

For Immediate Release: 01.28.21

Trahan Architects and Son of a Saint announce the mentorship of Javier Castellon



Photo courtesy of Trahan Architects

New Orleans, LA: Trahan Architects and Son of a Saint are pleased to announce today that Javier Castellon joins the firm as an intern and mentee of the firm’s founder and CEO Trey Trahan, and its entire staff in New Orleans and New York.

Son of a Saint is a nonprofit organization which exists to transform the lives of fatherless boys through mentorship, emotional support, development of life skills, exposure to constructive experiences and formation of positive, lasting peer-to-peer relationships. Castellon is a Son of a Saint program participant and has been active in the organization since its inception in 2011. Son of a Saint is now celebrating its 10th anniversary of service and success.

“We at Trahan Architects are thrilled to be partnering with the Son of a Saint for the first time,” said Trahan. “The tremendous and admirable work of Sonny Lee is truly inspirational and an incredible asset for our city and its underserved youth. We could not be more excited to welcome Javier to our team and help him thrive in the architectural field.”

Growing up without a father is a challenge facing thousands of boys in New Orleans. For too many of them, the challenge will prove overwhelming. Son of a Saint exists for these boys, providing mentorship, education, recreation, camaraderie, cultural enrichment, emotional support and helping to fill the void for dozens of fatherless young men in New Orleans.

“Javier represents the best of our organization and the potential for what’s possible through hard work, consistency, and self-determination,” said Son of a Saint founder and CEO Bivian

“Sonny” Lee III. “This level of partnership from Trahan Architects is also indicative of the Son of a Saint mission, to treat each young man in our program holistically and long term, setting them up for a bright and promising future in young adulthood. We are proud to see Javier step into this role and put his vision into action.”

About Trahan Architects

Trahan Architects is a global architecture firm with offices in New Orleans and New York founded on the belief that the mindful design of everyday spaces can elevate human experience.

With our roots in New Orleans and our global perspective in New York, we have risen to be ranked the number one design firm by Architect Magazine, the official publication of the American Institute of Architects (AIA). We bring a poetic approach to our work, considering each project as part of a unique ecosystem. We use the tools of our architectural practice—artistic expression, technical innovation, and the mindful selection of materials—in our search for designs that are socially impactful, sincerely sustainable, and aesthetically sublime. This process enables us to shape our communal environments in new and meaningful ways and has led to work that has received over 100 national, regional, and local awards, as well as several international design competitions, including four National AIA Awards.

Founded in New Orleans by Victor F. “Trey” Trahan III, FAIA in 1992, our firm has developed an extensive portfolio of work that spans the realms of the cultural, academic, athletic, residential, ecological, and beyond. Notable projects include the Coca-Cola Stage at the Alliance Theatre in Atlanta, Georgia; Mercedes-Benz Superdome in New Orleans, Louisiana; and conservation and preservation undertakings in St. Francisville, Louisiana and in Corcovado National Park in Patagonia, Chile.

About Son Of A Saint

Son of a Saint launched in 2011 to address the burgeoning problem of fatherless boys in the New Orleans area. Under the direction of Bivian “Sonny” Lee III, the 501(c)(3) organization is dedicated to its mission of transforming the lives of young males through mentorship, emotional support, development of life skills, exposure to constructive experiences and formation of positive, lasting peer-to-peer relationships. For more information or to get involved, visit www.sonofasaint.org.

About Javier Castellon

Javier Castellon is a 17-year-old senior at New Orleans Center for Creative Arts. There, Javier studies media arts and maintains a 4.0 GPA. In addition to his strong academic performance and creative expression, Javier demonstrates responsibility with his part-time employment at Pinkberry. In fact, Javier’s commitment to his job earned him the first ever college scholarship of up to \$40,000, made possible by Felipe’s Taqueria and Pinkberry New Orleans

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in partnership with Son of a Saint. The \$10k yearly college scholarship is a recurring award that's given to a chosen Son of a Saint mentee who's been employed at Felipe's or Pinkberry, then goes on to study at a four-year university. The mentee must also maintain at least a 3.0 GPA during his academic years to continue receiving the yearly scholarship amount.

Javier and his older brother, Alejandro, have been with Son of a Saint since its earliest inception in 2011. Since that time, Javier has participated in numerous community service events with the organization, toured Mardi Gras World, visited successful local businesses, and participated in the Crescent City Classic 10k Race. He has traveled with Son of a Saint to southern California, Dallas, and Denver. Following high school graduation, Javier will study architecture at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, as a Posse Foundation Scholar. In his free time, Javier enjoys running and fishing.

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For more information about the work of Trahan Architects, please visit trahanarchitects.com or follow [@trahanarchitects](https://www.instagram.com/trahanarchitects) on social media.

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