



VISTANCIA WINS TWO PRESTIGIOUS GOLD NUGGET DESIGN AWARDS INCLUDING BEST MASTER PLANNED PROJECT OF THE YEAR

- Second Time This Year Vistancia Has Been Nationally Recognized -

For its desert-sensitive design and thoughtfully planned neighborhoods and amenities, Vistancia in north Peoria received two coveted Gold Nugget Awards, including “Best Master Planned Project of the Year”, June 2 at the 42nd annual awards ceremony.

The 7,100-acre community also won a Gold Nugget for “Best Community Site Plan – 100 Acres or More” as well as two Awards of Merit for “Best Public/Private Special Use Facility” for The Discovery Center, and “Best Public/Private Recreational Use Facility” for The Kiva Club at Trilogy at Vistancia.

Sponsored by the Pacific Coast Builders Conference (PCBC) and *Builder* magazine, the awards ceremony is the highlight of the PCBC Western Building Show held annually in San Francisco.

The prestigious Gold Nuggets honor housing design as well as commercial, recreational and land planning achievements in 14 Western states and all Pacific Rim countries.

It’s been a banner year for the just barely one-year-old community which was recognized in January by the National Association of Home Builders as “America’s Best Master Planned Community”.

Vistancia, located west of Lake Pleasant Road and north of Happy Valley Road, is being developed in a partnership with Sunbelt Holdings and Shea Homes, both headquartered in Scottsdale.

“This has been an amazing year for Vistancia and it’s gratifying to know that our team efforts to create a community that truly integrates neighborhoods and amenities

with the natural surroundings have been recognized by two major industry awards,” said Curt Smith, chief operating officer for Sunbelt Holdings.

The Gold Nuggets judging committee called Vistancia “a truly outstanding community in every respect.”

Smith said the judges were impressed by Vistancia’s village concept with each village linked to amenities by The Discovery Trail, a linear park that is the centerpiece of the community.

The nearly four-mile Discovery Trail provides educational and interactive walking paths while linking villages to the Mountain Vista Club with its three pools, an indoor basketball gymnasium, a stadium tennis complex, a game lawn and open play areas, as well as an elementary school now under construction and eventually a full mix of retail shops and commercial space. This innovative land plan was designed by Greey Pickett of Scottsdale.

Other features that impressed the judges were the enhanced landscaped gardens that provide a thematic link along The Discovery Trail, and the utilization of desert landscaping and natural monumentation to create a gradual transition from the surrounding desert valley to the community’s core.

The Mountain Vista Club, a 15,000-square-foot community complex, was designed by world renowned Scottsdale architect Bing Hu of H&S International and praised “for embracing a contemporary desert-style architecture with ranch character detailing and a desert-sensitive color palette.”

Currently, more than 460 families now call Vistancia home. It is anticipated that an additional 50 families will move into Vistancia over the next few months.

Vistancia, which opened in mid-February 2004, was purposefully designed based

upon extensive research which revealed that its residents desire a lifestyle that includes access to open space and the natural beauty of the desert.

Plans call for more than 1,000 acres of open space which will allow residents and visitors to explore the region's many natural wonders.

In an innovative approach, 33 models by six builders in one central location, and 12 models within Trilogy at Vistancia, feature interesting design and a variety of floor plans.

For more information, call 623-933-6233 or visit the Web site at www.vistancia.com.

Shea Homes Arizona operations are part of Shea Homes LLC, the largest privately owned home builder in the nation, building homes and communities primarily in the West. Shea Homes currently has more than 20 communities throughout the Valley including Seville Golf and Country Club in the East Valley.

Sunbelt Holdings' list of successfully developed communities include McDowell Mountain Ranch, Johnson Ranch, The Legacy Golf Resort, Power Ranch, Superstition Foothills, Arizona Traditions and Sonoran Foothills.