



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Downtown Partnership Announces Alonzo Award Winners**

*Event recognizes the champions of Downtown's ongoing transformation*

DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO – Before a crowd of almost 800, the Downtown San Diego Partnership tonight will honor the very best of Downtown at its 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Alonzo Awards Dinner.

The Alonzo Awards, named after Alonzo Horton considered the father of modern San Diego, are designed to recognize those who are fueling Downtown's revitalization with innovative programs and projects.

In fact, this year's Alonzo Awards winners represent more than \$500 million in investment, both public and private, in Downtown and represent the addition of nearly 1,000 jobs. (The jobs number does not include the thousands of part- and full-time drivers for Uber, which is one of the winners listed below.)

Kris Michell, president and CEO of the Partnership, said the Alonzo Awards shine a light on all the great things happening in Downtown and highlight the importance of a vibrant urban core to the entire region.

"This year's Alonzo winners are delivering on our goals to create a world-class Downtown," Michell said. "From our growing innovation economy to our thriving cultural scene, Downtown is designed to ensure San Diego remains globally competitive, attracting the talent and companies we need to move our region forward."

**The 2014 Alonzo Awards winners are:**

### **Sustainable Business Practices Award: Irvine Company Office Properties**

This award recognizes a company for going above and beyond to create a sustainable future for our Downtown. The Irvine Company, a private real estate company with commercial properties in Downtown, has completed more than 70 energy-saving projects including installation of electric-charging stations, LED lighting upgrades and state-of-the-art heating and cooling systems. Because of those efforts, Irvine Company saves approximately 13.5 million kilowatts per hour in its Downtown office buildings. In fact, 18 of Irvine Company's buildings throughout San Diego have LEED certification, including six Silver, 11 Gold and one Platinum. Irvine's efforts extend to water sustainability with conservation initiatives that have saved more than 19 million gallons.

### **Vic Kops Humanitarian Award: The San Diego Police Department's Homeless Outreach Team**

This award is presented in recognition of humanitarian efforts that have enriched and improved our Downtown. The San Diego Police Department's Homeless Outreach Team, in conjunction with mental health workers from the County of San Diego's Health and Human Services Agency, is on the frontlines of the effort to end homelessness in Downtown. Day in and day out, the HOT Team, as it is known, walks the streets offering help and direction to those looking to reclaim their lives. The HOT Team also works closely with the Downtown Partnership's Clean & Safe homeless outreach workers to ensure they have the support and resources they need to help people off the street and into housing.

### **Build Your Business Award: Emmes Realty Services of California, LLC**

This award is given in recognition of a company that has worked to ensure that Downtown is a vibrant economic center. Emmes understands that in today's world your office must be more than a place of work – it must be a place of inspiration. In the last 22 months, Emmes has purchased four iconic buildings in Downtown San Diego, including 1 Columbia Place, 2 Columbia Place, 701 B St. (Merrill Lynch building) and 707 Broadway (Chase Building). To lure more cutting-edge companies to Downtown, Emmes spent \$18 million – more than \$10 million on the common areas – in its renovation of 1 Columbia Place, improving the lobby, terraces and adding street-facing retail.

### **Made to Move Award: Uber San Diego**

This award is presented in recognition of a company that has helped make it easier to get to and around Downtown. Uber San Diego is part of a next-generation technology company that is changing the way the world moves by seamlessly connecting riders and drivers. With the tap of a button, your ride arrives in minutes with a variety of offerings across price points, including uberX, UberLUX, UberBLACK and UberSUV. From its founding in 2009 to launches in more than 210 cities today, Uber's rapidly expanding global presence continues to bring people and their cities together. Uber's mission is to make cities and neighborhoods like Downtown San Diego more accessible for locals and travelers alike, offering more options for riders and more business for drivers.

### **Create the Vibe Award: SILO in Makers Quarter**

This award is given in recognition of efforts to foster a distinctive and creative culture in Downtown. SILO, a dirt lot on the corner of 15<sup>th</sup> and F streets, is helping shape the future of East Village, one event at a time. From live outdoor theater and film festivals, to rotating art and mural installations, to regular Food Truck Friday events and BYOW (Bring Your Own Work) Wednesdays, SILO is partnering with the community to create a neighborhood for tomorrow. Using the tenets of tactical urbanism, SILO is has become a magnet for artists and makers, dreamers and doers – and anyone else who is looking for a cool place to hang out and be a part of Downtown’s future in the making.

### **Make Your Place Award: FORM15, Holland Partner Group**

This award is in recognition of efforts to bolster Downtown’s distinct urban neighborhoods. FORM15 is a new six-story, 242-unit apartment building located at Market and 15<sup>th</sup> Street, right in the heart of East Village. With a variety of floor plans from boho studios to luxurious three-bedroom apartments, FORM15 offers something for everyone looking for a modern urban lifestyle. Amenities include a landscaped pool deck, outdoor fireplace, two-level fitness center, bicycle storage and electric car charging stations. The rooftop deck also features a built-in kitchen, lush gardens and a panoramic view of Downtown.

### **Founder’s Award: County Supervisor Ron Roberts, County Waterfront Park**

This award is in recognition of career-spanning visionary leadership to better Downtown San Diego. Since its opening in May 2014, the County Waterfront Park has made an indelible impact on Downtown, luring thousands of visitors on a monthly basis. The 12-acre park features expansive greens, innovative play structures, areas for quiet contemplation as well as the now-iconic 830-foot-long fountain that runs the length of the park. The fountain uses recirculated water and features jets that shoot water 14 feet into the air. County Supervisor Ron Roberts was the driving force behind the County Waterfront Park and worked closely with his colleagues on the Board of Supervisors and County Administrator Helen Robbins-Meyer to ensure the \$49 million project became a reality – on time and on budget.

In addition, Volunteer of the Year awards will be given out at tonight’s dinner.

The event is being held at the **San Diego Marriott Marquis & Marina**, which is located at **333 W. Harbor Drive in Downtown**. The reception begins at 5:30 p.m. and the program begins at 7 p.m.

For videos of tonight’s winners, please visit:

<https://www.dropbox.com/home/2014%20Alonzo%20Awards%20Winner%20Videos>

For still pictures of tonight’s winners, please visit:

<https://www.hightail.com/download/UIRRdFdUY1M0b0QwZXNUQw>