



Federated with BOMA International

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### **Whole Foods and Seton Northwest Buildings Named Best in the Southwest**

**Austin, Texas, April 16, 2008** - Whole Foods Market World Headquarters Building and Landmark Store and Seton Northwest Health Plaza have won the Building Owners and Managers Association's 2008 Southwest Regional TOBY (The Office Building of the Year) Award, beating out numerous buildings across six states.

The two facilities were selected as the highest-quality and best-managed office buildings at BOMA's annual Southwest Regional Conference held in New Orleans. Winners were announced April 12.

"We're extremely proud that two leading Austin-based organizations received this honor. This year's TOBY winners have integrated and met numerous criteria to demonstrate their buildings' efficient, safe and technologically advanced operations. This is another example of the innovation and professionalism in Central Texas," said Mary Harrington, RPA, FMA, president, BOMA Austin and property manager for Hines Interests.

**Seton Northwest Health Plaza**, managed by Lilibridge Healthcare Services, Inc., won the Medical Office Building Category. The building is owned by LHRET Ascension Austin, L.P. and managed by BOMA member Becky Dickerson.

Built in 1988, Seton Northwest Health Plaza is connected to Seton Northwest Hospital. The 110,000-square-foot facility hosts a variety of medical services.

**Whole Foods Market World Headquarters Building and Landmark Store**, managed by SDC Leasing & Management Services, Inc., won in the 250,000 - 499,999-square-foot category. The building is managed by BOMA member Rheta Williams, CPM, CSM, RPA.

Completed in 2005, the Class A office building and retail location is 290,000-square-feet and located in downtown Austin.

To compete for the TOBY Award, building managers provide judges with detailed reports, including: any systems implemented in the building to address the health

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and welfare of occupants; the frequency and level of maintenance undertaken in the building; its accessibility to individuals with disabilities; and the frequency of fire and other safety drills. Building management is also evaluated on their ability to coordinate occupant participation in community events.

To enter the Southwest Regional competition, the buildings first competed and won at the local BOMA Austin level. Southwest Regional winners will move forward to compete with award-winning buildings from more than 100 BOMA affiliated chapters at the BOMA International Conference in Denver, Colorado. International TOBY winners will be announced at the conference on June 24.

### **BOMA Austin**

BOMA Austin, the Austin-based affiliate of the Building Owners and Managers Association International, is a non-profit, member-driven organization that promotes the highest ethical and professional standards in the commercial real estate industry through advocacy, networking and education. Serving the Greater Austin area, including Round Rock and San Marcos, BOMA Austin is composed of more than 300 members who own or manage more than 33 million-square-feet of office, industrial, retail and institutional properties.

BOMA Austin represents owners, managers, suppliers of goods and services, and the professionals insuring the health, safety, comfort and productive environment of commercial structures. Visit [www.BomaAustin.org](http://www.BomaAustin.org) for more information.

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