TOP WOMEN OF CRE

They've risen to the top of their companies, started their own firms, raised families, remained active in their communities, and **broken molds**. (But can they do yo-yo tricks?) Meet the local **top 15 women** of CRE, as awarded by CREW Houston.



We snapped the winners at CREW's **15th anniversary** celebration at The Wynden. Our Houston reporter was a judge and can attest to the stiff competition among the **35 nominees**, who came from all areas of the CRE industry. Many of the winners say their biggest contribution to the industry is **mentoring** other women in the hopes of **increasing the percentage** of ladies in the male-dominated business.



Here's winner HFF senior managing director **Susan Hill** with CREW prez HFF's **Cortney Cole**. Susan started her CRE career as a **receptionist** and now is a lead producer at HFF. She's financed Houston landmarks like the Bank of America building, 919 Milam, and Houston Center.



We snapped Hines VP **Chrissy Wilson** accepting her award. Chrissy leases Hines' **12M SF** Houston portfolio. She negotiated the **largest lease** in the world last year working with another winner, Shell VP **Jeri Ballard**. Shell snagged 1.2M SF at One and Two Shell Plaza.



We ran into Jackson Walker's **Priya Coffey** and NorthMarq's **Lori Sowa**, who chaired the awards committee. The rest of the winners: Camden SVP **Laurie Baker**, Fidelis founding partner and CMO **Lynn Davis**, Phase Engineering owner **Melanie Edmundson**, Brookfield Properties VP of operations **Tammy Hendrix**, Newmark Knight Frank managing principal **Brandi McDonald**, Richland Investments prez **Edna Meyer-Nelson**, Osenbaugh & Associates prez **Lynny Osenbaugh**, JPR CRE prez **Jennifer Raymond**, Regions Bank SVP **Rhonda Sands**, Law Office Cassie B. Stinton's **Cassie Stinton**, CBRE SVP **Debbie Wilson**, and Transwestern SVP **Michelle Wogan**.



AIA'S PICNIC FOR THE PARKS



AIA Houston and the Architecture Center Houston Foundation transformed the GRB into a park-like setting for their annual gala. Above, gala chairs Carrie and Ed Shoemake opened the ceremonies with a spin around the dance floor. (To misquote the song from Casablanca: "The world will always welcome architects, as time goes by.") The event called attention to the state of Houston's parks, particularly after the death of nearly 15,000 trees in last year's drought and record-breaking heat. The Architecture Center Houston Foundation is donating a grant to the Houston Parks Board to plant new trees.



Two awards were presented, the 2012 **Ben Brewer Young Architect Award** and the 2012 Firm of the Year. Above, **Carolyn Brewer** (wife of Ben Brewer) and 2011 recipient **Mark Schatz**present this year's award to Kirksey's **Julie Hendricks**. **Natalye Appel and Associates** was named the firm of the year.



In the corner reserved for attendees whose last names are also words, **John** and **Marlene Hay** and **Marcela** and **Fernando Brave** were looking lovely. Fernando was recognized as Houston's most recent electee to the **AIA College of Fellows**. Congrats!