

XERISCAPE AWARDS

Each year a panel of local experts reviews a range of creative gardens and landscapes taking into account thoughtful design, low-water use plant selection, efficient irrigation, and desert-appropriate maintenance practices. Here we present three of the winners who serve as examples of what can be accomplished with imagination, hard work, and little water in the Sonoran Desert.



Grand Prize Winner & J.D. Di Meglio Artistry in Landscaping Award
KAREN MARTIN AND DAVID ZAVALA

This charming garden incorporates a variety of garden zones and includes plants from many regions as well as a small artificial turf area. The homeowners have struck a good balance between a neat appearance and allowing for the tree litter and undergrowth necessary for wildlife. Many seed, nectar, and berry-producing plants are included, in addition to ground covers for lizards. And much to the delight of all, hundreds of butterflies descend upon the landscape each year.



THE AWARDS

Grand Prize Winner & J.D. Di Meglio Artistry in Landscaping Award

- Karen Martin and David Zavala

HOMEOWNER CATEGORY

- **1st Place**—Thomas Liguero

Judges' Awards

- Distinguished Xeriscape—Daniel and Tracy Williams
- Best Water Harvesting & Use of Gray Water—Retallick residence
- Bright Spot In the Neighborhood—Vincent Scardino
- Best Revegetation of a Hillside or Slope—Sperry and Donna Lynn Van Langeveld
- Honorable Mention—Jacqueline A. Soule

PROFESSIONAL RESIDENTIAL CATEGORY

- **1st Place**—Scott Calhoun, Zona Gardens, Newhouse residence
- **2nd Place**—Paul Connolly, Sonoran Gardens, Rosalik/Krys residence

PUBLIC WORKS CATEGORY

- **Grand Prize**—City of Tucson Department of Transportation for the median at Alvernon Way & 29th Street

Judges' Award

- Best Neighborhood/Community Landscape Project—City of Tucson Parks & Recreation for San Antonio Park/Parque de la Gente

Community Xeriscape Leader

- Lisa Shipek, Director, Watershed Management Group



Homeowner Category • 1st Place
THOMAS LIGUORE

In this colorful landscape the judges were impressed with the sculpting of the terrain and the use of river rock, plant selection and placement, water catchment, and the overall inviting feel of the yard. As pleasing as this space is for people, this garden also serves as a popular gathering place for hummingbirds.

Professional Residential Category • 1st Place
**SCOTT CALHOUN, ZONA GARDENS,
NEWHOUSE RESIDENCE**

The main challenge here was to integrate a mature Elderica pine into an updated xeriscape design. Using a limited, wisely chosen plant palette, which included sandpaper verbena, bear grass, and pale-leaf yucca, Calhoun tied the front yard together, giving it a spare, yet serene ambiance. His careful selection also allows for an extended spring bloom. 

