

# THE CLOSING

THE HUMAN SIDE OF COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE

## DEEDS



PHOTO COURTESY OF TOM BOWNER

CO Architects' "Melt Away Hunger" won "Honorable Mention" at the 2009 Construction LA design/build competition.

## Can-Do Competition

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The Los Angeles version of "Canstruction" brought 20 tons of food to life in a design/build competition consisting entirely of canned food.

Organized by the Society for Design Administration and supported by the American Institute of Architects of Los Angeles, the fourth annual Canstruction LA collected 60,000 cans that were assembled into various forms, including the juror's favorite, a giant jack-o'-lantern made up of organic canned food, by Gensler and Arup.

"Where the Wild CANS Are" by Morris Architects and Walter P. Moore won the "Structural Ingenuity" award by depicting a character from the movie "Where the Wild Things Are."

CO Architects' "Melt Away Hunger," a giant ice cream cone surrounded by a pool of melting ice cream, won "Honorable Mention."

Food collected at the event was donated to the Los Angeles Regional Foodbank.



Alice Kimm (piano), partner of John Friedman Alice Kimm Architects; Debbie Chung (violin), real estate broker; Doris Sung (cello), principal of dOSu Studio Architecture.

### T-Square to Center Stage

"I consider architecture frozen music."  
— Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Architects participating in Unfrozen Music thawed their talent by shifting their creative abilities to the stage.

Unfrozen Music was a concert featuring nine acts of architects whose performances ranged from chamber music and jazz to indie rock and experimental music.

"Architects are passionate people, and that passion often pours out through multiple channels of expression," said Unfrozen Music's

executive director, Craig Shimahara, of Shimahara Illustration.

Held at the Zipper Concert Hall at the Colburn School, the concert was emceed by Frances Anderton, host of KCRW's Design and Architecture program.

Proceeds of the show were donated to Habitat for Humanity's Lynwood Redevelopment Project.

### Mentor Appreciation

J.R. Parrish of Colliers International's San Jose office celebrated the impact of a dedicated teacher by granting Meril R. Smith a \$10,000 "You Don't Have to Learn the Hard Way" Mentor Appreciation Scholarship.

Smith's award will be used to help fund the Adopt-a-College program he established in 1998 to promote higher education for Edenvale Elementary School students in San Jose.

The former school principal created the program to counter the 43 percent high school dropout rate of the primary school. By establishing a relationship with universities and raising college scholarship funds for former Edenvale students, the program has helped lower the dropout rate to 23 percent. The program has awarded \$323,000 in scholarships to more than 500 students since its inception.

The national scholarship competition was presented in conjunction with the release of Parrish's book, which bears the same name.

Parrish's selection is based on his difficulty reading through elementary school until his sixth grade teacher vowed to teach him.

"Mr. [Gerry] Schmidt literally saved my life and motivated me to stay in school and eventually go to college," Parrish said.

### 'Tis The Season to Organize Early

The Building Owners and Managers Association of Greater Los Angeles kicked off the holiday season in early November with its annual Holiday Toy Drive.

By Nov. 3, BOMA had a sign-up page on its Web site and it began distributing boxes and instructions for interested members to collect toys, food and clothing in their lobbies.

Adding an extra bit of holiday spirit, those who decorated their donation boxes could enter the "Best Decorated Box" contest. The winner will be featured in the next issue of the chapter's BOMA Beat newsletter.

The donations will be distributed to 12 charity organizations in the region, including One Voice, Midnight Mission and Volunteers of America.

Donations will be collected at all locations through Dec. 17, including at the chapter's ChrisMix holiday celebration on Dec. 9.

In 2008, BOMA collected 100,000 toys, three tons of food and 5,000 clothing items in its holiday drive. 🎁

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