

The Coveted Memorial Ralph Award

Chris Hill, influenced by his teachers Jack Unruh and Rob Lawton, taught a Saturday class at Texas State University for years. Once a year, to energize his students, he invited creative friends (designers, art directors, illustrators, photographers, writers, animators, etc.) to San Marcus for the weekend to speak to the students. The weekend was named The Creative Summit. At each, the students wanted the guest speakers to review their portfolios. To make it easy on the guest speakers they reviewed portfolios during lunch and pulled out the portfolio pieces they liked. When the students returned from lunch, the speakers discussed the selected pieces, which became the show. The best work received awards and cash prizes.

Over the years the Creative Summit started attracting universities and professionals from all over the country and grew to an amazing weekend of creative celebration and fellowship. The Coveted Memorial Ralph Awards are displayed world wide by past speakers and student winners, which have become some of the top creatives in our industry. "The Coveted Memorial Ralph Award" was also given to guest speakers for their creative passion and continued support of The Creative Summit.



Inspired by the famous and talented Ralph, the Diving Pig at Aquarena Springs, the student award was called "The Ralph Award."