The San Francisco Public Library explores sustainable uses of glass and natural ventilation in the design for a “library for the future”. In response to a challenge by the DuPont Benedictus Student Design Competition for a library of a minimum of 50,000 square feet on an urban site and guided by the 1994 UNESCO “Public Library Manifesto”, the library defines an important urban space, incorporates the cable car turnaround as a part of its urban design, and makes an inviting mecca that responds to the needs of the surrounding community.