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10/12 Honor Roll 10/12 Magazine - Online

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2010 SMPS SeLABration Award winners announced

Southeast Louisiana Architecture, Engineering and Construction industry marketers, principals and other professionals gathered at the Westin Canal Place in New Orleans to celebrate the “best-of-the-best” in marketing for the local A/E/C industry. Marketing award winners included Mary Perrin and Cindy Nuesslein, vice presidents of operations, Children’s Hospital of New Orleans, Client of the Year; Erin Shaw, FH Myers, Member of the Year; Sizeler Thompson Brown Architects, Member Firm of the year; RHINO: Recipes Homemade in New Orleans Cookbook, Durr Heavy Construction, Community Project of the Year; and Stacey Schexnayder, Sizeler Thompson Brown Architects, Hall of Fame.

RSD receives national award for building green

The Recovery School District has received the U.S. Green Building Council 2010 Leadership Award, which recognizes organizations and individuals showing their vision and leadership, as well as their commitment to the evolution of green building design and construction. The RSD is specifically recognized for its "steadfast commitment to rebuilding healthy, high-performing schools for the New Orleans community." Ramsey Green, RSD chief operating officer, and Lona Hankins, RSD director of capital improvements, accepted the award during the USGBC 2010 Greenbuild International Conference & Expo in Chicago. The RSD has made rebuilding sustainably after Katrina a priority, committing to build all public schools to a minimum of the Leadership in Environmental and Energy Design (LEED) Silver Certificate standard. When Phase 1 of the School Facilities Master Plan is completed in 2013, there will be 17 new and 13 renovated LEED Silver schools. The first of those schools opened in August 2009. Five schools have been completed and construction is beginning on eight schools.

Nola No. 1 for nightlife

Travel + Leisure recently announced that New Orleans was voted the No. 1 urban destination in the country for New Year’s Eve, Neighborhood Joints and Cafés, People-Watching, Singles/Bar Scene, Cocktail Hour and the overall category of Nightlife in the 2010 America’s Favorite Cities survey. After taking top honors in the 2009 survey for Nightlife, New Orleans was once again named the best city for Nightlife, receiving a No. 1 ranking from visitors and residents for the Cocktail Hour and Singles/Bar Scene subcategories.

Baton Rouge author featured in USA Today

Baton Rouge cookbook author Holly Clegg’s Trim & Terrific Diabetic Cooking was featured in a USA Today article on “Holiday dishes fit for a diabetic” earlier this month. The newspaper asked a diabetes doctor, a dietitian and a diabetes patient to test some of the recipes and provide reviews. Only five cookbooks were featured. Clegg’s trim&TERRIFIC series includes 14 cookbooks and has led her to appearances on Fox & Friends, NBC Weekend Today Show, The 700 Club, D-Life on CNBC, QVC, Walmart’s website and a variety of local TV programming nationwide.

Corridor firms win eWards

The Louisiana Technology Council has announced the best and the brightest among technology firms in Southeast Louisiana. The organization has bestowed its annual eWards on top-performing individuals and firms in the 10-parish greater New Orleans area. Winner for Outstanding Leadership in Technology was Aaron Miscenich of the BioInnovation Center for being the driving force in creating both a logistic and collaborative environment to build a biotechnology

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industry in New Orleans. Growth Company of the Year is AXI Education Solutions of Mandeville, which creates interactive, research programs for the classroom. AXI has grown from just three to 48 employees, and revenues will approach \$15 million by the end of the year. Technology Product of the Year is Touch Studios' App Maker. The award for Best Application of Technology went to Geocent, whose OpenCOP software provided BP and the State of Louisiana real-time situational analysis and awareness of activities that supported the Governor's Office of Homeland Security in their response to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. The Coup d' Tech Award went to Covington-based TCA Cellular Therapy. And the Special Award for Lifetime Achievement in Education went to Russ Trahan, former dean of the University of New Orleans College of Engineering.

LSU School of Landscape Architecture receives top national rankings

LSU's Robert Reich School of Landscape Architecture has the best undergraduate program in the nation, according to national rankings released by DesignIntelligence, the leading journal of the design professions. In addition, the school's graduate program is ranked No. 2 in the nation, according to the 2010 survey. The school has consistently ranked among the top 5 programs in the country since the rankings were devised nearly a decade ago.

Randy Bracey, president of the Tangipahoa Economic Development District, presents the TEDD award for Major Contribution to the Economy of Tangipahoa Parish to Neil Sweet, president of Bradken Industries Amite, also known as Amite Foundry, during the TEDD's quarterly meeting earlier this month.

Builders association names new president

Kenneth Adams II, owner and president of Integrity Builders, has been elected as the 2010-2011 president of the St. Tammany/Washington Parishes Home Builders Association. Adams, a New Orleans native, has been a resident of St. Tammany Parish since 1990. Integrity Builders specializes in residential and commercial construction, as well as land development. Adams has served on the Home Builders Association's board of directors for the past seven years and was named a Life Director in 2009.

LOL instructor named 2010 Educator of the Year

Our Lady of the Lake College (Baton Rouge) professor Suzanne Howard Carpenter, Ph.D., R.N., C.N.E., was named the 2010 Educator of the Year by the National Organization for Associate Degree Nurses (N-OADN) at its national convention in Atlanta. Dr. Carpenter has a reputation for innovation in the classroom. Her recent work using streaming videos and online case study blogs to support classroom learning was well received at two conferences. She has received additional nursing awards during her career including the American Association of Critical Care Nurses "Excellence in Caring Practices Award" and the Baton Rouge District Nurses Association "Outstanding Nurse Award."

Prairieville rep honored by Northwestern Mutual

Northwestern Mutual honored Prairieville-based financial representative Jeffery J. King with its 2010 Forum Award, recognizing an outstanding year of helping clients throughout the region achieve financial security. King, affiliated with Northwestern Mutual Of Louisiana based in Baton Rouge, joins a distinguished group of representatives from across the country who have qualified for the honor. The winners were recognized at a conference earlier this month.

Largest law firms

For the eighth consecutive year, Adams and Reese has ranked among the nation's 250 largest law firms, according to The National Law Journal's 33rd annual "NLJ 250." The 2010 NLJ 250 is based on attorney census information covering the period between Oct. 1, 2009, and Sept. 30, 2010, which was provided by the nation's 300 largest firms. Adams and Reese, against the NLJ trend, increased its attorney count from 257 in 2009 to 265 in 2010 to hold and move up a spot to

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Best Lawyers list

Best Lawyers, the oldest and most respected peer-review publication in the legal profession, has named five shareholders of Liskow & Lewis PLC as “ Best Lawyers Lawyer of the Year” for 2011: Donald R. Abaunza, Maritime; Robert E. Holden, Environmental; George H. Robinson Jr., Energy; Lawrence P. Simon Jr., Natural Resources; and John D. Wogan, Banking.

Best Lawyers also named Robert K. McCalla to the list for 2011 in the labor & employment category. McCalla is a senior partner at the New Orleans office of Fisher & Phillips, a national labor and employment law firm.

Service earns Dexcomm national award

Dexcomm, based in Carencro, is the recipient of the exclusive 2010 Canadian Call Management Association (CAM-X) Award of Excellence for the third consecutive year. The award is presented annually by CAM-X, the industry’s trade association for providers of call center services including telephone answering and message delivery. Independent judges are contracted by CAM-X to evaluate message services over a six-month period. The criteria for scoring include courtesy, response time, accuracy and overall service to their clients.

Hammond Square earns design recognition

Hammond Square, Stirling Properties’ power lifestyle center located in Hammond, was selected as a finalist for The International Council of Shopping Centers’ 2010 United States Design and Development Awards. These awards recognize outstanding achievement in design and development of retail properties and retail store design and are given for the following categories: Renovation or Expansion of an Existing Project, Innovative Design and Development of a New Project, and Retail Store Design. Hammond Square is a finalist for best renovation or expansion of an existing project for retail space over 500,000 square feet. The eight finalists were judged by a jury of leading industry experts. The top performers in each category will be announced at ICSC’s CenterBuild Conference in December.

LSU Vet professor honored

Dr. John Hawke, a professor in the Department of Pathobiological Sciences at the LSU Veterinary School, received the S.F. Snieszko Distinguished Service Award at the Sixth International Symposium on Aquatic Animal Health in Tampa this fall. The Snieszko Award is the highest award in the Fish Health Section, presented for the purpose of honoring individuals for outstanding accomplishments in the field of aquatic animal health.

Baker Donelson lawyer heads conference

Paul S. West of the law firm Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz PC served as chair of the 2010 annual conference of the International Association of Gaming Advisors and the International Association of Gaming Regulators. Held in October in Washington, D.C., the conference was attended by more than 300 gaming advisers, regulators, casino executives, financial experts and others in the gaming industry. West, who is president of the IAGA, serves as the Louisiana vice chair of Baker Donelson’s Gaming Industry Service Team.

New Orleans CVB recognized for excellence

The New Orleans Convention & Visitors Bureau has been recognized by two major meeting publications and meeting professionals for outstanding client service. Meetings & Conventions magazine subscribers awarded the New Orleans CVB with the 2010 Gold Service Award. The magazine has recognized New Orleans with this award consistently since

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1984, making 2010 the 27th consecutive time that New Orleans has earned it. In addition, Insurance & Financial Meetings Management announced that the New Orleans CVB is a 2010 winner of the World Class Award for excellence in serving the meeting industry.

BRAF named top foundation

The Baton Rouge Area Foundation has been named the top foundation in the country by the Association of Fundraising Professionals. This is the second year in a row a corridor foundation has won the honor; the Greater New Orleans Foundation earned the prize last year. BRAF was selected for outstanding commitment to financial support and to encouragement and motivation of others to take leadership roles in philanthropy. BRAF will be honored at the AFP Conference in Chicago in March. BRAF has \$530 million in assets and works on connecting philanthropists with nonprofit groups as well as investing and managing projects that can improve the community.

Web firm provides solution to national nonprofit

Hurricane Katrina's wake of devastation prompted Juli Miller Hart and Charlotte Nordyke to found Projects With Purpose—a national organization that harnessed the unprecedented volunteer response in order to meet the most pressing demand in New Orleans, housing. K-fx² Inc., a Baton Rouge-based new media design firm, contributed to the group's community restoration and volunteer-based mission by fabricating a new website, www.projectswithpurpose.com. K-fx² provided Projects With Purpose with innovative web design tools and an interactive resource that enables implementation of volunteer events for businesses across the country to support nonprofit organizations.

Dupré receives awards for safety performance

The American Trucking Association presented Dupré Logistics of Lafayette with three awards recognizing the company's outstanding commitment to safety, plus top honors in the form of the President's Trophy, at the ATA Safety Management Council's Safety & Human Resources National Conference & Exhibition in Rogers, Ark. Safety awards received included Improvement in Safety Performance (2009), second place for Industrial Safety Improvement in Reduction of Injuries throughout Dupré's Energy Distribution Group and first place in the Site Group for Industrial Safety Improvement in Reduction of Injuries. Dupré also received the prestigious President's Trophy in the 25-100 million mile class.

ULL MBA program joins top 300

The MBA program at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette is one of the best in the nation, according to The Princeton Review. The education services company features UL Lafayette in the new 2011 edition of its book, *The Best 300 Business Schools*, published by Random House. The book has two-page profiles of each school with write-ups on each school's academics, student life and admissions process. More than 19,000 students from the 300 schools were surveyed for the listings.

LED honors EXCELERANT

Louisiana Economic Development and the United States Small Business Administration presented Lafayette-based EXCELERANT, formerly known as The Training Source LLC, with a 2010 Louisiana Small Business Award – Small & Emerging Business Development Outstanding Client. Nominated by Heidi Melancon, small and emerging business consultant with the Louisiana Small Business Development Center at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, EXCELERANT embodies what the SBDC Client Award stands for—entrepreneurship that creates and sustains quality jobs in Louisiana. Since 2003, EXCELERANT has evolved from a two-person enterprise of training and business development to a five-person partnership company that is an industry leader and innovator for organizational leadership and executive development.

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SME-GBR announces Marketer of the Year honorees

Sales and Marketing Executives of Greater Baton Rouge announced the 2010 honorees for its prestigious Marketer of the Year Award. The 2010 honorees were Scott Berg with Lee Michaels Fine Jewelry; Steve Boutwell with Kean Miller; Melanie Clark with Baton Rouge Coca-Cola; John D' Angelo with Investar Bank; Dick Lewis with Clear Channel Radio; Mike Manning with the Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank; Amy Mitchell-Smith with the Baton Rouge Film Commission; Miriam Overton with the Baton Rouge Symphony Orchestra; and Jeff Wright with Wright Feigley Communications. The 2010 Student Marketer of the Year is John Jarred Kelley. Fred Reno with WBRZ was the second person ever to be honored with the Nell Mitchell Doughty Lifetime Achievement Award.

SPRF honors top work

The Southern Public Relations Federation recognized outstanding work in the field of public relations during its Lantern Awards ceremony this fall in Baton Rouge. Awards, including Certificates of Merit, Awards of Excellence and Lantern Awards, were given in 25 categories. From those, the judges also selected the Best of Show Award and two Judges' Awards. The Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce received the William A. Taylor Best of Show Award for its 2010 Annual Meeting, also a winner in the Special Events, over \$20,000, category. Judges' Awards were given to Tupelo Convention and Visitors Bureau for its internal video entry, "Tupelo's Amazing Race." The second Judges' Award went to the Windsor Court Hotel for its Special Events, Under \$20,000, entry, "New Orleans Characters." Award of Excellence winners included the BREC Communications Department (Baton Rouge), East Baton Rouge Parish School System, Louisiana Lottery Corp., Audubon Nature Institute, East Baton Rouge Sheriff's Department, Lewis Graphic Design (Baton Rouge), Our Lady of the Lake Foundation and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Louisiana.

Breazeale, Sachse & Wilson recognized

Breazeale, Sachse & Wilson LLP received top rankings for the Litigation: General Commercial practice area and had four of its attorneys listed in Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business for Louisiana. The BSW attorneys listed in the 2010 edition of Chambers USA include David Cassidy (Corporate/M&A: Tax), Murphy Foster (Labor & Employment) and Claude Reynaud (Litigation: General Commercial). Chambers USA ranks the leading firms and lawyers in an extensive range of practice areas throughout America.

Slidell selected for first-ever Local Arts Index Research Study

The City of Slidell's Department of Cultural & Public Affairs has been selected by Americans for the Arts, the nation's leading nonprofit organization for advancing the arts, to be one of 100 agencies that will participate in the inaugural Local Arts Index. These local arts agencies will be part of an 18-month research initiative that serves as a complement to the National Arts Index. The findings from the Local Arts Index will be reported in fall 2011. The Local Arts Index will be the first county-level study designed to measure the health and vitality of the arts industries throughout the United States. It will use a single methodology utilizing information gathered from research produced by the federal government and private research organizations and covering multiple industries, including nonprofit groups, for-profit arts businesses, employment figures, and more. The Local Arts Index will provide a year-by-year and community-by-community comparison of the nation's arts sector.