



Sara Means, S.E., LEED AP
Principal

Years of Experience: 20

Years with Structural Focus: 12

Education

- M.S., Structural Engineering, University of California, San Diego, 2004
- B.S., Structural Engineering, University of California, San Diego, 2003

Licensing & Certifications

- CA – Structural Engineer, 2010 (S5417)
- CA – Civil Engineer, 2006 (C70381)
- Safety Assessment Program Disaster Emergency Worker SAP61782
- LEED Accredited Professional

Professional Affiliations

- Structural Engineers Association of Southern California (SEAOSC)

Sara Means has 12 years' experience with Structural Focus and 20 years' experience working on structural projects. She obtained her B.S. and M.S. in Structural Engineering from UC San Diego and is licensed in California as both a Structural Engineer and a Civil Engineer. Sara is passionate about sustainability and is active in the SE 2050 efforts to understand, reduce, and ultimately eliminate embodied carbon in our projects by 2050.

Sara is a Legacy LEED Accredited Professional. She has extensive experience working on evaluations and retrofits of existing buildings, historic preservation, structural analysis, computer modeling, and new building design. Projects include the historic Wilshire Boulevard Temple, DreamWorks Lakeside Annex building, Agensys Laboratories, and multiple renovation and tenant improvement projects.

Selected Experience

- **Chapman University Innovation Hub, Dodge College of Film and Media Arts:** Design/build renovation and conversion of an existing sound stage into a virtual production stage.
- **DreamWorks Animation, Lakeside Annex:** New 300,000 SF expansion.
- **Sony Pictures, Multiple Projects:** Repair and strengthening of exterior walls, catwalks, and trusses at multiple sound stages.
- **Warner Bros. B81:** Renovations and tenant improvement.
- **Warner Bros. Victory Studios:** Renovations and tenant improvement.
- **3Labs Event Space:** Adaptive reuse of an existing one-story warehouse to create an upscale venue for parties or production space.
- **Debbie Allen Dance Academy:** Design and construction of a new, two-story dance performance and educational center, with five studios and a 200-seat performance center—all built within the existing three buildings' footprint and covered by a new roof.
- **Madrid Theatre Renovations, Canoga Park:**
 - Lobby renovation and expansion
 - In-theater A/V, lighting, and film equipment upgrades
 - Rebar strengthening and expansion of the upper balcony
 - Increase storage capacity and general improvements
 - ADA and fire, life, safety upgrades
 - Restroom relocation
- **9300 Wilshire:** Historic renovation, seismic retrofit, lobby renovations, and rooftop expansion of a reinforced concrete, four-story office building, with a rooftop penthouse and subterranean parking—a Beverly Hills Historic Landmark, originally built in 1963
- **Pacific Corporate Towers, El Segundo:** Tenant improvement of the top two floors of this 20-story building, including interconnecting stairs between the floors and floor strengthening to accommodate assembly areas.

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Associate

- **Red Bull North American Headquarters:** Adaptive reuse of 1970's warehouse building into new headquarters facility with offices, screening theater and studio, warehouse space, and loading docks.
- **Red Bull Recording Studio:** New recording studio located at Red Bull North American Headquarters.
- **3240 Wilshire Boulevard (I-Magnin):** Seismic retrofit and adaptive reuse of historic 1930s, five-story department store—maintains first floor retail, while converting remaining floors into loft apartments. Additions include a new light well, rooftop pool, and rooftop loft. Preservation work included marble finishes and first floor ceiling.
- **Pasadena YWCA:** Tier 1 and 3 seismic evaluations (in accordance with Standard ASCE 41-17) of the historic 1920s facility with a three-story main building and a two-story pool/gym building—both connected by a corridor.
- **Hope Church Steeple:** Renovations, restoration, seismic strengthening, and accessible entrance and restroom design for the 60ft, two-level, wood-framed steeple in accordance with the California Historic Building Code (CHBC).
- **Rockhaven Sanitarium:** Structural design services to develop a museum within the historic The Pines Cottage; site survey and seismic evaluation for Coulter Cottage; renovation of the Nurses Parcel and adjacent garage for use as a community service building and storage.
- **Wilshire Boulevard Temple:** Renovation and seismic retrofit of the 1920s four-story structure, listed on the National Register of Historic Places—the project included installation of HVAC systems; acoustic, audio visual, lighting enhancements; improved accessibility; sanctuary seating; and restored restrooms.
- **Wilshire Boulevard Temple Camp Hess Kramer:** Design services (including more than 20 camper cabin buildings and several camp activity buildings) for the reconstruction of a children's camp where many of the buildings were lost due to the 2018 Woolsey fire.
- **Pitzer College, Avery Hall & Benson Auditorium:** Renovations to an existing auditorium.
- **USC Carol Little Building Data Center:** Uninterruptible power supply (UPS) replacement facility.
- **Agensys Laboratories:** New pharmaceutical lab and manufacturing building.
- **Amgen B21:** Renovations, seismic upgrade, and tenant improvement.

Awards

- **Red Bull Headquarters, Building 2:** 2016
- **Wilshire Boulevard Temple:** 2014
- **Agensys Laboratories:** 2013
 - 2013 LABC LA Architectural Award of Excellence
- **3Labs Event Space:** 2011, 2012, 2013