



Arizona Forward

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Arizona Forward's 41st Annual Environmental Excellence Awards, Presented in Partnership with SRP Celebrates Sustainability in Arizona

April 29th, 2023, | Scottsdale, AZ: More than 500 business and community leaders, elected officials, and their guests gathered on April 29th 2023, at the JW Marriott Scottsdale Camelback Inn Resort & Spa in anticipation to hear who the recipients would be for this prestigious Arizona Forward Environmental Excellence awards presented by SRP. SRP's partnership on the program truly demonstrates their commitment to a more sustainable Arizona. Mayors, CEOs, project team members and their partners were excited to receive these prestigious awards and celebrate their achievements with the community.

At the end of the evening, an award is given to the project that the judges ranked the highest, which was the **Urban Heat Leadership Academy**. Anna Bettis and other members of The Nature Conservancy and their partner, The Phoenix Revitalization Group, were present to accept the award for the **President's Award**, the top honor of all project submissions.

"The award winners, as well as all finalists, were remarkable again this year. It was so inspiring to see projects from throughout the state which are making Arizona a more sustainable state for us all to live, work and play", said Lori Singleton, President and CEO. "Additionally, to commemorate Arizona Forward's 50th Anniversary, two special awards were given to Intel Corporation and U-Haul for their longstanding commitment to environmental stewardship, as their impact spans many of the categories in the awards program and demonstrates both a historical and future commitment to sustainability. Intel and U-Haul executives accepted the awards and expressed their sincerest gratitude for the recognition."

All the project nominations can be found at arizonafoward.org. Projects were reviewed by a panel of 11 expert jurists led by Sybil Frances, PhD., President & CEO of the Center for the Future of Arizona.

The top awards of the program receive the **CRESCORDIA AWARD**. The term "Crescordia" is a Greek word that means to grow in harmony. These award winners are listed below:

Long-Range Scenario Modeling of the Colorado River Basin, *submitted by ASU and the Central Arizona Water Conservation District*
Governor's Award for Arizona's Future Category

City of Tempe 2022 Climate Action Plan Update, *Submitted by City of Tempe*
Climate Action Solutions Category



ArizonaForward

ESTABLISHED 1969

City of Tucson Electric Vehicle Readiness Roadmap, *Submitted by City of Tucson*

Climate Action Solutions Category

Elizabeth “Liz” C. Archuleta County Park: Fostering Hope, Heritage, and Community Centered Environmental Education, *Submitted by Coconino County*

Environmental Education & Communication Category

“The Weight of a Feather” Documentary Film, *Submitted by Liberty Wildlife and Quantum Leap Productions*

Environmental Education & Communication Category

Surface Water Clean-Ups Protect Water Quality and Enhance Vital Habitats in Arizona,

Submitted by Arizona Department of Environmental Quality

Natural Environment Preservation Category

Tucson Ward 6 Glass and Plastic Reuse Project, *Submitted by City of Tucson*

Circular Economy Solutions Category

Urban Heat Leadership Academy, *Submitted by The Nature Conservancy*

Healthy Communities Category

City of Phoenix Well Site Reuse - A Time Machine Called Tinaja, *Submitted by Dig Studio*

Art in Public Places Category

Pima Dynamite Trailhead, *Submitted by Weddle Gilmore Architects, and the City of Scottsdale*

Buildings Structures and Landscape Design, Civic, Category

Arizona State University Walton Center for Planetary Health, *Submitted by Architekton*

Buildings Structures and Landscape Design, Commercial or Institutional Category

Park Central, *Submitted by ON Advertising and The Plaza Companies*

Buildings Structures and Landscape Design, Historic Preservation & Adaptive Reuse Category



Arizona Forward

ESTABLISHED 1969

Arizona State University Orange Mall Green Infrastructure, Submitted by *Colwell Shelor, LLC*
Buildings Structures and Landscape Design, Landscape Design Category

Pima Dynamite Trailhead, Submitted by *Weddle Gilmore Architects*, and the *City of Scottsdale*
Site Development Category

Surprise Solar Biosolids Dryer Project, Submitted by *Brown and Caldwell*
Technology Innovation Category

The following project **FINALISTS** received an **AWARD OF DISTINCTION**:

- **Urban Heat Leadership Academy**, Submitted by *The Nature Conservancy* - Environmental Education & Communication
- **Preventing Arsenic Exceedances Through Predictive Analytics**, Submitted by *Arizona Department of Environmental Quality* - Healthy Communities
- **SkySong, The Arizona State University Scottsdale Innovation Center**, Submitted by *ON Advertising* – Art in Public Places
- **Multicultural Community Art at Coconino County’s Elizabeth “Liz” C. Archuleta Park**, Submitted by *Coconino County* – Art in Public Places
- **Arizona State University Durham Hall Renovation**, Submitted by *Ayers Saint Gross* - Buildings Structures and Landscape Design, Commercial or Institutional
- **Park Central Mall**, Submitted by *ON Advertising* - Buildings Structures and Landscape Design, Historic Preservation & Adaptive Reuse
- **Studios at Mesa City Center**, Submitted by *Gensler* - Buildings Structures and Landscape Design, Historic Preservation & Adaptive Reuse
- **Stacking Stormwater Solutions: A Model for Interjurisdictional Partnership**, Submitted by *City of Tucson* - Buildings Structures and Landscape Design, Landscape Design
- **Phoenix Zoo Parking Lots Restoration & Expansion Project**, Submitted by *City of Phoenix and Arizona Center for Nature Conservation / Phoenix Zoo* - Site Development
- **Surprise Solar Biosolids Dryer Project**, Submitted by *Brown and Caldwell* - Technology Innovation

In addition to the project winners, this year there was a new awards category, The Rising Sustainability Star. **Josie Kohlan**, *Goodmans*, **Tony Perez**, *Arizona Public Service*, and **Kayla Killoren**, *Arizona Sustainability Alliance*, all received the award for this year's Rising Sustainability Star for the outstanding work in their companies and in the community. Growing and supporting the next generation of sustainability leaders is critical for the future of Arizona.



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Arizona Forward's visionary members include APS, City of Phoenix, Environmental Defense Fund, Freeport-McMoRan, Honeywell, Intel, SRP, and Wells Fargo. These members are generous supporters of Arizona Forward's year-round activities.

Arizona Forward's highest level event sponsors for this year's gala are ECM Technology, City of Mesa, City of Tucson, City of Scottsdale, The Nature Conservancy, Gammage & Burnham, AECOM, Center for the Future of Arizona.

About Arizona Forward

Arizona Forward is the state's leading sustainability not-for-profit organization that has successfully worked on major environmental initiatives for Arizona since 1969. The organization leverages its collective power by forming solid partnerships with Arizona business leaders, local and state officials, state education leaders and policymakers to drive how the state can best grow its communities, stimulate the economy, and enhance the environment. Arizona Forward has a prominent membership of 150+ public and private sector organizations that serve on issue committees and participate in events throughout the year.

About SRP

SRP is a community-based, not-for-profit public power utility and the largest provider of electricity in the greater Phoenix metropolitan area, serving more than 1 million customers. SRP is also the metropolitan area's largest supplier of water, delivering about 800,000 acre-feet annually to municipal, urban, and agricultural water users.