



BEST CULINARY EVENT

Blue Star Arts and Eats 2010

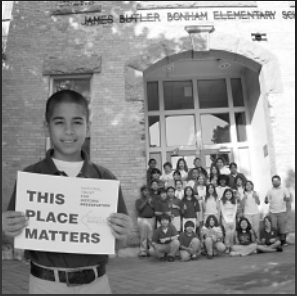
The Blue Star Contemporary Art Center proudly hosted the re-inspired Arts & Eats in November, an intimate occasion hosted in the Main Gallery of the center with all proceeds supporting local and regional artists. After 17 years, Blue Star revamped San Antonio's original food and wine festival resulting in a new, hip, and highly successful event featuring a who's-who of the Alamo city's top chefs including Bruce Auden, Jeffery Balfour, Josh Cross, Jason Dady, Damien Watel, and Andrew Weissman.



BEST NEIGHBORHOOD RESTAURANT

The Monterey

The Monterey rose from the shell of a dilapidated King William storefront and gas station to become a sophisticated-but-casual gastro-pub that is the talk of the town and a jewel in the neighborhood. Since opening in November 2010, The Monterey has reenergized this part of the neighborhood, drawn residents to Southtown from all corners of the city and been showered with rave reviews from patrons and critics alike. The restaurant is a great example of what can be accomplished using existing urban building stock.



BEST MARKETING CAMPAIGN

COSA Office of Historic Preservation

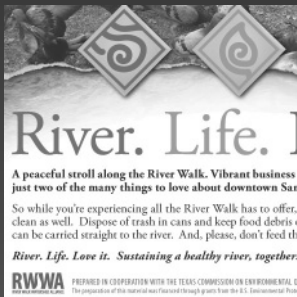
In 2009, the Office of Historic Preservation created the Historic Preservation Academy to help raise awareness of historic preservation and its value to the community. The following year was a banner year of efforts and outreach including Historic Preservation Month and the 'This Place Matters' campaign, an Architectural Scavenger Hunt, a "State of Historic Preservation Address" by Mayor Julian Castro, a Historic Window Workshop, Historic Homeowner Fairs and social media engagement.



BEST NEW RETAIL STORE

Hip Dingo

This new retail store on Houston Street features fashionable popular brands of women's and junior's clothing, shoes handbags, gifts, and accessories at affordable prices, with a special emphasis on unique offerings including Western and Mexican influenced items. They enjoy the arrival of new items each week in the broadest range of sizes possible, and place a special emphasis on customer service. It has a fresh fun retro look, and the management strives to offer only products they would use themselves, and at fair prices.



BEST PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

Riverwalk Watershed Alliance

With the award of a grant from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in early 2008, the San Antonio River Authority created the River Walk Watershed Alliance (RWWA) to lead an outreach campaign to help lower the bacteria levels in the river. Partners include SARA, Bexar County, City of San Antonio, Downtown Alliance/Centro SA, the Downtown Residents Association, SAWS and the Paseo del Rio Association. As a result, bacteria levels were reduced in the River Walk watershed 48% by the fall of 2010.



BEST RESIDENTIAL WORK IN PROGRESS

Cevallos Lofts

This new development by the NRP Group is public-private partnership with the City of San Antonio is a 252-unit apartment complex on Cevallos Street off South Flores in the heart of Southtown. The site is currently under construction, and is expected to begin lease-up in late summer 2011. The attractive development designed by Alamo Architects will include full service luxury amenities, such as a pool with sun deck, fully furnished state of the art fitness facilities, business center, hike / bike connection to the river trails, and resident lounge / wet bar.



BEST RESIDENTIAL

HemisView Village

The \$36 million multi-family community HemisView Village Apartments, located at the corner of Durango and I-37, is currently at 97% occupancy and a major housing addition for downtown. Co-developed by Carleton Development and the San Antonio Housing Authority, HemisView includes 245 apartment homes comprised of 184 market rate units, 61 affordable units, including 49 public housing units, making this development a truly mixed-income community offering excellent amenities at a central downtown location with truly amazing views.



BEST RESTAURANT WORK IN PROGRESS

The Luxury

This new "trailer park" eating establishment from acclaimed San Antonio chef Andrew Wiseman is scheduled to open in the late spring. Situated by the S.A. River on Jones Avenue across from the San Antonio Museum of Art, it will be a welcome addition to the promising River North neighborhood and will offer outdoor dining with elegant food choices along with drink and entertainment. Modified shipping containers will serve as the 'structures' from which patrons order their meals and libations in a wonderfully casual environment that will appeal to everyone.



BEST NEW BUSINESS

Fresh Urban Flowers

This recently completed self-renovated street-level space is located in the Taylor Telecom building off Broadway and Third Street. Not only is it an attractive place to hold consultations and create floral arrangements, but it also moonlights as an art gallery for local artists. With a goal to help grow and flourish the self proclaimed, "Urban Arts District" in the river north area, Fresh Urban Flowers is a fresh home grown addition to the downtown marketplace.



WILD CARD

BEST NEW PARKING ENHANCEMENT

COSA Parking Pay Stations

The Downtown Operations Department installed 134 new, solar-powered, parking pay stations that replaced traditional on-street parking meters downtown, conserving 2.1 tons of CO2 emissions per year. The new Pay stations accept both coins and credit cards, communicate in multiple languages and provide customers with a receipt for every transaction.



BEST NEW OFFICE

Travis Collaborative Building

The two-story brick structure was built in 1907 as a Parochial School and was purchased in 2009 with the intention to convert the property to a new use as professional offices. The building houses the corporate offices of Lopez Salas Architects, Inc., the Sabinal Group Contractors & the Sabinal Collaborative, a Design-Build Company.



WILD CARD

BEST Place for a Downtown Wedding

Hotel Contessa and Marriage Island

Brides and grooms from all over the world find San Antonio and the RiverWalk one of the most romantic locations to say "I do...", and the Hotel Contessa is perfectly positioned next to Marriage Island to provide the ideal setting for both weddings and receptions of all sizes. Legend has it that couples who tie the knot here will be blessed with a long, happy and prosperous marriage!



BEST HOTEL RESTAURANT

Las Ramblas & Cork Bar at Hotel Contessa

Anchored by Executive Chef Brian West, the restaurant is known for its Latin cuisine and Mediterranean appearance. With its sister bar, both have been excellent community partners, hosting a number of special events designed to showcase the unique venue and creative food and drink offerings while benefitting various causes.



WILD CARD

BEST Green Award - Solar San Antonio

This new downtown office is a non-profit advocacy and resource center for renewable and sustainable energy applications. Utilizing community education and outreach, they strive to decrease energy costs and improve the quality of life in San Antonio and South Texas. They lead by example with the greenest office space downtown has to offer that features bamboo flooring, energy-star appliances, and even a renewable "Energy Enforcer" on staff.