We are pleased to announce that the team of Clark/Smoot/Russell has been awarded the contract for the construction of the National Museum of African American History and Culture, the 19th division of the Smithsonian Institution.

Project Team

About the Clark/Smoot/Russell Joint Venture

The Clark/Smoot/Russell team is made up of three distinguished and diverse companies with unparalleled experience in building museum projects combined with the strength, stability and resources of nationally-recognized construction management professionals. Like an African-American quilt, Clark, Smoot and Russell are weaving the backdrop for the team of diverse specialty trade contractors to be selected to build this historic museum—like the colors and patterns in the freedom quilts hand-crafted generations ago. Clark, Smoot and Russell represent the first three patches on the quilt.

General Contractors

Clark Construction Group

American owned and operated since 1906, Clark Construction Group is one of the nation’s most experienced and respected providers of construction services. With annual revenue in excess of $4 billion, Clark is consistently ranked among the country’s largest general building and civil construction companies. Headquartered in Bethesda, Md., Clark has regional offices that are strategically located to serve the needs of clients throughout the United States.

Clark is a diversified contractor, and is able to safely meet the needs of public and private clients on a variety of project types, including new construction and renovation of office buildings, healthcare facilities, roadways, airports, water treatment plants, multi-family residential housing, sports facilities, convention centers, performing arts and entertainment venues, hotels, educational facilities, laboratories, rail stations, correctional institutions, manufacturing plants, and all manner of infrastructure.

Clark has successfully delivered numerous projects to the Smithsonian Institution including the National Museum of the American Indian, and renovations or additions to the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden and the Museum of Natural History.
Smoot Construction
Smoot Construction is one of the largest minority-owned construction firms in the country. From its office in Washington, D.C., Smoot has developed a diverse portfolio that includes educational facilities, convention centers, healthcare, research/industrial facilities, commercial office buildings and sports facilities. Since its first project in the Washington area in 1967, Smoot Construction has been involved in building some of the District's most high profile public projects including partnering with Clark at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center, the Verizon Center, and Nationals Park.

Smoot is owned by the Smoot family, founders of The Smoot Corporation and its construction operations is in Columbus, Ohio, and Indianapolis, Ind. These entities trace their roots back to 1946 to the commercial masonry contracting business established by the founder, Sherman R. Smoot, in Charleston, W.Va. The guiding principles that he established — character, humility, integrity, pride, and performance — still guide the firm today.

H.J. Russell & Company
Since its founding in 1952, H.J. Russell & Company has grown to become the fourth-largest minority-owned business (MBE) in the United States, as well as one of the nation's single largest MBE construction firms. Featured among ENR's Top 100 CM at Risk firms, H.J. Russell has experience constructing high-profile facilities within a wide variety of markets including cultural/public assembly facilities, sports facilities, commercial offices, educational and institutional facilities for public and private clients.

Over the past six decades, excellence has been the hallmark of H.J. Russell. Herman Russell, the company's founder, believed "by being your best and never accepting mediocrity, you will be paid back tenfold." By committing this belief to practice, the company has evolved into one of the most successful and recognized African-American-owned companies in the country.

Design Team
FREELON ADJAYE BOND / SMITHGROUP
Freelon Adjaye Bond in association with SmithGroup
Freelon Adjaye Bond is comprised of three firms: the Freelon Group of Research Triangle, N.C., Adjaye Associates of London, and Davis Brody Bond of Washington, D.C. Combined, these three firms have designed some of the world's most notable and meaningful museums.

The Freelon Group designed the Museum of the African Diaspora in San Francisco and the Reginald F. Lewis Museum of African American History and Culture in Baltimore. David Adjaye was the architect of the Nobel Peace Centre in Oslo and the Museum of Contemporary Art in Denver. Davis Brody Bond is the designer of the National September 11 Museum at the World Trade Center.

SmithGroup is one of the largest architecture and engineering firms in the U.S. and composed of client industry-focused practices serving the healthcare, workplace, education, and science & technology markets. SmithGroup ranked first for design quality based on design awards won and second overall in Architect magazine's 2011 annual best firms ranking. A national leader in sustainable design, SmithGroup has 354 LEED professionals and 67 LEED certified projects.