared to address
- yes to atrium opening - yes to a cool roof space. did not like the interior of the cloud.
- great hall needs to be incorporated into atrium unless structural impedes. no drapery please.

we need to be looking into a high-tech approach.
- would love to have seen more ideas for circulation areas and how other rooms would work.
- talked mostly about central spaces, little about everything else. Escalator is good idea.
Acceptable designs for the exterior, but the interiors are too much like the current with the exception of the central escalator.
Team 2
Patkau Architects + Ayers Saint Gross

It appears that you've done a great deal to maintain the great hall.
should there be some option to transform the great hall to incorporate more natural light.

Team 2
Patkau Architects + Ayers Saint Gross

Mediocre. The "cloud" is an insult to Mies's design.
Team 2
Patkau Architects + Ayers Saint Gross

Cloud space seems superfluous. I do like the Mies' reference to the curtain enclosing the great room.

- Need to include great hall in atrium or at least open it up to atrium light. The great hall is a boring waste of space now.
- Arcade outside needs more animation.
- Entrance needs better definition.
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Patkau Architects + Ayers Saint Gross

I like that they retain a lot of the original exterior.
How is "the cloud" maintained?
I like the idea of projections on the blog.
What is the added value of "the cloud"?

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Patkau Architects + Ayers Saint Gross

Like plan that is locally based, but lacks diversity.
Like location of cafe, open atrium is a good idea, but do not like cloud so much (design)
Public roof should face street not private.
Like projection on street side of building.
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Patkau Architects + Ayers Saint Gross

1. Why introduce such an organic form such as the cloud to such a geometrically precious building?

2. The introduction of a care seems nice, but the location seems imposing. That space is seen as a home for those that don't have one.

3. I love that the residential functions aren't visible from street view. Maintain pagade.
Team 2
Patkau Architects + Ayers Saint Gross

What is the meaning of the cloud?
How such undefined form can possible relate to a memorial of a person with such defined dream as MLK was/is?

The cloud seems to go completely against the "Mies" style. While it's a nice idea, I don't feel that it works for MLK. And there is a missed opportunity with updating the great hall...
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Cloud - 3 external, 3-floor floor does not look good, tinker too much with external appearance

No really good interior ideas. Too conventional added floors.

Adding residential floors is a good idea.
Team 2
Patkau Architects + Ayers Saint Gross

The mix review of this library is it isn't for everyone one and you all want to change the name of the library.

shape demand not good
Team 2
Patkau Architects + Ayers Saint Gross

Isolating teens in the basement shows little regard for adolescent development and the need for connectedness while fostering independence and the yearning for respect, which below ground separation does not engender. Teens need space where they can be seen to protect them (from their own impulses as well as from others who would prey on them).

Team 2
Patkau Architects + Ayers Saint Gross

This team should be disqualified. They don't know what their design says about the memory of Dr. King. That's the whole idea of having an MLK Memorial Library. They had 5 speakers - not 1 Black. Even the community liaison person is not Black. They should be disqualified.
Your design doesn't seem to make many changes to the entrance or the Great Hall. I just don't get the sense you are proposing enough change.

Please comment.

WITH SUCH LARGE EXISTING CIRCULATION CORES, WHY DOES THE LIBRARY NEED MORE STAIRS?

EXISTING:

HOW CAN THE STAIR CORES SERVE THE SAME PURPOSE?
Team 2
Patkau Architects + Ayers Saint Gross

local team without diversity among principals? Really?
The central open model is passe at Reeves Bldg - so why here?
Cloud looks like shroud, or US institute of Peace main.
Escalators - good idea.
Drapery? Another conventional hotel ballroom space? Really?
Sketchy about private residences, not very.
Creative looking from what I saw.
Note: Could run escalator outside (covered) glass - view of City.

lots of Ques about cloud - Here is one
Patkau Architects + Ayers Saint Gross

Despite many mentions, it is still not clear what the cloud is. Can you please talk about what it is made of, how its tech components function, what is to take place in the "Media Exchange" and the "Dream Lounge"?
Team 2
Patkau Architects + Ayers Saint Gross

They are like the memo not a shopping mall, not a library. They don’t encourage physical exercise.

Team 2
Patkau Architects + Ayers Saint Gross

The current great hall is not considered a desirable place for events. Your design appears to leave it largely intact (with the addition of modular drapery). How does your design create more space for performances, events, etc.
The cafe is in the wrong location - it is buried back in the plan. Drapery is not a good idea.

The cloud overhead is a cool idea - I just don't know if people will ever get to see it... The lower level is not inviting enough. The residential above looks...

The program at street level is not engaging enough.

- Paths and competition is a good idea.
- Pat's plan for previous library experience is OK, not great.
- Ayers Saint Gross has very little/no experience in libraries.

This design didn't work.
- Not confident they can pull this off.
On the topic of "solutions": it would appear your proposal is a collection of "typologies" that are individually clever, or unique... my question is: do you believe that brilliant bits make a brilliant whole automatically? Of course not, but your proposal suggests you think otherwise.

Prediction — the "cloud" will be called the "shroud" in no time flat.
Team 2
Patkau Architects + Ayers Saint Gross

- Not enough space for special collections
- Meeting/conference space needs moveable walls for flexibility
- Theater is a good idea.
- Only architects have this is a Miss build. Many people agree it is ugly and non-functional.

Team 2
Patkau Architects + Ayers Saint Gross

- DOES NOT HONOR OPENNESS
- NO BEAUTIFUL SPACES
- NEXT FORMS W/ EXISTING FORM
Team 2
Patkau Architects + Ayers Saint Gross

0. Like concept of escalator to more people.
0. Open plan + the cloud concept (which seems like a gym-in), overall idea seems like a renovation, not much innovation or innovation.

0. Could residence not as innovative, look like Pet one just threw on top.

0. Prefer Team #1 much more than Team #2.

0. Like the idea of projection on blog.
0. Team 2 is the safe choice - please pick a more visionary team.
Team 2
Patkau Architects + Ayers Saint Gross

- Can you make the Great Hall warmer, lighter, and more welcoming?
- The escalator looks intrusive and ugly.

Team 2
Patkau Architects + Ayers Saint Gross

You did not show a clear vision of the Great Hall and no design of the Great Hall. Very poor presentation.
You put too much attention on creating food venues. The district doesn't have money for a child care center. This is not an event center (LIBRARY).
Team 2
Patkau Architects + Ayers Saint Gross

The cloud is the typical approach of architects: "Do something different." What we need is enhancement, not intrusion & cutaways.

The Cloud appears "anti-Mies" — utterly disintegrated to his ideas. The top floor/Cloud panel shown has no indicator of material used. "Draping." The ground floor is also a money-making idea, but would respect the event.
Team 2
Patkau Architects + Ayers Saint Gross

What will this new design say about Dr. King?

1. Would the addition of residential units require changes to parking spaces on the lower level?

2. How does the theater in the new design compare in size with the current one on the A-1 level?
Ako on teens - adults and children should also be welcome to browse the teen collection and not be completely excluded. As they are now, not to stay forever but able to access the collection. Glassed in (visible) study spaces too.
Team 2
Patkau Architects + Ayers Saint Gross

It is important to recognize we are the capital of the US, and tourists should be able to proudly stop by our library. There needs to be more consideration for our homeless who use our bathrooms daily.

We need a facility to assist our homeless. A hygiene center is a must and our bathrooms must come up to standard. The odor is real, no toilet tissue, no cleaning apparatus to dry hands is unacceptable. This must be addressed now. Buy more tissue, soap, drying clothes.
Team 2
Patkau Architects + Ayers Saint Gross

Why extend the exterior to 4 stories? Above the base.
- Why place private terraces behind a public skin?
- Is this an appropriate transformation of a historic structure?
Team 2
Patkau Architects + Ayers Saint Gross

- THE CLOUD - WHAT MAKES IT SPECIAL
  BESIDES ITS SHAPE?
- HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT COLLABORATING WITH
  THE CITY ARTS AGENCY, DC COMMISSION ON THE
  ARTS + HUMANITIES?
- WHAT ABOUT MAINTENANCE... CLOUD + LARGE
  CURTAINS IN HALL?

- OTHER PUBLIC USE WOULDN'T NEED TO BE
  SEPARATED SO WOULD HAVE A SUBSTANTIAL
  DIFFERENTARCHITECTURAL DESIGN IMPACT
- GREAT HALL HAS NO USE EXCEPT AS UNDERUSED
  OPEN SPACE
Team 2
Patkau Architects + Ayers Saint Gross

I understand that mixed use is a retail housing context, but not for a public building. Is the reason for mixed use a function of sustainability for the library? Will the library receive income from the housing?

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What would be the nature of the proposed residential component—cost, access, parking, etc.? How will this impact the public library use?
Team 2
Patkau Architects + Ayers Saint Gross

I am curious about the Dream Space. What is the purpose and inspiration behind this area in the Social Space?

How will your design maintain air quality? Most District government buildings newly designed do not maintain quality air flow.
Team 2
Patkau Architects + Ayers Saint Gross

How does maintenance & upkeep inform the cloud? (its materiality, form especially)
What will it look like in forty years?

How do you address the needs of the special collections & archives department in the new space?
Team 2
Patkau Architects + Ayers Saint Gross

Can one of the stairways be changed to an escalator.
Will there be private rooms for meetings or one on one personal meetings?

Team 2
Patkau Architects + Ayers Saint Gross

In the mixed use version you propose to add one story of glass extending over the original facade, up and concealing residential volume and providing private balcony for the apartments. How does that addition comply with preservation standards?
Team 2
Patkau Architects + Ayers Saint Gross

How will the fabric curtain hold up, will it be a material that withstands dirt and tear?

I like how the concept of cloud like a tech concept holding things together and respect paid to MLK's design legacy.

Kim Jr.

Comment: how are residents/public expected to interact with this? (suggested to incorporate DEPS (schools themselves) in as many ways as we can) - so that others understand this building belongs to everyone.
Team 2
Mecanoo + Martinez & Johnson Architecture

Love the "Living Room of the City." How do spaces tie together could residential be small, affordable apartments to encourage residents to use the library? Like that—History + Future share a floor.

Team 2
Patkau Architects + Ayers Saint Gross

This scheme really embodies new innovative solution to a historic gem. Love the cloud.
This design seems to be unfocused - it's obtrusive in the core, but seeks to hide from the street. It doesn't really take a stance on what the architects think should happen. There are many ideas going on that could be great, but this approach doesn't so far seek to change what a public library could be. I'm not quite sure the major advantage of the cloud is - it seems to turn the library inward rather than engaging the community.
Great design!

Great team articulation and understanding of needs. It's about what goes on inside that's important.
Team 2
Patkau Architects + Ayers Saint Gross

By far the best articulation of the challenges, opportunities, and sensitivities. A successful, impressive presentation suggests a coordinated and intelligent team.

Team 2
Patkau Architects + Ayers Saint Gross

Positives:
1. Collaborative team approach
2. The architectural group builds confidence that they will be receptive to stakeholder (the public) feedback.
3. Presents integrity of historical building - vital.
4. Brings in innovative space (The Cloud).
5. The top residential space fits well with Mies Vanderleit structure below.
6. Central transparent stairwell is excellent!
Team 2
Patkau Architects + Ayers Saint Gross

Great solution helps residence hidden

Scrim - yes!

Much more connected than first

Need to open up light to lower floor

The visual intrigue created throughout the building, esp. with the cloud, brings life & a strong sense of community! Not only is the design respectful of the existing Mies Building, but enhancing the culture of the 21st library as an evolving building type.

Thank you for explaining building scheduling/preservation construction.
Team 2
Patkau Architects + Ayers Saint Gross

Like years better. More concern about legal + design. Bldg retains a lot of the essence. The Bldg.

I guess help the Cape down really where the marsh/river falls + sometimes drunk in new desperation.

More Bldg - retain origin + the library like me lower floor.

Like this team better.
Team 2
Patkau Architects + Ayers Saint Gross

If accessibility issues were a priority, this proposal is a gem; but the need to do so is questionable.

Wonder if light will be adequately improved.

Low key aspect of added feature is positive.

Circulation concept is very positive (grand as appropriations demand)

Response to Doing Center was excellent.
Team 2
Patkau Architects + Ayers Saint Gross

Special emphasis on accessibility as a priority. This process is a game-changer and needs to do so in green.

Wonder if light will be adequately improved. Low key aspects of added feature is positive.

Circulation concept is very positive (as do approach to housing plans).

Question on that question was asked.
Team 2
Patkau Architects + Ayers Saint Gross

LIKE THE PROJECTION ON SURFACE OF
THE BLOCK. LIKE SONG 1 ON HORSCHTMAN -
CAN DO THAT NOW!

Team 2
Patkau Architects + Ayers Saint Gross

I love this firm's vision and presentation.
I love libraries and have long wished that
was more like the main libraries in San Francisco
and Seattle. This firm seems to be able to
create such a dynamic, welcoming building
when you want to be-whether to look for books,
attend a lecture, or participate in an event,
see art,