

## &gt;&gt; NEWS FROM RICEDESIGNALLIANCE.ORG

## WEBSITE THRIVES

The Rice Design Alliance website features commentary and podcasts from RDA civic forums and lectures, a calendar of RDA events and events sponsored by other area organizations, travel journals from RDA city tours, and several resources, including links to OffCite.org, the *Cite* blog, and CiteMag.org, a website featuring free access to the *Cite* archives.



FROM LEFT: A home built by the the Make It Right Foundation in the Lower 9th Ward of New Orleans; Norma and David George, Jo and Art Storey, Kimberly Hickson, and Greg Cunningham at the RDA Gala 2010; Finlandia in Helsinki.

## &gt; NEW ORLEANS FIVE YEARS LATER

With the five-year anniversary of Hurricane Katrina having passed, the city of New Orleans remains in the hearts and on the minds of many. While images of the Crescent City once evoked heartbreak and destruction, the once-awash city now features a landscape of resilience—both through its people and its infrastructure.

Rice Design Alliance's Spring Lecture Series, "New Orleans: Five Years Later," presents the ongoing recovery efforts in New Orleans, including city-wide planning and infrastructure improvements, local neighborhood reconstruction projects, and various other community efforts.

The series begins Wednesday, January 19, with historian and best-selling author Douglas Brinkley.

## &gt; TOUR THE DESIGN CAPITAL OF TEXAS

Please join RDA April 7-10, 2011, for a beautiful spring weekend of architecture and art as RDA teams up with the Dallas Art Fair. The Mansion on Turtle Creek will be the home base as tourgoers visit the arts district studded by buildings designed by Pritzker winners; art collectors' home tours and receptions; houses by O'Neil Ford, Edward Durrell Stone, and Dan Shipley, among others; and a visit to the new Cowboys Football Stadium, which contains an amazing collection of public art.

Please visit [ricedesignalliance.org](http://ricedesignalliance.org) for more information and to register for the Dallas trip.

## &gt; TOUR THE DESIGN CAPITAL OF THE WORLD

If you are looking for a destination farther away than Dallas, join RDA, June 7-14, 2011, for a trip to Helsinki.

The city was founded in 1550, and the "Daughter of the Baltic" has been the Finnish capital since 1812 when the tsars of Russia rebuilt it along the lines of a miniature St. Petersburg. Today, Helsinki pulls off the trick of being something of an international metropolis while still retaining a small-town feel. The city is the official World Design Capital 2012.

The city's architecture is typified by Nordic minimalism and refinement as in the works of Alvar Aalto.

Modernism, functionalism, and the largest concentration of Art Nouveau buildings in Northern Europe make Helsinki a major city of architecture.

Go online for more information.

## &gt; GALA

Over 1,000 Rice Design Alliance members from Houston's art, architecture, engineering, and construction industries gathered on November 13 for the organization's gala, "Progressive Art: Infrastructure, Greenspaces, and Waterways."

The event occurred downtown at the Hilton Americas-Houston, and was held in honor of Art Storey, Executive Director of the Harris County Public Infrastructure Department.

Norma and David George served as gala chairs, Doug Combes as underwriting chair, and Mary Beth Woiccek as auction chair.

PGAL's David Andrews, along with Las Vegas associate Rong Singer, designed an elegant ballroom environment.

Over 500,000 dollars were raised to fund RDA programs for the upcoming year.