

City's Public Art Program Receives Two National Accolades for Innovative Projects and Programming

Innovation of projects and vision of program recognized with a special nod to the Mineta San Jose International Airport *Art + Technology Program*

San Jose, CA – The City of San José [Public Art Program](#) has recently been honored with two awards from prestigious national organizations: Public Art Network (PAN) and Industrial Designers Society of America (IDSA) recognizing the caliber of projects being delivered and their contributions to the built environment of San Jose.

PAN Program of the Year

PAN presented the Public Art Program with the first-ever *Public Art Program of the Year Award* at its annual conference on June 16, 2011 in San Diego, California. PAN, a program of Americans for the Arts, is the largest advocacy organization for public art in the United States with membership representing artists, public arts administrators, design professionals, and communities undertaking public art.

Following the presentation of the award, Robert Lynch, President and CEO of Americans for the Arts, noted that “San Jose’s Public Art Program is on the forefront of the field. By actively involving itself in creating place through big picture thinking, innovative artworks and the use of new technologies, the program is helping to set the standard for public art in the 21st century.”

For the past 11 years, PAN has recognized individual art projects of merit at the annual conference. This year, the selection committee reviewed over 400 submittals and took the unprecedented step of recognizing the overall caliber of the 8 submissions by San José Public Art Program’s – with special commendation for the Airport program of [Art + Technology Program](#), and the Program’s overall vision and implementation. The panel particularly noted:

- Exemplary leadership and vision
- Making a difference in the field of public art, as well as contributing to San Jose’s identity as a creative and tech-savvy city
- Willingness to think outside the box and take risks, which in fact are thoughtful and calculated
- Precedent-setting partnerships with the private sector and resourceful integration of artwork within capital construction budgets

IDSA 2011 IDEA Award

On June 30, 2011, IDSA unveiled the winners of the 2011 International Design Excellence Awards (IDEA), a celebration of design excellence in products, sustainability, interaction design, packaging, strategy, research and concepts. IDEA fosters business and public understanding about the impact of design excellence on the quality of life and the economy. The IDEA program is considered one of the most preeminent design competitions in the nation. This year the competition received a record amount of entries from 39 countries, breaking the 2,000 mark since the award began. Out of 524 finalists, 27 were honored with the Gold Award, while 68 received the Silver Award and 96 won the Bronze Award. The 2011 IDEA jury, made up made

up of 20 international design experts coming from design consultancies, corporations and universities

The Public Art Program is pleased to announce that *eCLOUD* by UeBERSEE – the team of Dan Goods, Nik Hafermaas, and Aaron Koblin - for the Norman Y. Mineta San Jose International Airport received a Silver Award in the category of Environments. (www.uebersee.us/projects/ecloud). For detailed descriptions, photos and contact information on this year's IDEA winners, visit <http://www.idsa.org/idea-2011-gallery>

Mayor Chuck Reed expressed his appreciation of the recognition of the program: "I'd like to thank our Arts Commissioners, city staff, the local arts community, and the array of talented project artists for their ongoing support of our public art program. These recognitions are a testament to their dedicated efforts to promote public art in San Jose."

The Public Art Program is part of the Office of Cultural Affairs, a Division of the Office of Economic Development.

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ABOUT THE CITY OF SAN JOSE PUBLIC ART PROGRAM

The City of San José Public Art Program commissions destination-quality temporary and permanent artworks to enhance urban spaces and reflect the City's diversity, historic richness, and envision its present and future. The program engages high-visibility and high-impact locations, active community involvement and innovative artistic expression to reinforce the image of San Jose as the capital of Silicon Valley. The Public Art Program is part of the City's Office of Cultural Affairs, a division of the Office of Economic Development. For more information visit www.sanjoseculture.org

ABOUT THE CITY OF SAN JOSE'S OFFICE OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS The Office of Cultural Affairs is the City of San Jose's lead agency for supporting and promoting the development of a rich arts and cultural environment for this diverse city's nearly one million residents, its workers who live in neighboring communities, and its many visitors. It fosters cultural development through cultural funding programs, cultural workforce development, specials event services, and public art. For more information visit www.sanjoseculture.org.

ABOUT THE CITY OF SAN JOSE

From its founding in 1777 as California's first city, San Jose has been a leader, driven by its spirit of innovation. Today, San Jose stands as the largest city in Northern California and the Capital of Silicon Valley—the world's leading center of innovation. The city, the 10th largest in the U.S., is committed to remaining a top-ranked place to do business, to work and to live. For more information visit www.sanjoseca.gov.