



## Redstone Gateway Sculpture Wins International Award

A public sculpture installed earlier this year at Huntsville's Redstone Gateway of office park development has won a major art award from United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

Seattle sculptor Ulrich Pakker, who created the 25-foot-tall "Breaking Earth's Bond," received the Commissioner's Art Award from Dr. Sheree Wen, U.S. national commissioner for UNESCO.

"Breaking Earth's Bond," which evokes the arc of a rocket launch, rocket fuel molecules and Huntsville's space history, "brings together peace, and the worlds of science and art," Wen said at a ceremony at Redstone Gateway on Nov. 7.

Redstone Gateway developer Corporate Office Properties Trust commissioned Pakker to create a centerpiece sculpture for the three-building Boeing complex under construction near the Interstate 565-Rideout Road interchange, and it was installed in February. Four buildings have been constructed in the development, and another 48 are on the drawing board.

"This magnificent sculpture beautifully represents the dreams and aspirations of the scientists and engineers who have worked here in Huntsville," said Huntsville Mayor Tommy Battle. "As we have soared and excelled in our space exploration, it is only fitting that Ulrich Pakker's work also take flight in the form of this prestigious award."

Battle said since the inception of Redstone Gateway, it was decided that outdoor sculpture and artwork would be a part of the plan.

Pakker's sculptures have been collected by Microsoft, The Boeing Company, the University of Pennsylvania, museums and cities, in addition to numerous private collectors.

Pakker said he was inspired by pho-

tos of Saturn and other heavenly bodies when creating the artwork and that he views it as a tribute to "humanity's desire to explore... and embark on the journey with peace in our hearts."

## Four Local Companies "Top Job Creators"

*Inc. Magazine* has ranked four Huntsville companies among some of the top job creators in the state over the past 18 months.

Torch Technologies (No. 6), GaN (No. 7), nLogic (No. 8) and The Pinnacle Schools (No. 10), all of Huntsville, nabbed spots on the magazine's Hire Power Awards list, which recognizes companies that are creating the most jobs across all industries.

Torch Technologies, which was founded in 2002 and has engineering prime contracts worth more than \$1.4 billion, added 37 jobs in 2012-13, according to the *Inc.* ranking.



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*Redstone Gateway is a joint venture development of COPT and Jim Wilson & Associates, LLC.*

The company grew 212 percent over the past three years and brought in revenues of up to \$125 million in 2012.

GaN (Geeks and Nerds) serves mostly military customers in aerospace and defense and added 35 jobs, Inc. reports. With more than \$16 million in revenue last year, the 9-year-old company has 118 employees and experienced 132 percent growth over three years.



nLogic, an employee-owned small business that works in the aerospace and defense sectors, added 26 jobs and employs 73 people. Growth jumped 137 percent over three years at nLogic, which exceeded annual revenue by \$13 million.



The Pinnacle Schools, a company that offers therapeutic programs for young people in the Huntsville area, created 23 new jobs and has 70 total employees, Inc. Magazine said in the report.

## Judy Ryals, EarlyWorks Win Tourism Awards

Judy Ryals, president and CEO of the Huntsville/Madison County Convention & Visitors Bureau, was recognized as the 2013 Tourism Professional of the Year during an Alabama Mountain Lakes Tourist Association meeting in Huntsville.

EarlyWorks Museum was named Organization of the Year.

The award, which is given annually and considered the highest achievement in North Alabama tourism, was presented during the AMLA's PEAK Awards ceremony at the Huntsville Marriott.

"The PEAK Awards recognize the best of North Alabama's tourism and travel industry, and this year's nominees and winners have all done an exemplary job in delivering an exceptional visitor experience," said Tami Reist, President/CEO of the Alabama Mountain Lakes Tourist Association, in a statement.



## Summit 7 Systems Named to the CRN Fast Growth 150

Summit 7 Systems announced on Sept. 18 that it had been named to the 2013 CRN Fast Growth 150 list for a third consecutive year. The annual list features the fastest-growing solution providers in the technology industry based on two years' growth of net sales from fiscal year 2010 to fiscal year 2012.

Listed at No. 21, Summit 7 Systems grew 145% based on the ability to implement technology solutions that truly align with a customer's strategic objectives.

Summit 7 Systems has maintained an accelerated growth through methodology that provides productive collaboration, Enterprise Content Management and Web Content Management platforms to mid-size and enterprise customers.

Said CEO Robert Faletra, "We are thrilled to shine a spotlight on the successful companies that keep the channel top of mind and serve as an example for the rest of the market."

## AAMU is Deemed "Military Friendly"

Alabama A&M University has recently been named a Military Friendly School® for 2014 by Victory Media, a nationally recognized veteran-oriented publication.

The coveted designation places AAMU among the top 15 percent of schools nationally, according to a "data driven survey" conducted by the publisher of *G.I. Jobs and Guide to Military Friendly Schools*®, and certified by Ernst and Young.

AAMU joined the distinguished group, although heavy competition for the 2014 list caused organizers to raise the already stringent criteria to a higher benchmark.

The distinction also means that AAMU is among the elite competing for military



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