

# The Closing

## DEEDS

### L.A. Architects Display 'Can-Do' Spirit

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The Los Angeles "Construction" collected 12 tons of canned food for the Los Angeles Regional Foodbank. Nine teams led by area architects, designers, builders and engineers went head to head in a design-build competition creating giant works of sculptural art made entirely out of canned goods.

At the end of the competition, all of the canned goods items used in the structures, as well as the cans collected as the admission price to view the structures, were distributed among pantries, shelters, soup kitchens, elderly and day care centers.

The Juror's Favorite Award went to "Food for Thought" by Kellefer Flammang Architects, which used silvery sardine cans to construct a rendition of Rodin's "The Thinker." Other award winners include DMJM Design, CO Architects and Johnson Fain Architects. The event was held at the Westfield Fashion Square in Sherman Oaks.

#### Relief for Firestorm Victims

The Building Industry Association of San Diego County teamed up with four Clear Channel radio stations to help residents who are still struggling to rebuild after the destruction of Firestorm 2003. The effort is called Friends of Forgotten Fire Victims, and it coincides with the third anniversary of the fires that started on Oct. 25 and 26.

During September and October, on-air personalities from WSTR 94.1, ROCK 105.3, KOGO AM 600 and US 95.7 encouraged listeners to nominate friends or loved ones who still needed help. The BIA and radio station representatives will pick a nominee from each station to receive a check for \$10,000 from the association. Auction items donated by Shea Homes and Barratt American will generate more proceeds that also can be added to the grant money.

#### BOMA Sponsors Holiday Gift Drives

The San Diego Building Owners & Managers Association is hosting the "Give Your Heart To Kids" Holiday Gift Drive benefiting the Child Abuse Prevention Foundation and the Polinsky Center between Nov. 24 and Dec. 12. Decorated bins will be delivered to BOMA's network of participating office buildings throughout San Diego County for the collection of new and unwrapped gifts. Gifts can be donated for a variety of age groups ranging from newborn to 18. To view a list of donation drop-off locations or for this year's gift drive wish list, visit [www.bomasd.org](http://www.bomasd.org). For more information call (619) 243-1817.

The Building Owners and Managers Association Orange County chapter will host its Holiday

Networking Event and CASA Toy Drive on Dec. 12, from 6 to 9 p.m. Court Appointed Special Advocates provides stability and hope to abused, abandoned and neglected children and also provides training, supervision and on-going support to volunteers who work with children in the foster care system. For the holidays, CASA provides one stuffed animal per child in the system. Bring a stuffed animal to the networking event to help California's foster care children.

The event will take place at Prego at 18420 Von Karman Ave. in Irvine. For more information visit [www.bomaoc.org](http://www.bomaoc.org).

#### Make A Difference Day

LINC Cares, the resident services division of

LINC Housing Corp., co-hosted a special Career Day at the Bartlett Hill Manor with six Frederick P. Rose Architectural Fellows on Oct. 28. The event was part of the 16th annual national "Make a Difference Day," during which millions of Americans across the country spent Saturday doing volunteer projects to improve their communities.

LINC's Rose Fellow Noel Toro joined five other Rose Fellows from around the United States to work directly with 20 youths from 6 to 21. These students are all residents of Bartlett Hill Manor, a LINC-owned affordable apartment complex in the Chinatown district of Los Angeles.

The event included discussions about architecture and the role of architects, "The Home of the Future" project where participants drew their ideas of what a house might be like in the future, and toured two local architectural landmarks — the Walt Disney Concert Hall and the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels.

"A recent study published in Education Week revealed that Los Angeles has the sixth-worst graduation rate among U.S. cities, and the high school drop-out rate hovers at 50 percent," said Toro. "Make a Difference Day" is an opportunity for Rose Fellows and LINC Cares to reach out to students in low-income communities to motivate them to stay in school and succeed in life."

#### Project Playhouses Auctioned for \$250,000

HomeAid Los Angeles/Ventura, the nonprofit arm of the Building Industry Association that builds and renovates shelters for the transitionally homeless, raised more than \$250,000 at its annual Project Playhouse fundraiser.

The five-week event culminated on Oct. 22 at the Project Playhouse auction party, including a live playhouse auction, live gift auction, silent auction, dinner and children's entertainment.

Four playhouses were on display this year at the Lakes at Thousand Oaks, a Caruso Affiliated property, adjacent to the auction party location at the Park of the Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza.

"The playhouses are creative, one-of-a-kind expressions of the homebuilders, architects and interior designers that put them together. It's great to see the children's faces as they explore the playhouse village," said Arlen Miller, president of the board of directors of HomeAid Los Angeles/Ventura.

Three state-of-the-art playhouses went up for auction, and the bidding ranged from \$15,000 to \$32,000.

The Families Choice Award, voted on by the public viewing the playhouses, went to New Urban West and it's Captain Jack's Hideaway. ■

"Food for Thought" by Kellefer Flammang Architects won the Juror's Favorite award at the inaugural "Construction" event to raise canned food donations for the Los Angeles Regional Foodbank.

