



Soleri Bridge & Plaza

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ScottsdalePublicArt.org

Key points

- This bridge will be a tremendous achievement for Scottsdale, as it will be the only bridge in the world by the renowned Paolo Soleri. Mr. Soleri will be 90 next June, so time is definitely of the essence!
- Scottsdale has a longstanding vision of engaging the canals in the public fabric, especially along the increasingly urbanized stretch in its downtown.
- The Soleri Bridge and plaza will play a key role in energizing the waterfront area as a cultural destination as well as providing further pedestrian access to and from the site.
- The community has expressed a long standing desire for a Soleri bridge in Scottsdale—(as documented in early master planning documents Public Art Design Team Program Sketchbook, July 1990).
- The public art program has been working to provide key artworks along the waterfront in order to make it a dynamic destination for citizens and tourists alike. Paolo Soleri is an internationally known and celebrated architect. Realization of a signature bridge and plaza promises to make Scottsdale's waterfront a must see destination attraction.

The Soleri Bridge and plaza will

- Provide celebration of celestial and solar events that will interest, attract, and engage the public.
- The site will include the largest bell ever created by Soleri.
- The bridge and all aspects of the plaza were designed by Soleri. The plaza will be reminiscent of aspects of Cosanti and Arcosanti (Soleri's home and visionary project).
- The plaza will include didactic information celebrating the life, work, and significant contributions of Soleri.
- The plaza will enhance the waterfront with additional seating, shade, as well as increasing and encouraging pedestrian flow.
- Help to continue Scottsdale's reputation as an arts leader and a cultural destination.
- The site will provide a learning opportunity for school children and visitors. The Scottsdale Public Art Program will provide educational materials, curriculum, and scheduled talks, tours and events at the site.

Awards & Recognition

Paolo Soleri is one of Scottsdale's most revered and respected residents. He is an author, visionary, architect, and pioneer of new human spaces.

Soleri has received one fellowship from the [Graham Foundation](#) and two from the [Guggenheim Foundation](#). He has been awarded three honorary doctorates and several awards from design groups worldwide:

- 2006 - [Cooper Hewitt National Design Award](#) for lifetime achievement
(this is one of the most distinguished & coveted awards an architect can receive)
- 2000 - [Leone d'oro](#) at the [Mostra di Architettura di Venezia](#) (Venice Architecture Biennale) for his life long achievement
- 1984 - Silver Medal of the Academie d' Architecture in [Paris](#)
- 1981 - Gold Medal from the [World Biennial of Architecture](#) in [Sofia, Bulgaria](#)
- 1963 - [American Institute of Architects Gold Medal](#) for Craftmanship