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333 W. SANTA ANA BLVD. • SANTA ANA, CA 92701 • WWW.OCGOV.COM

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Contact: Jean Pasco
(714) 834-7218 (w)
Jean.Pasco@ocgov.com

Crime Victims' Memorial Design Finalists Chosen

(Orange County, CA) — Judges have selected five finalists from 59 entries in a competition to design a Crime Victims' Memorial at William R. Mason Regional Park in Irvine.

The five designs – from submitters in the US, Mexico and Yugoslavia – include features such as panels remembering victims by name, landscaped remembrance areas and reflecting pools. The finalists have been invited to submit more detailed designs by Jan. 30, 2014, followed by a public exhibition of their submittals in February and March. The formal winner will be announced in April 2014 during Crime Victims' Rights Week.

The County of Orange, the Orange County Board of Supervisors, and OC Parks are sponsoring the competition, which was announced this past April during National Crime Victims' Rights Week.

The Crime Victims' Memorial Design Competition is an open, two-phase competition. The first stage solicited concept drawings and a narrative that articulated the designer's vision for the memorial site within Mason Regional Park. A jury panel with members chosen by each member of the Board of Supervisors selected the five finalists. The second stage solicits detailed design documents in plan and elevation view, logo design and an optional materials board. Finalists also will be asked to present their design concepts to the jury.

The competition was open to all. Some 42 percent of the entries came from outside of the United States - from countries including Australia, China, Japan, Mexico, Sweden, the United Kingdom and Yugoslavia. Supervisor Todd Spitzer, whose district includes Irvine, said the interest resonated globally because victims' rights are civil rights.

"The level of interest from designers from around the world is a huge statement of how victimization is an issue that affects all walks of life," Spitzer said. "The goals of this competition are to provide visitors with a space for solace, contemplation, remembrance and healing. The Crime Victims Memorial serves to pay tribute to crime victims and those touched by crime, while providing a feature that complements the landscape of the park."

For more information about the competition and to view the five finalists, go to:
http://ocparks.com/about/projects/orange_county_crime_victims_memorial.

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