



urban. RENAISSANCE

NEWS UPDATE NEWS UPDATE NEWS UPDATE

Photo Contest Brings Exposure

Capture Downtown!, a photo competition designed to focus attention on and create greater awareness about downtown Las Vegas' assets and evolution, is currently being held. Entries will be accepted from both amateurs and professionals — though they will compete in different categories — through Aug. 15. Photo enthusiasts who are 21 years or older are encouraged to make digital submissions in three categories:

- Lifestyle:** Everyday life/work/play in downtown
- Stars:** Interesting people who live or work downtown
- Icons:** Downtown landmarks, neon signs and historic buildings

A jury of professional photographers will select the winners, with prizes being awarded for first, second and third place in each of the three categories. Winning photos will be exhibited during an Oct. 12 presentation at the **Historic Fifth Street School** and other downtown locations, as well as in a special downtown section produced by the *Las Vegas Review-Journal*.

There is no cost to enter. For details, visit: www.downtownlasvegasalliance.com/capturedowntown

The contest is being sponsored by the **city of Las Vegas**, the **Las Vegas Redevelopment Agency**, the *Las Vegas Review-Journal*, **Symphony Park** and **Newland Communities**.



Las Vegas Ranked Among Top Cities for Young Artists

In declaring the city one of the top destinations for emerging young artists, **FLAVORWIRE**, a website offering cultural news and critiques, recently advised: "Crawl away...from the uber-glitter of the Vegas Strip for a much more down to earth view of Sin City. Good old Fremont Street, the Vegas of yesteryear, is back and better than ever, harboring creatives from all walks of life." Downtown's **Emergency Arts** at 520 Fremont St., which combines **The Beat Coffeehouse** and artists' studio galleries under one roof, gets prominent mention in this online assessment. Details: <http://flavorwire.com/169898/the-best-cities-for-young-artists/4>



CAPTURE DOWNTOWN!
Downtown Las Vegas Photo Competition

www.downtownlasvegasalliance.com/capturedowntown

Project On ICE

Escrow is anticipated to close and construction begin during fall 2011 on a new 58,909-square-foot building that will house regional offices for the **U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)** agency. Featuring five stories of Class A office space, the new \$20 million building will be located at the southeast corner of Las Vegas Boulevard and Clark Avenue in downtown. This project is being developed by **SDA Inc.** SDA Inc. is purchasing the land for this development from the city of Las Vegas Redevelopment Agency. The land was valued at \$2.87 million, based on appraisal. The general contractor will be Las Vegas-based **SR Construction Inc.**

The need for a larger facility, as well as the desire to be closer to the federal courthouse, prompted the U.S. Government's General Services Administration to go out for bid for new ICE administrative and executive offices. Currently working in Henderson, ICE's 150 full-time employees will relocate to the new facility when it opens.



Rendering of New ICE Building
Rendering courtesy of X9 Design Group of Las Vegas

Vintage Vegas Signs Gain New Life At Neon Boneyard

City officials recently celebrated the new life breathed into the historic **Neon Boneyard Park**, located along the Cultural Corridor in downtown Las Vegas. On May 12, **Las Vegas Mayor Oscar B. Goodman, Ward 5 Councilman Ricki Y. Barlow** and officials from the **Neon Museum** celebrated the grand opening of the revitalized and expanded facility, located at 770 Las Vegas Blvd. North. In addition to a ribbon cutting for this new park, city officials participated in a ceremonial groundbreaking for the **Neon Museum Visitor's Center**, the future entryway to the Neon Boneyard.

The historic and distinctive looking **La Concha Motel** lobby, which once graced the Strip next to the Riviera Hotel and Casino, will serve as the visitor's center and entrance to the Neon Boneyard and park.



A cornucopia of vintage signs from Vegas' colorful past now rest in the Neon Boneyard.

Photo: June Johns

Renovation and construction is expected to begin in September and be completed by the spring of 2012.

The almost \$2 million Neon Boneyard Park is adjacent to an acre's worth of vintage neon signs, and includes a walking trail, as well as a half-acre public area.

Funding for the park was provided by the **Bureau of Land Management** through the sale of public lands as authorized by the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act. This act keeps money from Nevada federal land sales in the state for parks and trail projects.

Walk This Way: New Cultural Bridge

A new pedestrian bridge now provides residents and tourists with convenient access to seven downtown cultural institutions.

The bridge, located near Cashman Center, sits between Lied Discovery Children's Museum/Las Vegas Library and the Las Vegas Natural History Museum, and also provides access to The Neon Museum, the Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort and State Historic Park and the Reed Whipple Cultural Center. The bridge features an LED artistic design created by **David Griggs**.

The bridge is part of a larger Cultural Corridor Trail Project currently under construction. The work includes installing sidewalk ramps, new banner poles, stamped concrete sidewalk panels and concrete embellishments.

Funding for the \$1.3 million **Cultural Corridor Pedestrian Bridge** was provided by the **Bureau of Land Management** through the sale of public lands, as authorized by the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act. The bridge's artistic element was paid for and coordinated through the **city of Las Vegas Cultural Affairs Office**.

Las Vegas Redevelopment Agency

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