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## TOP WOMEN OF CRE

*Office Furniture Innovations (OFI) is a premier office furniture dealer based in Houston. OFI provides solutions for workspace environments through strategic planning, project management, installation, maintenance and more. Click for more details [here](#).*

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

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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.

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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**.

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**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 Shoemaker** 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.



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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!

Do you believe in miracles, you sexy thing? Email *Catie Dixon*, [catie@bisnow.com](mailto:catie@bisnow.com).



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