

# Young Architect of the Year Award Honors a Growing Talent



**KUDOS/GIVING**  
Stephanie R. Glidden

**J. Antonio Garcia** was named the 2014 Young Architect of the Year at the **American Institute of Architects — San Diego Design Awards** event held recently. Garcia, a native of Mexico, immigrated to the U.S. at a young age. Garcia was raised in Kansas; he frequently travels to Mexico, which inspired his architectural career. Garcia has a bachelor's degree in design from **Arizona State University**. He is currently one of the principals at **A<sup>2</sup> Studios**.

The **Call of Duty Endowment** announced that it has selected **Able-Disabled Advocacy Inc.** as one of seven new, best-in-class veterans service organizations nationwide to receive its 2014 Seal of Distinction Award, which comes with an initial \$30,000 grant, along with operational advice and support, and the opportunity to apply for additional restricted funding to encourage further growth. **Able-Disabled Advocacy Inc.** has worked to provide veterans, especially those with disabilities, opportunities to advance their education, build their self-esteem and grow their financial resources by advancing their participation in the workforce. Applicants for the Seal of Distinction had to meet several criteria to be considered, including extensive documentation of their results in placing veterans in jobs. Finalists were then independently assessed on a pro bono

basis by **Deloitte** and approved by the endowment's board of directors. On the heels of a successful campaign for the **Jeff Jacobs J.A.M. Center** and its basketball programs, **San Diego State University Athletics** has launched a campaign to provide scholarship support to student-athletes. **The Aztec Club**, the fundraising arm of athletics, has set a goal of 5,000 members who will support scholarships through the **Coryell Legacy** — a giving society for donors to contribute endowments and estate gifts. **SDSU Director of Athletics Jim Sterk** announced a \$1.25 million estate gift from **Robin and Bill Sinclair** to launch the **Coryell Legacy**. **Walden Family Services**, a nonprofit foster care and adoption agency, has been nationally accredited by the **Com-**



Photo courtesy of J. Antonio Garcia  
**J. Antonio Garcia** was named the 2014 Young Architect of the Year at the **AIA Design Awards**.

**mission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities.** Walden is one of the first foster family agencies in California to receive the accreditation. CARF's accreditation is typically for only one year. However, Walden received a unique three-year accreditation, signaling the agency's exceptional work. Walden provides foster and adoptive homes to many children, including those with developmental disabilities and special health care needs and prepares and supports youth to successfully transition from foster care to adulthood. The **San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy** has had a banner year in 2014 for fundraising, education, membership



Photo courtesy of the American Society of Landscape Architects

**Hargreaves Associates/Schmidt Group** won the **Award of Honor for the County Administrative Center Waterfront Park** at the recent award event for the **American Society of Landscape Architects, San Diego Chapter.**

and leadership. Through exceptional support from members and organizations throughout the region, fund-raising efforts are on track to more than exceed goals. The conservancy has taken a leadership role outside the boundaries of the River Park with its **Citizen Science Monitoring** program and its **Youth Nature Education** programs. Visit [sdrvc.org](http://sdrvc.org) for the complete list of the conservancy's projects and accomplishments.

The **California Landscape Contractors Association**, the only statewide nonprofit trade organization of licensed and landscape-related contractors, presented **Trophy Awards to San Diego landscape contractors** during its recent annual convention. Visit [clca.org](http://clca.org) for the complete list of awards.

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Swinging into its fourth year, **USO San Diego's Golf Classic** was held recently at the **Del Mar Country Club** with community leaders and local military playing side by side. **Bank of America** was the title sponsor of this year's event, which raised \$65,000 for the cause. **Rick Bregman**, **BofA's San Diego Market president**, said **USO San Diego** has many vital programs that help thousands of military every year.

Send **Kudos/Giving items** to [sglidden@sdbj.com](mailto:sglidden@sdbj.com).

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