

## **AVRP Skyport Studios Celebrates 40 Years of Design Excellence**

*Designer of Iconic San Diego Projects Celebrates Legacy and Looks to Continue Expanding*

San Diego, CA, **October 25, 2016** – Tomorrow, AVRP Skyport Studios will celebrate its 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The firm will recognize the milestone with an invite-only celebration October 26, 2016. Located at 703 16th St., San Diego, CA 92101, the firm is widely known across the region for its decades of design excellence, creativity, and planning some of the most prominent, visionary, and vibrant projects in Southern California.

AVRP Skyport Studios originated in 1976, when Doug Austin began a small design firm out of his home. Forty years later, the firm has designed billions of dollars' worth of iconic projects both domestically and internationally. Project types include urban infill, mixed-use, housing, education, corporate office, multigenerational space, health care and more. The firm is led by four principals: Douglas H. Austin, FAIA, LEED AP, MAIBC; Christopher T. Veum, AIA, IIDA; Randy Robbins, AIA, LEED AP; and Frank Wolden.

Douglas H. Austin, FAIA, Chairman, CEO and Founder of AVRP Skyport Studios, says, "I'm so pleased to be celebrating this milestone with an absolutely outstanding team. It's an honor and an achievement to not only stay relevant for 40 years, but to be leading our city's design evolution in a significant way."

AVRP Skyport Studios has been making headlines in recent months. The firm recently underwent a merger between AVRP Studios with Skyport Studio. The firm has also been selected for many high-profile projects this year, including the \$1.2 billion Seaport San Diego project, the most significant urban waterfront project in the region, as well as the \$239 million new tower to expand Sharp Chula Vista Medical Center. AVRP Skyport Studios plans to continue to expand its reach nationally and globally.

Christopher T. Veum, AIA, IIDA, President of AVRP, states, "I believe AVRP Skyport Studios has thrived for decades, and is poised for further expansion because of our team. Every one of our 50 employees is passionate, talented, and a team-player. We work really well together to solve our clients' complex design and development challenges."

### **About AVRP Skyport Studios**

In a world of "decorated boxes" and formula design, AVRP Skyport Studios strives to find and develop an original idea that drives the creative process for each project. Principals Douglas H. Austin, FAIA; Christopher T. Veum, AIA, IIDA; Randy Robbins, AIA, LEED AP; and Frank Wolden represent award-winning portfolios that have inspired developers and civic leaders to think beyond traditional boundaries to infuse each project with experiential community connections. Celebrating 40 years of creativity and accomplishment in 2016, the firm and its principals have earned nearly 150 design awards. For more information, visit [www.avrpstudios.com](http://www.avrpstudios.com).



## Project Highlights from AVRP Skyport Studios

### Urban

- **Pinnacle Museum Tower** – Lauded as San Diego’s most prestigious residential tower, The Pinnacle Museum Tower is a mixed-use 36-story luxury tower with condominiums, low-rise lofts, office space, retail, a facility for the San Diego Children’s Museum, and a full-service health club. The 450,000 SF tower was completed in 2005.
- **Ariel Luxury Apartments** - This 23-story luxury apartment tower in Downtown San Diego’s Little Italy is a mixed-use high-rise consisting of 224 units and 25,000 square feet of retail. The pool deck has views of the 85-foot-high Wyland mural on the adjacent building, and at night the building lighting effects mimic the movement of water.
- **Seaport San Diego** - Seaport San Diego is a proposed 2.2 million-square-foot, \$1.2 billion development. The downtown San Diego project includes a mix of hotels, shops, restaurants, a public beach, an aquarium, a charter high school, a Smithsonian attraction, and a 480-foot observation tower. It is deemed San Diego’s most significant urban, waterfront project.

### Campus & Community

- **SDUSD Hoover High School** – Currently finalizing construction documents, AVRP Skyport has designed a new 500 seat theater and a new 3-story multi-purpose building.
- **SDUSD Correia Middle School** – AVRP Skyport has provided planning for the whole site master plan as well as design and documentation for improvements for the sports complex.
- **SDUSD Point Loma High School** – Based on their previously completed master plan, AVRP Skyport is currently designing a new Media Center/Library/Classroom building and the remodel of two adjacent classroom buildings. Additionally, the project includes a stadium expansion/sports complex to include visitor seating and concessions as well as expanded playfields.
- **Congregation Beth Israel** - This 65,000 SF facility is for San Diego’s oldest and largest congregation. The facilities include a sanctuary, chapel, social hall, administration offices, and educational facilities. The design evokes the feeling of the City of Jerusalem.

### Workplace

- **Microsoft** – AVRP Skyport Studios has worked with Microsoft for its Chicago, Boston, San Francisco, and Seattle offices. Each location has its own unique and cutting edge design. AVRP Skyport’s design of the Chicago office was voted among Forbes 10 Coolest Office Spaces of 2014.
- **Intel** – This 88,500 SF, 2-story, 2-building tenant improvement includes: open air active space, exposed ceilings in an open office environment, whiteboard charrette space, and an innovative meeting area called a “thinkubator” which can be enclosed with a circular revolving door.
- **Nokia** – To Nokia, it was important to create an environment at their 150,000 SF Aitta building for encouraging interaction and fostering balance in the work environment. The T.I., in a speculative office building, also reflected their corporate slogan “connecting people” with a great room in the center of the building as a common, social gathering area to retreat from the “urban working environment.”

### Healthcare

- **Sharp Chula Vista Ocean View Tower** – A recent win for AVRP Skyport Studios in association with Smith Group JJR, the Ocean View Tower at Sharp Chula Vista Medical Center will be the first new Sharp hospital in San Diego’s South Bay in more than 40 years. The 170,631 SF, \$182 million project is scheduled to be completed in Q3 2019.
- **Sharp Rees-Stealy Downtown Wellness** – Completed in January 2012, this 66,365 SF Clinic and 123,174 SF Parking Structure is first LEED Gold Certified medical office building in San Diego. The \$23 million project was designed to minimize wait times and maximize efficiencies for staff.
- **Sharp Rees-Stealy Del Mar** – Completed in January 2014, Sharp Rees-Stealy’s Del Mar medical offices feature on-site lab and radiology services, and office and examination facilities for numerous general practitioners and specialists. This 29,364 SF medical center T.I. was designed so that all waiting rooms have southern views and access to exterior balconies with seating and fountains.