



2011 Downtown's BEST WINNERS

DOWNTOWNERS OF THE YEAR



Paula Stallcup

As Director of the City of San Antonio's Downtown Operations Department, Paula Stallcup has spearheaded numerous special projects and events, launching a city-wide effort to ensure coordination of multiple City departments in an effort to make downtown a better place to live, work, shop, play and be entertained. From overseeing city parks, historical sites, parking, special events including Fiesta and Luminaria, and more, her energy, passion and devotion have raised the bar for expectations within city government. Paula's leadership has created a legacy of results and pride, ultimately changing the face of our center city for the better.



Chuck Ramirez (posthumously)

Beloved by artists and art-lovers alike, Chuck Ramirez was a bigger than life presence, creating huge impact during his short life. A San Antonio native, he was admired for his large-scale photography and sculptural installations which graced museums, public entities and the personal space of many. With a sense of humor and irony, Chuck explored themes of cultural identity, consumerism and the ephemeral nature of life. His glossy images of everyday objects included stuffed garbage bags, battered piñatas, and wilted flowers. While his presence is missed deeply, his legacy lives on in the unity and generosity he inspired among San Antonio's Art Community...and beyond.



BEST PUBLIC ART INSTALLATION

Star Pointer at Ellis Alley

This collaboration between the Blue Star Contemporary Art Center and VIA Metropolitan Transit towers above the Charles B. Shannon Customer Information Center next to the Vidorra Condominiums. Conceived and constructed by noted international artist John Henry, the steel sculpture stands over 70 ft tall and is painted a vivid red. It is easily seen from IH 37, serving as a beacon of the east side's ongoing revitalization.



BEST ART & CULTURE INSTALLATION

Main Plaza Conservancy - El Corazón de Memoria

This special Día del los Muertos altar on Main Plaza was designed and constructed by David Zamora Casas, a local artist deeply influenced by la cultura de San Antonio. The installation stood fifteen feet tall and invited the public to interact with the altar by placing photos of their dearly departed as a remembrance.



BEST INTERIOR RENOVATION

Hyatt Regency San Antonio

Described as more a "re-creation" than renovation, the almost thirty-year old Hyatt Regency San Antonio has been the subject of a three-phased, 30 million dollar renovation of its conference center, porte cochere, lobby, bar and restaurant and public meeting spaces. These contemporarily decorated new spaces welcome guests with custom local artwork, clean and smooth detailing of materials.



BEST EXTERIOR RESTORATION

Kress Building

A landmark in downtown San Antonio, the Kress building was built in 1939 and mixed Art Deco with a Spanish Mission Style to compliment the architecture of downtown San Antonio. In 2000, the building was covered with a protective netting system to prevent the failing exterior façade from falling on pedestrians. In December of 2009, Turner began working with Federal Realty to restore this historic structure in preparation for a new street level restaurant tenant.



BEST LARGE EVENT

Rock n' Roll SA Marathon & 1/2 Marathon

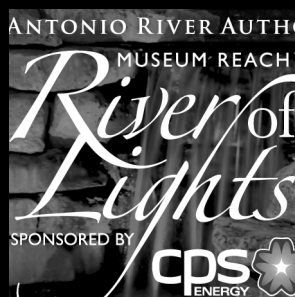
With more than 30,000 registered participants, the third annual Rock 'n' Roll San Antonio Marathon & 1/2 Marathon had several "firsts" this year including moving the start line downtown, making it much more accessible to event participants, and benefitting a new charity, the Susan G. Komen for the Cure. With a total economic impact of more than \$40 million for the local community, the event raised more than \$1 million for charity.



BEST FAMILY EVENT

Houston Street Two Step

Beginning with a longhorn cattle drive down Houston Street to kick off the SA Rodeo, the Two Step continued with the support of local business sponsorships and volunteers as a free event featuring musical entertainment, children's activities, and special offers to local businesses, shops and restaurants. More than 20,000 attendees were offered 'passports' designed to encourage patronage in the Houston St. businesses and the chance to win raffle prizes.



BEST COLLABORATIVE EVENT

River of Lights Holiday Festival

The San Antonio River Authority (SARA) began a new holiday tradition during the 2010 holiday season, by lighting up over 50 underwater lights, in an array of holiday colors, along the Museum Reach. The festive River lighting Holiday Festival included collaborative planning and marketing on behalf of neighboring organizations including The Pearl, the San Antonio Museum of Art, The Southwest School of Art, Paseo del Rio, and Downtown Alliance.

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BEST LEADERS: Baptist Health System, COSA City Center Development, Rico's, Rio Cruises, SARA

BEST FRIENDS: Bohanan's Prime Steaks & Seafood, Blue Star Contemporary Art Center, Centro Properties/Kuper Sotheby's, COSA HP, COSA DTO, Cox Smith, Cross & Co., En Su Casa Caregivers, Frost, Hixon Properties, Hyatt SA, NRP Group, SAHA, SA CVB, Turner, VIA

BEST NEW EDUCATIONAL FACILITY

Cafécollege

Already having served over 3500 clients since opening in late September, cafécollege provides resources and courses to better prepare students to enter college and ultimately create a stronger community. Constructed in a municipally-owned building that housed city offices, the new center opened with 5,500 SF of meeting rooms, lounge area, coffee bar, computer stations and WiFi throughout.

BEST ADAPTIVE USE

Ricos Products Company Headquarters

This project occupies a site in the South St. Mary's/Presa Street corridor that has been vacant since the early 1970's and was once home of the Mueller Motors Company. The Liberto Family chose to stay in the center city when their existing headquarters location was purchased. The unusual stone work and concrete structure were retained resulting in 18,000 SF of office space and their traditional Cash & Carry outlet open to the public.

