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BUSINESS Journal BEST PLACES to WORK 2021 WINNERS continued

TLCD ARCHITECTURE

FIVE-TIME WINNER



TLCD Architecture is a North Bay architecture and interior design practice with 56 years of experience.

"Our unique workplace environment promotes creativity and fosters friendship and collegiality. It also plays an important role in attracting and retaining employees," said Founder and Design Principal Don Tomasi, AIA. "Our 32-member staff has been faced with many pandemic-related challenges over almost two years, but has remained connected, collaborative and engaged with our clients. Not only have we retained staff, but we have

also been fortunate to hire several new employees to support our robust workload."

Both as a firm and individuals, TLCD is engaged in the community by supporting REFB, the SRJC Foundation, The Human Race, Habitat for Humanity, Sonoma County Secret Santa, Mike Hauser Academy and other nonprofits. Employees sit on various boards, volunteer their time

and are active in professional organizations such as the American Institute of Architects, the National Organization of Minority Architects and Hip Hop Architecture.

Regular gatherings have included weekly Wine Wednesdays (now virtual), a holiday party, summer picnic. TLCD's professional development program includes formal learning and the ongoing mentoring of junior staff. Financial incentives are available to pursue professional exams and become licensed. The firm provides opportunities to share its projects with others in the office and seek inspiration from them in formal and informal settings.

Employees surveyed said: "We have a great, diverse and talented staff working with great clients...We're focused on building a stronger community."

TRADITIONAL MEDICINALS

FOUR-TIME WINNER

Founded in 1974, Traditional Medicinals is the leading seller of wellness tea in the U.S. – and pioneer of the wellness tea category in the U.S. and Canada. As



a Certified B corporation and California Certified Green Business, TM embraces sustainability, ingredient purity and supports social change/environmental activism while serving the needs of grower communities in 35 countries on six continents through the TM Foundation.

"Many things make TM great. All 220 of us get to be ourselves at work, and second is our social business model ensuring that each day TM is helping the planet through organic farming and improving lives with fair-trade premiums for herb growers around the world," said CEO Blair Kellison. "We think of TM as one big family with a common goal – connecting people to the power of plants."

TM's employee food program offering fresh, organic, local fruits and vegetables, a salad bar in summer, a soup bar in winter, a P&J bar, dairy/non-dairy yogurts, and a variety of hot/cold beverages. Employees are rewarded on anniversary dates with cash prizes, a tea kettle (at 5 years), backpacks (for 10 years). Bucks





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