

Hospital's healing garden earns environmental award

A peaceful healing garden at Scottsdale Healthcare Thompson Peak Hospital earned a first-place award during the Valley Forward Association's 2010 Environmental Excellence Awards.

The healing garden received the first-place or Crescordia (a Greek term meaning "to grow in harmony") award in the Site Development and Landscape/Private Sector category.

Designed by Ten Eyck Landscape Architects, Inc. and consulting architecture firm Gensler, the H.N. and Frances C. Berger Thomas and Joan Kalimanis Healing Garden was created by remodeling a portion of the hospital's lobby and open-air courtyard.

Walls were replaced with floor-to-ceiling glass and doors to create an inviting entrance and visual link for patients and visitors into the garden.

Troughs of brimming water lead into the multi-sensory garden and encourage further exploration. Once in the garden, individuals can enjoy shaded outdoor gathering places interwoven with drought-tolerant, lush plantings that attract desert birds and butterflies.

"The restorative landscape evokes feelings of well-being, providing places of serenity, rejuvenation and social interaction, and imparting visitors with a sense of connectedness to the natural world," said Christy Ten Eyck of Ten Eyck Landscape Architects.

Located adjacent to the hospital's newly



Scottsdale Healthcare Thompson Peak Hospital's healing garden is being recognized by Valley Forward Association in its annual Environmental Excellence Awards contest.

renovated lobby and visible from several areas of the hospital, including many patient rooms, the garden was made possible by community philanthropy. It opened in 2009.

"The healing garden has been a wonderful oasis for our patients, families, visitors and staff. It's a soothing, calming place that complements the quality care and compassion provided by our physicians and staff," said Jean Knoedler, administrator of Scotts-

dale Healthcare Thompson Peak Hospital.

The Environmental Excellence Awards Program is Arizona's oldest and largest environmental competition initiated by the Valley Forward Association in 1981 to recognize outstanding contributions to the physical environment of Valley communities. This year's awards were presented during a ceremony Oct. 2 at The Phoenician Resort.