

Real estate awards smile on Palmer House

Duke Realty named developer of the year at industry's 'Oscars'

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New office buildings downtown and in the suburbs and the renovation of a historic hotel garnered honors Wednesday night at the Chicago Commercial Real Estate Awards dinner, considered the industry's equivalent of the Oscars.

The 21st annual event drew more than 1,500 people to the Hilton Chicago hotel, 720 S. Michigan, and raised more than \$800,000 for the Greater Chicago Food Depository.

Winners included the Palmer House Hilton hotel, 17 E. Monroe, as top redevelopment of 2008. Pepper Construction and the hotel's owner, Thor Equities, shared the honor.

The 22 W. Washington office building on Block 37, home to WBBM-Channel 2 and Morningstar Inc., was named development of the year, with owner Golub & Co. collecting the award. The new Mettawa home for HSBC Holdings PLC was named built-to-suit project of the year, with the honors shared among Hamilton Partners, Pepper Construction, Wright Heerema Architects, Jones Lang LaSalle and UBS Realty Advisors.

For the second straight year, Duke Realty, builder of office and industrial buildings in the suburbs, was named developer of the year.

The Sun-Times founded the awards. They are now sponsored by Crain's Chicago Business and Bank of America. Finalists are chosen by an industry panel and winners are decided by a secret vote of the banquet's ticket buyers.

Other awards and their winners were:

Architect of the year: Wright Heerema Architects

Deal of the Year: BP Americas Inc., Tishman Speyer and Jones Lang LaSalle

Industrial brokers of the year: Daniel Leahy and Adam Roth of NAI Hiffman

Interior contractor of the year: Leopardo

Interior design firm of the year: The Environments Group and Perkins & Will

Investment brokers of the year: Jeffrey Bramson, Jamie Fink, Sean Fogarty, Kenneth Glomb, Daniel Kaufman, Matthew Lawton, Marty O'Connell and Janice Sellis of Holliday Fenoglio Fowler LP

Mortgage brokers of the year: Timothy Joyce, Michael Kavanau and Matthew Schoenfeldt of Holliday Fenoglio Fowler LP

Office brokers of the year: Matt Carolan, Jeff Liljeberg, Elaine Melonides, Bill Rogers and Steve Steinmeyer of Jones Lang LaSalle

Office property representatives of the year: Eric Meyers, Victoria Noonan and Samuel Schaefer of Tishman Speyer

Project manager of the year: Randy Bartosh of Development Resources Inc.

Property management company of the year: Tishman Speyer

Retail broker of the year: Stanley Nitzberg of Mid-America Group