



FIFTH ANNUAL GINGERTOWN: A NATIONAL SUCCESS



Aerial View of the City

The sweet smell of icing and gingerbread permeated the air as architects and designers labored over their candy laden masterpieces at the fifth annual Gingertown event. For the past 4 years, DMSAS has brought together local DC architects, designers and building industry colleagues to create a sugary town from gingerbread and candy for fundraising and donation to local charities. This year, DMSAS decided to expand the tradition and called on colleagues in Dallas and Nashville to build their own sweet streets, making Gingertown a national event.

The 2010 master plan, created by DMSAS, is set in Santa's magical town at the North Pole and includes Rudolph International Airport, the Butterfinger Elf Academy, Santa's Workshop, Wishlist Warehouse and the Ministry of Naughty & Nice. All three cities worked with the same plan, but each created their own unique, sugar-coated masterpiece.

DC's fully built-out town was brought to life with the help of Bowie Gridley, Cannon Design, Cunningham Quill, Davis Construction, DPZ, Smith Group, Walter P. Moore and many others and remained on display in the lobby at 1050 Connecticut Avenue, NW through Friday, December 3rd. The hand crafted structures were then donated to local hospitals, health care facilities and community support organizations to help spread the message of joy and hope during the holiday season.

In addition, the DC event alone raised \$2750 which will be matched by the DMSAS Charitable Foundation to benefit organizations including Children's National Medical Center, Martha's Table, Saint Elizabeth's Hospital, So Others Might Eat, the Washington Home, My Sister's Place, and the Wendt Center for Loss & Healing. The success of the 5th Annual Gingertown was made possible by the generous support of the 2010 sponsors: Walter P. Moore, James G. Davis Construction, Page Southerland Page, STUDIO39 Landscape Architecture, AIA Emerging Architects, Whole Foods Market on P Street, Morton's and the Tower Companies.



Rudolph International Airport & Airheads Control Tower



Klondike Bar



Sponsors Walter P. Moore building the Rudolph International Airport

In Nashville, the parcels were donated to Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt, Hospital Hospitality House and The Cumberland at Green Hills (a local retirement facility operated by Brookdale.) In Dallas, parcels were donated to the Ronald McDonald House Dallas, Bryan's House, The Family Place, Our Children's House at Baylor and Equest. Donations were collected in both locations for each organization that received a gingerbread structure.

For more photos, information and a complete list of donors and participants in all three cities go to www.gingertown.org.



Nashville Gingertown



Dallas Gingertown



Nashville Gingertown came complete with it's own Tootsie's Honky Tonk



Teams hard at work at DC Build Out

TOM GREENE SAYS GOODBYE AFTER MORE THAN 30 YEARS

Tom Greene is scheduled to retire at the end of the year after more than 30 years at DMSAS. Over the years he has worked on numerous projects and been Project Manager for Cook Children's Medical Center and Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center, and many projects in Fort Worth including the National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame, Fort Worth Public Library, and several Sundance Square buildings.

He will remain Chairman of the Board and continue to work on firm publications in an advisory capacity, coming in to the office on a limited schedule. The firm held a retirement party in his honor on November 7th at Equinox Restaurant in DC. He was joined by past clients, co-workers, colleagues and friends of the firm to celebrate his time with DMSAS. While Tom opened presents from the firm and guests, attendees shared fond memories of Tom.



Tom Greene reminisces about his years at DMSAS.

PROJECT UPDATES

David Schwarz Participates in Urban Land Institute National Conference

On October 14th, David Schwarz discussed the success and design of Fort Worth Texas' Sundance Square in front of a national audience. The project received a ULI Award for Excellence for its exceptional and sustainable land use practices and superior planning, design and development.



The Tuning Concert at the Palladium, Carmel, IN

Tuning Concert at The Carmel Performing Arts Center

The Carmel Performing Arts Center reached substantial completion on November 8th and held a tuning concert on the evening of November 10th. Carmel Mayor Jim Brainard partnered up with grammy-nominated cabaret performer Michael Feinstein to play the first notes to a crowd of 600. The Performing Arts Center will celebrate its grand opening with a performance and gala on January 29th, 2011.

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT: RAMSAY FAIRBURN

Ramsay Fairburn, an Associate at DMSAS, has been with the firm for 15 years.

Why did you become an architect?

I love math and graphics, and solving problems/ finding solutions/ resolving issues have always been personally satisfying to me.

Early on I was interested in becoming a doctor; I liked the idea of solving the puzzle or mystery to a patient's health problems. The General Practitioner's approach of getting to know a patient's whole personal history as a method for better understanding the underlying causes of their symptoms was very appealing to me.

After several years of doing different things after graduation from college, I returned full-circle to my interests in math and graphics and went to graduate school for architecture. Architecture, in the sense of puzzle solving for what a client really wants with their building project (program; interior and exterior appearance; etc.) brought all of my interests together.

Where did you study architecture and what was the most important thing you learned there?

I received my Masters of Architecture from the University of Maryland in College Park.

I came to understand and appreciate context in the design process. A great building does not have to call attention to itself; it can blend in with its surroundings and contribute toward making a better place. A building is often a piece of a larger whole.

What projects have you worked on at the firm? What are you working on now?

I started as a summer intern as a model maker for the Performing Arts Center in Fort Worth, TX (Bass Hall). I worked on office interiors for a favorite firm client; Severance Hall (addition and renovation); interiors of the American Airlines Arena; Hawken Natatorium; and Spartanburg Cultural Center. I am now working on the The Smith Center for the Performing Arts in Las Vegas.

What's your favorite part of your job?

I enjoy solving problems; this could be many things in architecture- resolving a plan; designing a well balanced elevation; selecting aesthetically appropriate materials; picking paint colors; etc.

What was your favorite firm project?

I thoroughly enjoyed working on Severance Hall. It was my first big project in the office and I worked on it from the early programming stages all the way through the design and construction phases. It was an amazing experience.

The Smith Center, the project I am currently working on has also been very enjoyable and challenging. We are now at the stage of the project where we are seeing our designs realized. I just got back from a site visit; it is very exciting to see what you have been working on for years on paper become real.

What are your "must have" office supplies?

I am sorry to say that "email" is now something that I can't imagine working without.

What's your "go-to" office lunch?

Lately I have been enjoying Broccoli Cheddar soup with a Parmesan bread stick- fast; tasty; and I can eat it at my desk while catching up on emails. There is never enough time in the day!

What's your favorite building of all time and why? (anywhere)

I do not have one, favorite building.

I have enjoyed visiting Paris; Rome; Italian hill towns; I also love NYC; Chicago; and DC. The attention to detail; use of beautiful materials; and the craftsmanship exhibited in older buildings is outstanding and very inspiring.



Ramsay with her family at the Gingertown build out.

PROJECT UPDATES

The National Cowgirl Museum

When Dr. Temple Grandin was inducted into the Cowgirl Hall of Fame in October, she was so favorably impressed by the museum and its staff that she decided on the spot to make the National Cowgirl Museum the repository of her archives. Dr. Grandin is a world leader in animal behavior and autism. Over half the cattle in the US are handled in facilities designed to follow her principals. Dr. Grandin was named one of Time Magazine's 100 Most Influential People of the Year and was the subject of an Emmy award-winning HBO biopic.



The Cowgirl Museum & Hall of Fame, Fort Worth, TX.

Spartanburg Day School on Track for Completion Summer 2011

Construction continues on the Spartanburg Day School with the recent completion of the structural framework of the building. The new facility is on track for completion next summer for the start of school in 2011. In addition, DMSAS is designing an open-air colonnade to connect the existing school structures to the new building, creating a more unified aesthetic for the entire campus.



View of the Spartanburg Day School

FAMILY NEWS

On October 12th, David Schwarz presented a lecture to the Denver Chapter of the Institute for Classical Architecture & Classical America. Invited by Chapter President Don Ruggles, David spoke to the group about contemporary classicism and understanding classicism as a continuum not a historic style.



Welcome to our newest employee, Eric Rebbert. Eric joins the firm as our Chief Administrative Officer. Eric hails from Baltimore and currently lives in Bel Air, Maryland with his wife and three kids.



It's a girl! On September 24th, DMSAS Associate Jon Zubiller and wife Jessica Philips-Silver welcomed daughter Elle Yetta Zubiller. Elle was a healthy 6 lbs, 10.5 oz, 19.5 inches.



It's a boy! On September 25th, DMSAS Intern Architect Jennifer Stinson and husband Ken welcomed son Andrew Raymond Stinson. Andrew was a healthy 8 lbs 9 oz.

Congratulations to the David M. Schwarz Architects 2010 CANstruction team who won the Best Meal award for their "Feeding Hunger CAN be a Breeze" structure. The Dutch-style windmill included cans of tomatoes, tuna, olives, asparagus and green beans, as well as packets of Hollandaise Sauce and Kool-Aid. For more information on CANstruction DC, please visit <http://www.wafoonline.org/canstruc.html>



FAMILY NEWS



David's Notre Dame studio students visited Carmel on November 5th where they toured The Palladium and had a visit with Carmel Mayor James Brainard.

Congratulations to DMSAS Intern Architect Camden McClelland on his recent marriage to Cassidy Russell. They were married October 23rd at St. Josephs Church in Seattle, WA. After a wonderful weekend with family and friends they honeymooned in Paris and Marrakesh. Cassidy works as a printmaker in the DC Area.



On November 20th, 12 DMSAS employees and family members joined thousands of walkers on the mall to participate in the Fannie Mae Help the Homeless Walkathon. The 2.5 mile walk raised funds for organizations working to prevent homelessness in the DC metropolitan area.



Best wishes to all in the David M. Schwarz Architects family celebrating birthdays this winter: Jon Toonkel (December 5th), Dave Derenick (December 11th), Blair Dargusch (December 19th), Jon Zubiller (December 27th), Bill White (January 3rd), Virginia Escalona (January 8th), Jon Cakert (January 15th), David Schwarz (January 26th), Monica Regnier (January 26th), Brook Denison (January 28th), Steve Horwitz (February 20th), Isaac Smith (February 24th).

PROJECT UPDATES

Orioles' Stadium Update

The Orioles' Ed Smith Stadium spring training facility in Sarasota Florida is heading toward completion for occupancy on March 1st, 2011. The 85,000 square feet of new construction will wrap the existing structure providing new fan amenities and staff offices, luxury and party suites, as well as an extended roof structure that will provide more shading to the 1,500 seats being added to the bowl.



The Orioles' Ed Smith Stadium in Sarasota, Florida.



The Ed Smith Stadium main entrance at home plate.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Readers,
We welcome your feedback and comments to our newsletter. Submissions can be sent to newsletter@dmsas.com for potential inclusion in our next edition!