

Golden Opportunities

THE 2014 TRAINING CONFERENCE & EXPO SPARKLED WITH ENERGY, POSITIVITY, AND CONNECTIVITY THAT FOSTERED LEARNING, COLLABORATION, AND CHANGE. BY LORRI FREIFELD AND LORI GARDNER

Just days before the Olympic Games kicked off in Sochi, Russia, the Training 2014 Conference and Expo, held February 3-5 at the San Diego Convention Center, was bathed in its own golden glow. While basking in the San Diego sunshine, some 1,900-plus attendees had the chance to:

- Flash some *Solid Gold* touchdown dance moves at the Super Bowl party
- Form warm new friendships in Making Connections special events
- Celebrate *Training* magazine's golden anniversary at a special event at the San Diego Zoo
- Score T-shirts for finishing the Born to Train 5K on the Embarcadero
- Participate in three post-conference tours, including the Naval Education and Training Command Tour
- Take home golden training nuggets from five different keynoters: Ken Blanchard, Shawn Achor, Jill Bolte Taylor, BJ Fogg, and David Maxfield, who offered a glimpse into our mental circuitry and how we all have the inner ability to alter/re-channel our mental power sources for the better
- Learn from the best at 12 certificate programs, 15 master sessions, 10 hands-on clinics, and 100-plus breakout programs
- Network and mine for information at 107 exhibitor booths and 33 sponsored sessions

Meanwhile, 600 representatives of the 2014 Training Top 125 winners discovered their rankings at the Golden Gala.

"This year's Training Conference was the *best* I have attended," noted Sara M. Frasch, Ph.D., SPHR, director, Organizational & Professional Development, University of New Mexico Hospitals, which ranked No. 77 on the 2014 Training Top 125. "The keynotes were phenomenal, and my team and I got a lot from each of these professionals. As someone in the training industry, we experience many, many speakers, and these are a cut above the rest! Thank you for providing a wonderful learning experience and content that is so relevant, needed, and timely."



PHOTOGRAPHY BY: PATRICE ARGANT

KEYNOTE QUOTES



“If the brain can be imprinted with a negative pattern, it equally can be imprinted with a positive one.” —**Shawn Achor, positive psychologist and author of “Before Happiness”**



“People admire your skills, but they love your vulnerability. Show empathy.” —**Ken Blanchard, management guru and author of “The One-Minute Manager”**



“Simplicity changes behavior. Focus on three things: 1. Get specific. 2. Make the behavior you want to change easy. 3. Trigger it (the call to action).” —**BJ Fogg, experimental psychologist and director of Stanford’s Behavior Design Lab**



“We are all about loops and circuitry. It’s why we can think of a thought that angered us, and 20 years later, it still will.” —**Jill Bolte Taylor, neuroanatomist and author of “My Stroke of Insight”**



Attendees take a deep breath and exhale their stress during Jill Bolte Taylor’s keynote.



“There are four cultural viruses in today’s business environment. They revolve around Persona (can you learn will power?), Interpersonal (the culture of silence and not speaking up), Team (do we hold each other accountable?), and Organizational (the culture of cynicism).” —**David Maxfield, researcher and author of “Crucial Accountability”**



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FUN & LEARN



This touchdown dance gets the crowd going at the Super Bowl party.



Attendees connect between conference sessions.



Everything's coming up aces for these session participants.



Guitarist John Stowell hits a high note, explaining how jazz concepts can improve communication and interaction.



Attendees troll the Expo's red carpet in search of information on the latest training products and services.



Attendees get the scoop on their social style.



What's black and white and read all over? Training magazine, of course!



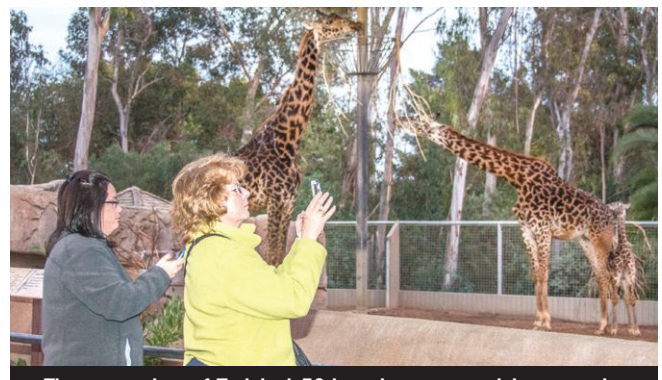
Lunchtime on the Expo Floor.



Perusing the latest training titles.



Who's watching who at the San Diego Zoo?



These attendees of Training's 50th anniversary special event at the San Diego Zoo will have a tall tale to tell when they get back to the office.

BP/OTI AND ETL AWARD WINNERS

Training recognized innovative training programs utilized by the 2014 Training Top 125 winners. Best Practice and Outstanding Training Initiative winners received crystal trophies and were congratulated by Hall of Famers Matt Valencius and Annette Thompson during a ceremony on the Expo Stage.

BEST PRACTICES

Automatic Data Processing, Inc.
 Baylor Health Care System
 CHG Healthcare Services
 McCarthy Building Companies, Inc.
 Valvoline Instant Oil Change

OUTSTANDING TRAINING INITIATIVES

BNSF Railway
 Discover Financial Services
 First Data Corporation
 First Horizon National Corporation
 Walgreens



Automatic Data Processing for Accelerating First-Year Sales Performance



Baylor Health Care System for Lean and Process Improvement Training



CHG Healthcare Services for Wellness Coaching



McCarthy Building Companies, Inc., for Change Management and Technology Training Initiative



BNSF Railway for Approaching Others About Safety



Discover Financial Services for Customer 2.0



First Horizon National Corporation for Call Center Focus



Walgreens for Leadership LEAP



2013 Emerging Training Leaders Eighteen of the 25 2013 Emerging Training Leaders attended an awards ceremony held on the Expo Stage. The ETL awards program highlights training professionals who are relatively new to the training/learning and development industry (minimum of two years and maximum of 10 in the field) and who have demonstrated exceptional leadership skills, business savvy, and training instincts.



Top 5 Emerging Training Leaders Earning the highest nomination scores from the Training Top 10 Hall of Fame judges are the Top 5 Emerging Training Leaders: Rachel Gober Klemens; Elizabeth Lynn Kinder; Marita Jones; Charles L.C. Ho; and Lindsay D. Donaire.

TRAINING TOP 125 GALA

THE GOLDEN GALA

Call them the glitterati! In a ballroom shining with the Midas Touch, the 2014 Training Top 125 winners received their crystal awards and learned their rankings during a black-tie gala held February 3 during the Training 2014 Conference & Expo at the San Diego Convention Center. Attended by 600 Top 125 representatives and Training Top 10 Hall of Famers, the Golden Gala was sponsored by Advantexe, Allen Interactions, American Management Association, American Public University, Franklin Covey, Game On Learning, Godiva, Herrmann International, Omnikron, Seiko, Sheppard Partners, the Training Top 10 Hall of Fame, Turning Technologies, and Vistage. Seiko served as the official timekeeper of the event and also to the countdowns leading to the application deadline and Gala.

Jiffy Lube International, Inc., took the gold with the No. 1 spot on the 2014 Training Top 125, while Keller Williams Realty, Inc., moved up to No. 2. CHG Healthcare Services took fourth place.

Top 5 newcomers Capital BlueCross and Mohawk Industries, Inc., nabbed Nos. 3 and 5, respectively. This year, 27 newcomers cracked the Top 125 list.

During the gala, *Training* also inducted Verizon and Farmers Insurance into the Training Top 10 Hall of Fame.

Earlier in the day, Training Top 125 Best Practices and Outstanding Training Initiative award winners received crystal trophies during a ceremony on the Expo Stage (see previous page).



It's crystal clear what this night is all about.



The 2014 Training Top 125 glitterati.



Farmers Insurance's Annette Thompson (left) and Verizon's Lou Tedrick receive awards from *Training*'s Mike Murrell as their companies are inducted into the Training Top 10 Hall of Fame.



Top 125ers get in the groove on the dance floor.





Mohawk Industries, Inc., takes the stage at No. 5.



CHG Healthcare Services notches fourth place.



Capital BlueCross breaks into the Top 5 at No. 3.



Keller Williams Realty, Inc., moves into the No. 2 position.



Jiffy Lube International, Inc., revs into the No. 1 spot.



The Gala earns a 10 from these Top 125ers.



After enjoying a cocktail, Dollar General Senior Director of Learning & Development Donna Turk (right) received a Seiko watch during the Gala in honor of her upcoming retirement.

