



# SPECIAL RECOGNITION

## COMMUNITY PROJECT

### PROJECT NAME:

Solana Beach and Coastal Rail Trail  
Gateway Arches

### COMPANY NAME:

Betsy Kopshina Schulz

### ENTRANT'S NAME:

Betsy Kopshina Schulz

### PROJECT LOCATION:

Solana Beach, California

### PROJECT TEAM:

**Gordon Darnell/Standford**, Sign Manufacturer

**Dan Goldberg**, City Engineer

**Hans Tegebo**, Assistant

**Barbara Hume**, Assistant

The City of Solana Beach was in need of a new entrance sign to welcome visitors and to draw attention to its newly created Coastal Rail Trail segment. The design was intended to visually and physically invite people into both the city and the Coastal Rail Trail, not simply label the area.

The process included hand-sculpting the concrete columns and tiles with volunteers, to create the curved shape in the columns. A sign manufacturer installed the steel arch and sign. Each of the four columns depicts a different era of Solana Beach history in sculptured tiles, starting with the Native Americans' use of the land to vibrant present-day Solana Beach. The intricately detailed mosaic of the columns entices visitors to spend time learning about this wonderful coastal town.

In order to capture the character of Solana Beach, the artist, with the assistance of the Solana Beach Civic and Historic Society, researched the history, interviewed long-time residents and sponsored two community tile workshops. The columns are covered with image and word tiles that artistically describe the city's history. All tiles were individually handcrafted to represent the history as accurately and artistically as possible. High-fired tiles were specifically chosen to withstand the weather. Other artifacts such as antique metal tools and ceramics were painstakingly collected to complement the tile.

## JUDGES' COMMENTS

**"FUN PROJECT'S INSTALLATION."** Certainly a different and more organic look for tile to match its surroundings."

**"THIS PROJECT WAS A REAL COMMUNITY EFFORT,** involving people of all ages. The fanciful design is one-of-a-kind and very appropriate to the setting."

**"I LOVE HOW THIS PROJECT ENCOURAGED COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION.** It really shows the importance and value of commemorating the town's past and present."

