

New Orleans City BUSINESS

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Humphreys & Partners Architects

2016
City BUSINESS
**Best Places
to Work**

Humphreys & Partners Architects is an international firm, but its New Orleans office is fairly small, hosting only eight people. Jason Weyland, a recently hired project architect at the local office, said the work environment offers the best of both worlds, combining the resources of a global company with the comradery of small team.

"It's that feel of working in a small office, and getting to get your hands in a lot of different projects at different times," he said. "At the same time, we have that strong backbone of a larger company."

The pay and benefits are competitive and include opportunities for bonuses, Weyland said, adding that he enjoys putting forth a "holistic effort" with his coworkers.

"When it comes to deadline time, everyone helps out and pitches in to get somebody else's project delivered on time," he says.

Tim Morris, a project coordinator, has been with Humphreys for about five years. It's his job to make sure people from different disciplines, such as

business developers and designers, are able to play well together.

"I think we work together very seamlessly," Morris said. "It can be really difficult at some companies to coordinate all those people. It just makes my job more enjoyable that we do it with relative ease."

The Paramount at South Market was a particularly meaningful project for Morris, and not just because it was the first project he worked on with Humphreys. He sees it as a lynchpin for the revitalization of downtown, and it's only a few blocks from his office, so he's able to have lunch or drinks there regularly.

"It was a cool experience to start out on a project in New Orleans, especially one that has a major economic impact as an anchor for the downtown area," he said. "It's always fantastic to work on projects that people look forward to and they get excited about, and that you can point to and say, 'I worked on that project.'"

Tanya DeSandro, a project manager, has been with Humphreys for more than 15 years. She enjoys helping her coworkers develop their talents, and said the company fosters a "sense of community."

DeSandro said Humphreys is recognized as an industry leader, and the local office works on projects throughout the country. But she said the projects in New Orleans, where the team can see the fruits of their labor, are extra special.

—David Jacobs

Nature of business: Architecture

Headquarters: Dallas

Employees: 8

Average starting salary: \$40,000

Median salary: \$54,000

Average time of employment: 8 years

Health care benefits: Dental, vision, prescription plan, paid maternity leave

Wait time for benefits: 30 days

Other perks: Additional days off for Mardi Gras and birthdays, annual bonuses, holiday bonuses, tuition assistance, relocation assistance, telecommuting, paid mileage, flexible hours, orientation and recognition programs, White Linen Night party, casual dress during the summer, holiday parties, working from home, free monthly parking

Paid days off: 36

Website: www.humphreys.com