

## AVRP's Leadership Team Celebrates 30 Years as Partners

*Trio leads a team of creative problem solvers who have designed more than \$3 billion worth of construction projects*

This month a milestone will be reached at [AVRP Studios](#) as CEO/Founder Doug Austin, President Chris Veum and Principal Randy Robbins celebrate 30 years in business, together building the award-winning architecture and design firm known as AVRP, which is short for Austin Veum Robbins Partners

With a combined experience of more than 75 years, the trio of Austin, Veum and Robbins have established themselves as creative problem solvers and experts in their respective fields. They continue to blaze trails in the design industry with creative advancements in the areas of commercial, residential, and governmental building projects.

The trio has been responsible for designing more than \$3 billion worth of construction projects, including the new [Hoover High School performing arts theater](#), multi-story classroom buildings for both Hoover and Point Loma High School, [Aviara in Carlsbad](#), [Beth Israel Synagogue](#), [Pinnacle Marina Tower](#), [Red Door Interactive](#), [Price Center at UCSD](#), and several projects on the [USS Midway Museum](#). The firm has been awarded several patents, including one for high-rise building design. AVRP is currently working on creating a new headquarters for one of the largest school districts in the country and an urban home from an old brewery.

At AVRP, established 46 years ago in 1976 by Austin, there is a focus on housing, education, healthcare facilities, as well as community and urban and regional planning.

"If you're looking for creative solutions, we're your firm," said Austin, who was influenced by [The Universal Traveler by Don Koberg and Jim Bagnall](#), who served as mentors to Austin at California Polytechnic State University. "That's the ethos of this firm. I'm proud of our team and the work we've achieved and you can trace a lot of that back to the partnership between Randy, Chris and me."

Together, the three partners have helped AVRP earn nearly 135 design awards and have been recognized by their peers and clients for their visionary and innovative designs. The trio's commitment to excellence and their passion for designing functional and beautiful spaces have made them an asset to the architectural community and, more importantly, to San Diego.

### **Doug Austin**

Austin, FAIA, LEED AP, MAIBC, is a renowned expert in urban design and has been at the forefront of designing projects both domestically and internationally. Some of his notable projects include urban infill, mixed-use buildings, housing, education, corporate offices, and healthcare facilities. The firm has come a long way since getting its start more than 45 years ago out of Austin's home.

Austin is a former Planning Commissioner for the City of San Diego. He served as Vice Chairman of San Diego's Redevelopment Agency, and he currently serves as Chair of the Advisory Board for [YIGBY](#) (Yes in God's

Backyard), an organization committed to finding innovative ways to build homes for low-income families and individuals.

In the book [The Executive Architect](#), the authors wrote of Austin: “No architect we have met is more successful in achieving building value, performance, and image on every project.”

*“We’re creative problem solvers and sometimes that means working with multiple jurisdictions on a regional plan and other times that means creating an addition for a house. Our vision-driven company is powered by the passion of the talented and dedicated professionals who work here. From designing the next generation of worker-centric biotech work spaces, to housing Californians across all income levels and everything in between, the passion and purpose behind all of our projects is what makes me particularly proud of this team.” -Doug Austin*

### **Christopher Veum**

Christopher Veum, Associate AIA and Affiliate IIDA, is responsible for overseeing the company's workplace and healthcare design. Veum began working at AVRP 30 years ago in 1992. With a focus on the current and future needs of a diverse, multigenerational population, as well as sustainable design, Veum has been recognized as a thought leader in designing efficient and productive workplaces that align with each organization's culture and values. He's a master at taking an aging old space and making it an inviting new one.

Veum is a former chairman of the Board of the Downtown San Diego Partnership, past chairman of the board of Young Presidents Organization, Coastal San Diego Chapter, and past chairman of the board of Young Presidents Organization, Rancho Santa Fe Chapter.

*“I am very proud of the role of AVRP in shaping the workplace of tomorrow through people-centric designs that allow each individual to work in the setting and format that suits them and their employer best. The pandemic pushed us further into the future of nontraditional work settings, and we did our best to meet that moment and offer clients options that will keep their employees productive and happy.” - Christopher Veum*

### **Randy Robbins**

Randy Robbins, AIA, LEED AP, has over 40 years of experience in master planning, architecture, and interior design. Leading the Campus and Community studio, Robbins has worked with a wide array of clients including municipalities, school districts, non-profit organizations, and private developers.

With a passion for art and aesthetics, Robbins has served on the City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture, and as a Director on the San Diego Architectural Foundation. Currently, he serves as a Director of ACE mentoring



*“Over my many years in the business, I have been particularly proud of the culture of excellence that has developed at AVRP which has allowed us to not only grow our firm, but also to work with incredible clients.” -Randy Robbins*

### **About AVRP Studios**

Celebrating 46 years of creativity and achievements in 2022, the firm and its principals have earned nearly 135 design awards.

AVRP originated in 1976, when Doug Austin began a small design firm out of his home. Forty-six years later, the firm has designed billions of dollars’ worth of iconic projects both domestically and internationally.

In its outside-the-box and problem-solving nature, the firm was recently awarded U.S. and International patents for a new methodology involving prefabricating modules that act as the formwork for concrete buildings up to 75 stories in height that hold the potential to save significant construction cost and time in the building process. AVRP sponsors a grant each year for “Housing Innovations.”

The firm’s project types include urban infill, mixed-use, housing, education, corporate office, multigenerational space, health care and more. The firm is led by three principals: Douglas H. Austin, FAIA, LEED AP, MAIBC; Christopher T. Veum, AAIA, IIDA; and Randy Robbins, AIA.

Visit [www.avrpstudios.com](http://www.avrpstudios.com) to learn more.