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CREATE THE FUTURE AWARDS

THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 2022



CREATE THE FUTURE AWARDS

Honoring the doers, builders, helpers, and innovators
driving the future of our Downtown.

Thursday, March 24, 2022

5:00 p.m.

Check-in & Welcome Cocktail Reception

6:45 p.m.

Dinner & Program

MASTER OF CEREMONIES

Troy Johnson

Publisher and Chief Content Officer

San Diego Magazine

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Government Elected Official of the Year Award

Presented to a government elected official from the city, county or state in recognition of their work to ensure Downtown is a vibrant and dynamic economic center.

Government Partner of the Year Award

Presented to an individual from a city, county, state, or other government partner in recognition of their work to ensure Downtown is a vibrant and dynamic economic center.

Small Business of the Year Award

Presented to a small business that has gone above and beyond in their commitment to the Downtown community over the past year, representing the growth, vibrancy and diversity of our Downtown.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Award

Presented to a company or organization in recognition of their active steps to build a more diverse, inclusive, and equitable climate within their organization and/or community.

Grow Urban Award

Presented to an organization that is leading by example in commitment to environmental excellence, initiatives that support sustainability, or adding green spaces in Downtown San Diego.

Cultural Vitality Award

Presented in recognition of contributions to the vibrancy of Downtown San Diego's communities and culture.

Economic Prosperity Award

Presented in recognition of efforts to advance, secure, or introduce innovative ideas to Downtown San Diego's economy.

Vic Kops Humanitarian Award

Presented to an individual or organization in recognition of humanitarian efforts that have enriched and improved our urban center.

The Jim Dawe Memorial Volunteer of the Year Award

Presented to an individual who has gone above and beyond in their volunteer service to benefit our Downtown, its neighborhoods, and its residents.

Create the Future Award

Presented in recognition of efforts that have or will enhance Downtown's unique live, work, play environment and continue to enhance our urban core.

Founders Award

Presented in recognition of career-spanning visionary leadership to better Downtown San Diego.



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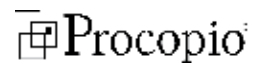
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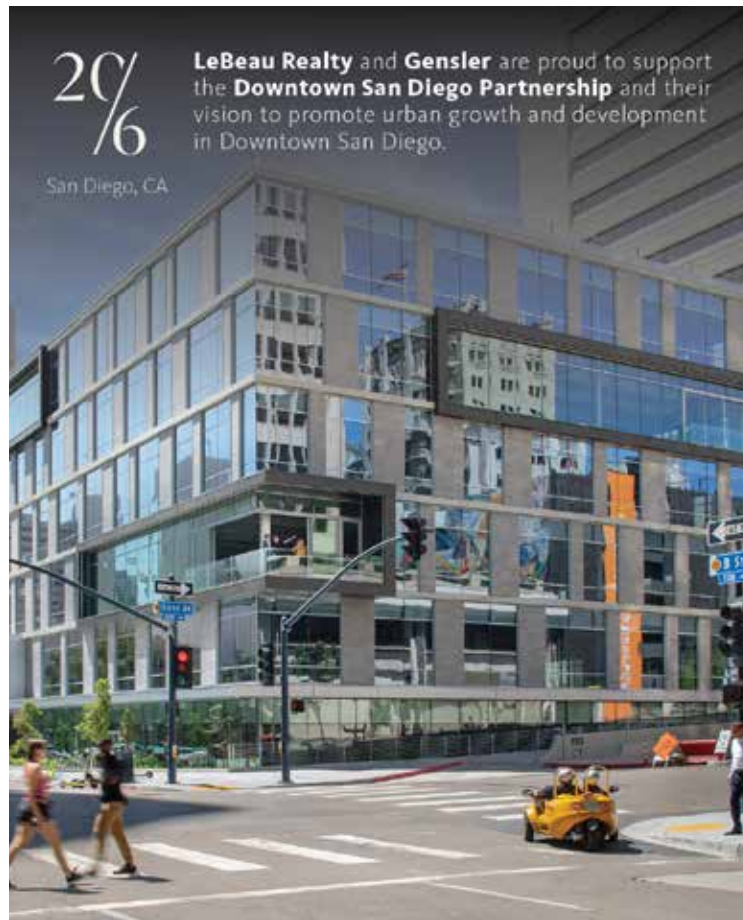
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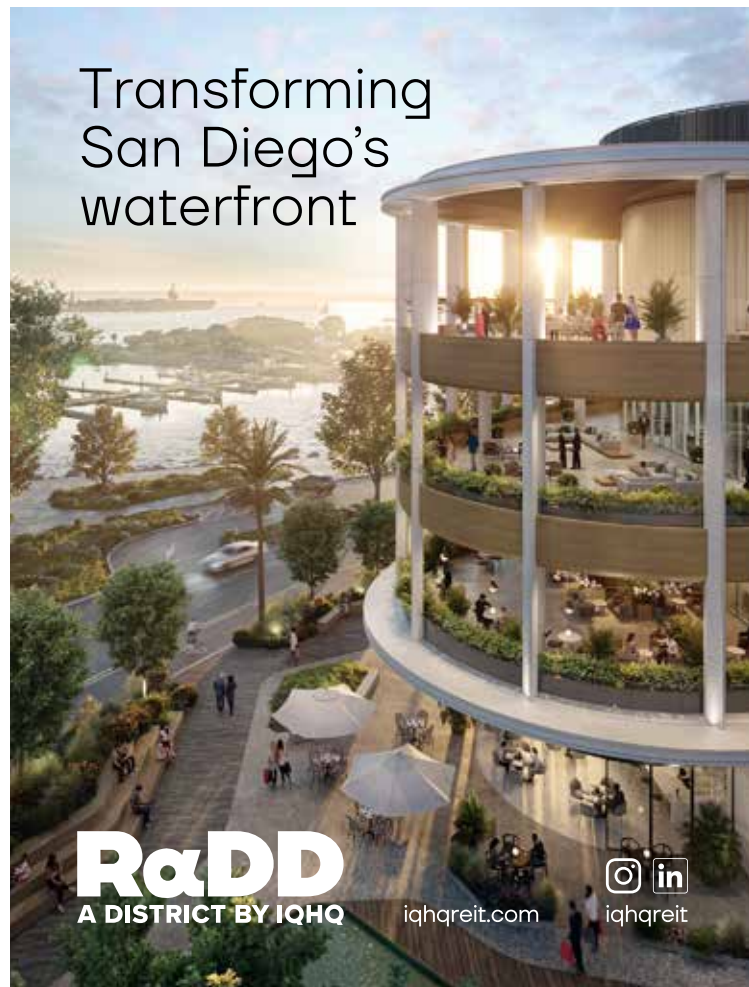
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Government Elected Official of the Year Award

Chair, Nathan Fletcher, Board of Supervisors, San Diego County, District 4

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As the pandemic presented a constant ebb and flow of new challenges, San Diego County Board of Supervisors Chair, Nathan Fletcher's continued effort to lead the region's COVID-19 response never wavered. Chair Fletcher is ushering a new generation of progressive policy making which includes transforming our approach to behavioral and mental health programs. His work to launch and expand the new Mobile Crisis Response Team (MCRT) filled a critical missing piece in connecting those in need of behavioral health, mental health, or substance abuse issues to services. MCRT is also one way Chair Fletcher is expanding the County's role in ways to assist our unsheltered population. The Downtown community is appreciative of Chair Fletcher's leadership to create innovative solutions that benefit not only Downtown, but the entire region.



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Government Partner of the Year Award

Christina Bibler, Director, Economic Development, City of San Diego

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Christina Bibler is an award-winning, local government, and nonprofit leader, and has been extremely supportive of Downtown's urban neighborhoods in her time as the Economic Development Director for the City of San Diego. Under her leadership, the Economic Development Department has been instrumental in initiatives to further the Downtown Partnership's mission to advance the economic prosperity and cultural vitality of Downtown including the Downtown Innovation Center and the 2021 Demographic Study. Christina brings an expertise in economic development best practices and an enthusiasm for making San Diego's urban center the best that it can be that make her a true partner in creating the bright future for Downtown.



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Small Business of the Year Award

Old Gallery Coffee House & Swami's Cafe

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It's no secret the hospitality industry was hit hard by COVID-19 and Old Gallery Coffee House in the City Center neighborhood was no exception. When all the surrounding offices were sent home, business at this family-owned restaurant was so scarce they thought they might have to close their doors. But they were determined to stay open to continue serving Downtown's essential workers and, as fate would have it, things started to turn around. Despite people still working from home, regular customers drove all the way to Downtown to support one of their favorite local restaurants. As business started to recover, the opportunity to open another restaurant a few doors down became available and Swami's Cafe Downtown came to life. Today, both restaurants continue to have a positive impact on the Downtown community thanks to the support of loyal customers and new faces.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Award

David's Harp Foundation

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Music, learning, and community find a welcome home in the Downtown studio of the David's Harp Foundation, which has been bringing at-risk youth together through the arts since 2007. Their mission is to inspire, educate, and empower system-affected and homeless youth to achieve academic success through music education, sound engineering, and multimedia production. Simply stated, they trade youth in the community their good grades and behavior for recording studio time. What began as an idea in a converted garage has gone on to impact the lives of 600 homeless, incarcerated, and foster youth as well as youth in the juvenile probation system from within the welcoming walls of their studio in the East Village. The community-based organization was recently awarded \$1 million to continue their critical work investing in the young people they serve to give them the greatest opportunity for success.

Grow Urban Award

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Kilroy Realty's 2100 Kettner has emerged as a shining example of sustainable real estate development in Downtown San Diego and a property truly designed to "Grow Urban." Designed in partnership with Gensler architects, the seven-story low rise is San Diego's most sustainable mixed-use commercial real estate development, showcasing the latest technology, design, and materials to reduce energy consumption and provide a healthy working environment within the Little Italy neighborhood. The all-electric building features multiple environmental systems to enhance overall performance including a bioclimatic façade to minimize temperature variation and maintain energy efficiency, rooftop solar that provides renewable power to the building, and a green roof / terrace system which contributes to the cooling of interior spaces. The project is targeting LEED Platinum certification for 2022 through the U.S. Green Building Council and WELL certification through the International Well Building Institute.



Cultural Vitality Award

The San Diego Symphony's Rady Shell at Jacobs Park

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This architectural wonder on the edge of San Diego Bay and the heart of Downtown has been years in the making. The Rady Shell at Jacobs Park is the soaring culmination of a long-time civic desire to have a state-of-the-art concert venue that elevates the experience of live music while also serving as a public center for all of San Diego. The outdoor, year-round venue's impact will reverberate — culturally and economically — for decades to come and is primed to rival some of the most iconic outdoor venues like the Hollywood Bowl and Red Rocks Amphitheatre. Downtown is proud to add this gem to its vibrant cultural and arts scene.



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Economic Prosperity Award

Seaport Village Revitalization

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The successful transformation of Seaport Village is a result of close collaboration between the Port of San Diego, Protea Properties, and SLP Urban Planning. With nearly \$8 million in operational and financial investments made by the Port of San Diego, which took ownership of Seaport Village in 2018, the partners revamped the destination through community engagement, placemaking, human-centered design, and integrated communications. In addition to new activations, refreshed design, and other thoughtful changes, the foundation of a human-centered design approach led

to upgrades to the open space and public realm. The success of this effort is evident as occupancy increased from 65% to 95% occupancy in a short two years, retained local businesses, and demonstrated >100% increase in engagement on social media. Throughout it all, the vision — to create an attractive and fun waterfront destination for locals and tourists alike — guided the efforts, big or small. The interim activation efforts proved the sky's the limit for the future of San Diego's waterfront.

Vic Kops Humanitarian Award

San Diego Convention Center

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In 2020 and 2021, the San Diego Convention Center transformed its halls to meet a series of urgent humanitarian needs, first as an adult homeless shelter in support of Operation Shelter to Home, and then as an emergency shelter for unaccompanied migrant children. In the convention center's role as a temporary shelter for unaccompanied migrant children, more than 2,400 children and teens were reunited with family or moved into sponsor homes by the time the intake site closed in the summer of 2021. Supported by SBCS and partner organizations, each child was provided with comprehensive case management, medical and behavioral health care, educational and recreational activities, nutritious meals, access to hygiene products, and legal assistance. As only the second large facility in the nation to provide shelter capacity for unaccompanied children at the time, the convention center served as a national model for other facilities across the country that answered the federal government's call for assistance.



The Jim Dawe Memorial Volunteer of the Year Award

Friends of Tweet Street Park


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Joe Ciavarella volunteered his time for five years cleaning and maintaining the upkeep of Tweet Street Park, located on the upper side of Cortez Hill. In early 2016, Joe contacted his city council representative about the declining condition of the neighborhood linear park. Due to limited City Parks & Recreation capacity, Joe took matters into his own hands and began cleaning the park himself. Neighbors took notice and joined his efforts by cleaning or donating plants and funds to improve the park. Together they founded Friends of Tweet Street. Joe and the volunteers of Tweet Street Park organized and marketed fundraising activities via social media, managed the budget, worked with the Downtown San Diego Partnership Clean & Safe team to maintain and improve the park, organized community clean ups with help from the Clean & Safe team, and ultimately restored and beautified their linear park into a neighborhood jewel. The park would not be what it is today without Joe and the volunteers.



Create the Future Award

Park and Market Mixed-Use Development

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With its creative use of space, the Park and Market Mixed-Use Development combines Downtown's unique live/work/play lifestyle all in one city block in the East Village. Park and Market features a complementary mix of public and private uses including housing, office/classroom, retail, public space, and entertainment — all made possible by Carrier Johnson + CULTURE, UC San Diego, NASH and Holland Partner Group. The project supports the region's critical need for housing and fostering inclusive neighborhoods with a 34-story residential tower boasting 426 apartment units, 20 percent of which are affordable units. Additional uses foster community connectivity including UC San Diego's new Downtown campus — 'a flagship for future innovation' - which is housed in a four-story stand-alone building; retail space that will serve the neighborhood, and a themed public plaza and amphitheater that provide a gathering and performance space for the entire community. Park and Market is a shining example of a successful transit-oriented, inclusive, mixed-use redevelopment in Downtown San Diego.

CREATE THE FUTURE AWARDS

2022 AWARD RECIPIENTS

Founders Award

Mary L. Walshok, PhD

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Dr. Mary Walshok is a highly respected thought leader and subject matter expert on aligning management and leadership strategies with workforce development to support regional economic growth. Dr. Walshok served for nearly 40 years as Dean of UC San Diego Extension overseeing continuing education and public programming programs that educated more than 100,000 enrollees annually — translating to more than 30,000 students in over 4,400 courses.

An adjunct professor of sociology, Dr. Walshok has authored six books and more than 100 articles, reports and book chapters on regional innovation, workforce development and the role of research institutions in regional economies. Her accolades are many and most recently includes the highest award for service to the society and the economy presented by the Royal Swedish Academy of Engineering and Economic Sciences.

Currently, she is the Associate Vice Chancellor for Public Programs at UC San Diego spearheading the development of the university's first major presence in Downtown, at UC San Diego Park & Market. Dr. Walshok is responsible for UC San Diego's major campus outreach initiative for the development, financing, and programming of the Downtown facility. She is an unwavering champion for this endeavor's role as a platform for collaborative projects between UC San Diego and the greater San Diego community across multiple disciplines, including performing and visual arts, social sciences, health and medicine, science and engineering, and executive and continuing education. Once launched, the center will be an integral part of UCSD Division of Extended Studies future and a testament to the environment for innovation and connection that is emerging Downtown.

CONGRATULATIONS DSDP FOR ANOTHER YEAR OF LEADING NEW INITIATIVES AND ENHANCING OUR DOWNTOWN EXPERIENCES.



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would like to thank the Events Committee for their hard work and dedication
to the Create the Future Awards

Thank You!

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A dark blue-tinted photograph of the downtown San Diego skyline at dusk or dawn. The buildings are silhouetted against a lighter sky, with some lights visible on the structures. The overall mood is professional and urban.

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