

OLD. NEW. NOW.

News of LoDo District, Inc. Denver, Colorado

First Quarter 2010

LoDo District, Inc. is a 501 (c) 3 public purpose organization created to support and promote the Lower Downtown Historic District and mixed-use neighborhood.

Step Into the Limelight for LoDo District's 20th Anniversary Annual Meeting and Limelight Awards

By Ellen Wilensky

The gatherings began 20 years ago as modest yet lively affairs in bars, restaurants, conference rooms, lofts and various LoDo venues. For two decades, the citizens of the Lower Downtown Denver Historic District have been meeting annually to celebrate the community and to recognize leaders and businesses that contribute to the amazing quality of life that LoDo offers. As the neighborhood flourished the annual meetings grew bigger and better. More and more members attended the events that included speakers, roasts, music and even last year's comedian. But over time one thing hasn't changed—the main attraction has always been the opportunity to mingle with neighbors and friends, old and new, who all share a connection to Denver's premier historic district.

So it seems to LoDo District that after all this time, a real party is in order; a party that features great food, music, dancing and socializing. No lengthy speeches, no data or statistics, no business (but for the election of our board) just an opportunity to honor outstanding achievements during 2009, enjoy a spectacular silent auction, and have fun in the gorgeous Seawell Ballroom.



On March 10, the tradition continues. Our celebration of 20 years of neighborhood stewardship and a community of the brightest, most creative and forward thinking history lovers in the city is sponsored by the Metropolitan Jazz Orchestra, Mercury LDO Reprographics, the Seawell Grand Ballroom and Epicurean Culinary Group.



The evening begins at 5:30 p.m. with a cocktail reception and silent auction followed by dinner at 7:00 p.m., then mingling and dancing. Enjoy the music of the Metropolitan Jazz Orchestra and Mistura Fina. Several seating and table options are available, including Sponsor Tables, Patron Tables and individual tickets. To ensure the best seating, LoDo recognition and upgraded wines, purchase a Sponsor Table. This event, the proceeds of which support the activities of the LoDo District, Inc., often sells out, so be sure to RSVP no later than March 1 at info@lodo.org, 303-628-5428, or purchase tickets online at www.lodo.org. We hope to see you in the limelight!



MUST RSVP by March 1, 2010
at info@lodo.org, 303.628.5428
or purchase tickets online at lodo.org



Sponsored by:



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**By Laurie Helmick,
LoDo District Past President**

Making a difference in my neighborhood of 22 years is important to me. My membership in the Lodo District and specifically, the Economic and Community Development Committee, have been a great conduit to that goal. The focus of this committee is to create a set of strategic steps, that the Lower Downtown District can take to enhance and expand the economic vitality and street energy of the LoDo district. Having my own business in LoDo has been an extraordinary journey. I could not have done as well as I have without the support of fellow business owners here, and the support of members in the LoDo District organization. Our goal in this committee is also to seek out and understand the needs of business and property owners in LoDo. The quarterly Economic Forums we sponsor, including the February Forum on the Business Improvement District, are carefully chosen with the needs and interests of those same people in mind. My focus is to help retail businesses reach the similar success I have had, so they can prosper in the LoDo District. If I ever open a second location, I think it would be right around the block!!! That's how strongly I believe in this community of Lower Downtown. I invite you all to come and be a part of strengthening the economic viability of our LoDo and participate in our committee!

**THANK YOU!**

LoDo District, Inc. would like to thank the following retiring board members for their years of service:

- Jim Bain** | The Ski Train
- Derek Cunz** | Mortenson Construction
- Chris Frampton** | East West Partners

LODO DISTRICT NEW MEMBERS

- | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Joey Kellum | SIP Fine Wine | FastFrame of LoDo |
| Zolarium Tanning | Alissa Heuss | David Morrison |
| Studio | Stephen Boyka | Crisanta Duran |
| Maggie Osterbauer | REV Networking | Third Way Center |

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S COLUMN

Christina Pfitzinger
LoDo District
Executive Director

The awards season is upon us and over the past month, coverage of the Golden Globes and Grammys has filled the TV and internet, and now Hollywood is preparing for the Oscars. Now is the perfect time to bring the awards spotlight to LoDo for our own Limelight awards ceremony. Every year LoDo District, Inc. honors individuals and business professionals who, like the stars, have worked hard throughout the past year and deserve recognition for their accomplishments. With the Limelight Awards in its 20th year, these awards truly mark a landmark event in the LoDo community.

This year, four professionals will be recognized for their unique contributions to the community and will be presented with our coveted brick awards. Perhaps not as shiny as an Oscar or Globe but a true symbol of the foundation LoDo continues to build on today. These awards will be handed out based on their philanthropic service, marketing impact to the overall community, design contributions, and efforts to strengthen the LoDo District, Inc.

Through their time and efforts, each of these recipients has helped to make LoDo what it is today, a fun, thriving place to live and work. With their continuous hard work in the past year, this special evening is the perfect time to recognize those who have worked hard in the community. So come and recognize our own celebrities at LoDo's Limelight Awards!



FACES OF LODO

Brian Borowski & Aaron Anderson
The Wine Loft



Brian Borowski, General Manager
Aaron Anderson, Owner / Proprietor

If you haven't tried the Wine Loft at 1527 Wazee Street lately, you should. This neighborhood bar opened a week before the DNC and has become a popular gathering place for LoDo locals and

visitors alike. The operators are father and son Tom and Aaron Anderson, and longtime family friend Brian Borowski is the General Manager. After many trips to Colorado, Tom and Aaron chose Denver to open two Wine Loft concept bars. LoDo was selected for the downtown location, just in time for the DNC and the party of the century!

From the beginning, their concept has been to offer a casual and approachable ambience in a relaxed setting, and it seems to be a solid fit for LoDo. They do have one TV, but mostly for the big games. "What the heck", says Brian: "we have to respect the market, and this is definitely a sports town."

Brian loves LoDo for its "vibrant sense of aesthetic and energy, combining preservation and planning for the future." He says the bar benefits from Denver's diversity, "drawing people from both coasts and the Midwest to a young city with incredible weather, a sophisticated appreciation for good wine and good beer, great sports, and now a great new neighborhood bar." They offer 40 wines by the glass, 150 wines by the bottle, small plates of delicious food, and carefully selected bottled beers.



The Downtown Denver Business Improvement District's Role in LoDo

On February 25, John Desmond, Vice President of Urban Planning and Environment for the Downtown Denver Partnership (DDP) and Administrative Manager for the Downtown Denver Business Improvement District (BID) will give a presentation on the BID and its role in LoDo. The BID is

a local government organization funded by commercial property owners with a \$5 million annual budget. John will provide an overview of the BID's overall structure, funding and goals, briefly review its history and growth since its inception in 1982, and outline its current budget and work plan. The LoDo area is a significant and unique part of the BID's 120-block service area -which spans from Denver Union Station on the west to Grant Street on the east, and from Speer on the southwest to 20th Street on the northwest. John will provide a special focus on the BID's current role in and relationship to LoDo, and how that role has evolved over the past 10 years, especially in light of the extension of the 16th Street Mall in the 1990s, the growth of entertainment uses over the past decade, and the current opportunities and challenges provided by Denver Union Station and LoDo's mixed use nature.

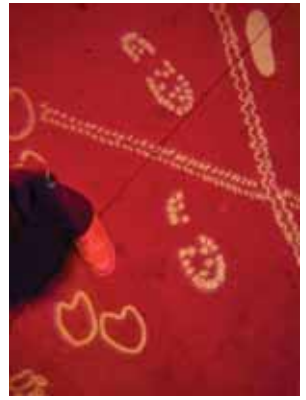
The BID's authority was last renewed in 2001 for a 10-year period and will officially "sunset" in mid-2011. In order to renew the BID and continue its efforts in downtown, the BID will need to collect petitions authorizing its renewal from more than 50% of BID commercial properties. DDP staff will initiate this process on behalf of the BID starting in the second half of 2010.



Get to know Aaron, Brian and other Faces of Lodo. Call 303-628-5428, email info@lodo.org or visit lodo.org for membership information.

OLD.NEW.NOW. NEWSLETTER SPONSORS





Send your best guess to info@lodo.org along with your name, email and mailing address. WHERE'S WALDO? Where in LoDo does this illuminating experience occur?



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GET INVOLVED!

Make a Difference.
Have Fun!

LoDo District, Inc. is a membership-supported organization with all levels of involvement available. Want to make a difference? Have fun? Fill out the following and mail it in.

Yes! Yes! Yes! I want to be a member.

Name _____
Call me at _____
or email me _____

LODO Events

February 25: Economic Forum: BID 101, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
Oxford Hotel, Sage Room

Featuring speakers: John Desmond of the Downtown Denver Partnership, Ed Blair, BID Board Member and Josh Comfort, BID Board Member

March 10: 20th Annual Meeting and Limelight Awards, 5:30 p.m.

Featuring music by: Mistura Fina and the Metropolitan Jazz Orchestra in the beautiful Seawell Grand Ballroom catered by Epicurean Catering.