



PRESS RELEASE

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Downtown San Diego Partnership Recognizes 2024 Create the Future Awards Recipients

Annual Awards Program recognizes the people, projects, and initiatives driving the bright future of Downtown

SAN DIEGO – March 7, 2024 –The 2024 Create the Future Awards brought together visionaries and innovators who are shaping the trajectory of Downtown San Diego. The event highlighted milestone projects, groundbreaking initiatives, and creative endeavors aimed at enhancing the Downtown experience.

This year, eight awards were presented to deserving recipients thanks to support from title sponsor OUTFRONT Media and presenting sponsors US Bank and SDGE. These awards recognized exceptional achievements and contributions within the realm of urban development, innovation, and community enrichment.

Among the highlights of the evening, The Downtown San Diego Partnership proudly shared some of the successes it has accomplished, demonstrating their continued commitment to making a positive impact on the community. It was a celebration of shared achievements and a testament to the collective effort to create a vibrant and thriving Downtown environment.

Awards were presented to the following recipients in each category:

- The **Founders Award**, sponsored by Jack McGrory, was presented to businessman and civic leader, Malin Burnham, for his legacy of achievements and contributions to the development of San Diego's urban center.

- The **Government Partner of the Year Award**, sponsored by Ace Parking, was presented to the Director of the City of San Diego's Department of Homelessness Strategies and Solutions, Sarah Jarman, for her unyielding advocacy and leadership behind recent and tangible progress made on homelessness in Downtown.
- The **Small Business Impact Award**, sponsored by Clark Construction, was presented to Hey Sugar! for their commitment to community development and exemplifying the positive influence that a small business can have on a vibrant urban environment.
- The **Grow Urban Sustainability Award**, sponsored by Republic Services, was presented to Campus at Horton for its urban sustainability and redefining adaptive reuse by transforming the iconic Horton Plaza into an innovation hub for the surrounding neighborhoods.
- The **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Award**, sponsored by Bank of America, was presented to the San Diego Chinese Historical Museum for their work to educate and inspire by preserving and celebrating the richness of Chinese history, art, and culture in the Downtown community.
- The **Cultural Vitality Award**, sponsored by Amerivet Contracting, was presented to the Children's Park for promoting a healthy urban environment with a more vibrant and active outdoor destination to serve people from all over San Diego.
- The **Jim Dawe Humanitarian Award**, sponsored by San Diego State University's Division of Research and Innovation, was presented to the late owner of the San Diego Padres, Peter Seidler, for his leadership in enhancing support for undeserved communities and his transformative impact on the people of San Diego.
- The **Create the Future Award**, sponsored by Cox Communications, was presented to the Gaslamp Promenade on 5th for creating a walkable destination for social connections, conversation, dining, and entertainment.

Please [click here](#) to view the Create the Future Awards program for more information about each awardee, sponsors and more.

To learn more about the Downtown Partnership, visit downtownsandiego.org.

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*The **Downtown San Diego Partnership** is a nonprofit organization that serves as the principal voice and driving force behind the economic and cultural prosperity of Downtown San Diego through membership, advocacy, and public services. It also serves as the managing organization for several special districts including the Property and Business Improvement District, otherwise*

known as the Clean & Safe program, which provides enhanced public services in the 275 blocks of Downtown. For more information, visit downtownsandiego.org.