

Community Energy Achievements Honored at Energy All-Star Awards

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Businesses & individuals creating sustainability – one project at a time

SAN DIEGO, Calif. (March 23, 2012) - The California Center for Sustainable Energy (CCSE) recognized businesses, organizations and individuals in San Diego and Southern California who made noteworthy energy savings and greenhouse gas reductions in 2011 at the eighth annual Energy All-Star Awards held Thursday, March 22, 2012, at the University of San Diego.

Eight awards were presented in categories ranging from commercial and residential building projects to community leadership and sustainable transportation. A special award was given to honor Irene Stillings, who retired as CCSE executive director March 2 and will serve as the center's first executive director emeritus.

"These award recipients are truly furthering the goals of sustainable energy, each in their own way, by making significant contributions to reducing energy use, adopting renewable energy technologies and using green building technologies," said Andrew McAllister, CCSE managing director. "Their leadership stands as exemplary models of how California leads the nation in our conversion to a clean energy future."

The 2011 Energy All-Star Award winners are:

Outstanding Innovation: San Diego Building Project

County of San Diego, Department of General Services

In keeping with its long-term strategic energy plan, the County of San Diego has created a greener campus at the San Pasqual Academy, which was partially destroyed by wildfire in 2007. Thirty residential units in 17 new building at the foster youth facility were outfitted this past year with energy-efficient and water-saving systems. The campus also earned LEED for Homes Platinum and ENERGY STAR certifications.

Outstanding Innovation: California Building Project

Maplewood Homes, Housing Authority of San Bernardino County

Maplewood Homes is a 65-year-old multifamily affordable housing complex in San Bernardino that completed extensive energy upgrades and the installation of solar energy systems in 2011. The project resulted in resident utility cost savings of approximately 30 percent. The solar photovoltaic system received a \$1.84 million California Solar Initiative rebate, the largest to date for multifamily affordable housing.

Outstanding Sustainable Organization

University of San Diego

The University of San Diego is a leader in sustainable facilities and programs through the integration of green transportation, progressive energy management and community leadership in waste reduction. In 2011, the campus became host to the one of largest rooftop solar installation in the region with 1.23 megawatts, opened a community electronic waste center and encouraged alternative transportation through carpooling, bike-sharing and car-sharing programs.

San Diego Sustainable Community Leadership

Birch Aquarium at Scripps

The Birch Aquarium at Scripps Institution of Oceanography offers sustainable energy education to the public through its exhibits and programs. During 2011, Birch Aquarium opened "Boundless Energy," an outdoor exhibit featuring interactive learning about solar, wind and ocean wave power. Other exhibits and classes explore renewable technologies and greenhouse warming.

California Sustainable Community Leadership



City of Palm Springs, Office of Sustainability

The City of Palm Springs aggressively pursues policies and programs that support sustainability by cutting water and energy use and through reducing greenhouse gas emissions. In addition to municipal measures, the city's Office of Sustainability provides residents with education, grants and incentives for energy and water savings.

Outstanding Homeowner**Soheil Nakhshab, San Diego**

Soheil Nakhshab has designed and built a 5,600-square-foot, canyon-side home for his family in Mission Hills with high standards of energy efficiency and sustainability. The two-story home incorporates natural ventilation, high-efficiency building materials, xeriscape landscaping and a solar energy system. The home is certified as [LEED](#) for Home Gold.

Sustainable Transportation**car2go**

The company car2go has made San Diego the nation's first city with a large-scale, all-electric vehicle car-share fleet. With more than 300 Daimler "smart fortwo" electric vehicles in downtown, car2go is providing a transportation alternative that helps to reduce petroleum use and cut greenhouse gas emissions.

Ultimate Energy All-Star**Irene Stillings, San Diego**

For a decade, Irene Stillings has been tirelessly dedicated to pursuing a clean energy future as executive director of [CCSE](#). She led the organization through massive expansion in size and influence and oversaw the establishment of major sustainability efforts and programs. Her leadership shaped [CCSE](#) into a significant force for change in the San Diego region and throughout California.

To learn more about these award-winning projects and how you can adopt renewable energy and energy efficiency in your home or business, visit the [CCSE](#) website at www.energycenter.org. The center offers free energy-saving workshops, awards rebates for electric vehicles and solar energy projects and provides comprehensive energy advisory services.



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