

Three BA Members Honored For Best Practices In Human Resource Management

BY LEEANN MATON

Three Builders Association affiliates were recently recognized by the National Association for Business Resources on its list of Chicago's 101 Best and Brightest Companies To Work For.

Assurance Agency Ltd., Rabjohns Financial Group and RSM McGladrey were honored for demonstrating "imagination and conviction to create organizational value and business results through their policies and Best Practices in human resource management," according to the award's official Web site.

But a shiny new plaque isn't the only benefit the winners receive.

"Most of the companies who are part of this process are really looking to learn how their employees feel about them," said Steven Handmaker, Vice President of Marketing and Communication for Assurance.

The award is based on the results of an in-depth employee survey which measures several different aspects of a company's human resources approach, from compensation and retention, to employee

engagement, diversity, and work-life balance. Companies scoring the highest marks are named as top honorees.

"I think what all these recognitions and accolades boil down to is here we sort of take on a business philosophy that says, 'The best way to create real value for our clients is to create real value for our employees,'" said Handmaker. "We believe in providing careers, we believe in recognition, in education. We believe in a place that's joyful to work in on a daily basis."

Carole Brite, Managing Director at RSM McGladrey, echoed his sentiments.

"One of the key elements in the success of our office is the hard work and dedication of our employees," she said. This drives the leadership team to provide our employees with a work environment where they feel valued and respected."

"Ultimately it's a simple equation," said Handmaker. "It's our business belief that happy employees equals happy clients."

For the full list, or to learn more about Chicago's 101 Best and Brightest Companies To Work For, visit www.101bestandbrightest.com.



CHICAGO'S
101
BEST AND
BRIGHTEST
COMPANIES
TO WORK FOR

2009 Honorees Include:



Assurance
Safety Consulting



RABJOHNS
Financial Group



RSM McGladrey

Ujval Vyas, Principal of [Alberti Group LLC](#), was quoted in the July 13 issue of Engineering News-Record Magazine regarding new requirements set forth in the latest version of LEED. The new sustainability requirements took effect July 1.

[The Lombard Company](#) has been awarded the contract for an advanced cosmetic laser and surgery center and dermatology facility in Crest Hill. The 14,350 square-foot facility will replace the current home of the practice in Joliet.

[Valenti Builders, Inc.](#) is seeking LEED Silver certification for the Grossinger City Autoplex in Chicago, a project that was featured in the June issue of Construction Today Magazine.

[McShane Construction Company](#) recently completed Casa Morelos, a 45-unit, 54,000 square-foot affordable housing community in Chicago's Pilsen neighborhood. The project was registered with the Chicago Green Homes program and incorporated a number of environmental practices throughout the construction and design process.

The Illinois Chamber of Commerce presented PRC Partners with an Edie Award for economic development. The recognized project was the Uptown Park Ridge Development, three mixed-use buildings on which [Valenti Builders, Inc.](#) served as the General Contractor.

[McShane Construction Company](#) recently broke ground on a 15,116 square-foot, mixed-use facility on behalf of developer Alliance Real Estate, LLC. The property is located at 19801 Governors Highway in Flossmoor, and many prominent Village officials joined several dozen additional guests at a groundbreaking ceremony held June 19.

Andy Kopon of [Kopon Airdo, LLC](#) will speak at the National Conference of the Resource Center For Religious Institutes October 23 in Atlanta. He will be discussing the Fair Labor Standards Act, preventive employment measures and employee handbooks.

Molly Arranz, Leslie Johnson, Daisy Khambatta, Lisa Pagel and Gary Zhao were named Partners at [SmithAmundsen, LLC](#).