



SAN JOSE
DOWNTOWN
FOUNDATION

Downtown Doors 2010-11 QuickFacts

Engage Youth
Enliven San Jose

Description Downtown Doors is a high school youth public art exhibit and competition. High school students work with teachers to create and submit artwork. The artwork is judged and selected pieces are enlarged and placed on utility doors that face major streets and walkways. The otherwise blank canvasses – and subsequently the downtown - come alive with student art, which is featured for two years before being replaced.



This youth program has strong educational, cultural, community and social components. Downtown Doors provides youth the opportunity to learn first hand about public art and teaches students valuable skills that develop character and assist them in future endeavors.

History Downtown Doors began in 2003. In seven years, the program has grown from four door sites to 37, one participating school to 14, and eight student submissions to 140 per year .

When Artwork is selected in April and unveiled in June at the artists and sponsor recognition reception.

Where The public art exhibit uses blank and often ignored service and utility doors that face major streets and walkways as “canvases” for students to display their artwork and provide an interesting streetscape for passersby.

Participants More than 720 pieces of art have been submitted since the program’s inception from the following high schools: East Side Union High School District – Mount Pleasant, Santa Teresa, Oak Grove, Evergreen Valley, Santa Teresa, Yerba Buena, Piedmont Hills; Lincoln; Downtown College Prep; San Jose High Academy; Notre Dame; Leigh; Cupertino; and Bellarmine College Prep.



Erik Piedad – Self
Leigh High School

Event Producer San Jose Downtown Foundation. A nonprofit, volunteer-run organization supported by the San Jose Downtown Association that seeks to foster art and culture in downtown San Jose.

For more information contact

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