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Diamonds at Your Feet



Giroux Glass CEO Transition and Networking Event at the Aquarium of the Pacific



The story of Anne-Merelie Murrell's time in the glass industry is the stuff of movies—fitting for the CEO of the Hollywood-adjacent [Giroux Glass](#). It all began in 1991, when Murrell was in her early 60s and purchased the Los Angeles glass company as part of a larger real estate deal.

"Twenty-four years ago, I saw this group of buildings, and I wanted to buy them," Murrell said last week during a Giroux Glass CEO Transition and Networking Event at the Aquarium of the Pacific in Long Beach,

California. "A fellow by the name of Louis Giroux said he would sell the buildings, but only if I took his glass business as well."

Murrell said yes, despite having no previous experience in the glass industry. And, in the 24 years that followed, she grew the company from a small service glass shop into one of the nation's largest glazing contractors.

"I can't tell you what a thrill it has been," Murrell told a group of about 120 architects, glaziers, glass vendors and contractors, during the event. "This has been a wonderful and exciting part of my life, surrounded by the most wonderful people, who also have the same passion for the glass industry. We expanded into three different locations in Las Vegas; San Bernardino, California; and Fresno, California. And there is talk of more for the future."

Murrell said a great point of pride from her time at Giroux Glass is the company's project portfolio, which includes the large [decorative glass wall](#) at the Aquarium of the Pacific. "I look back at the buildings we've been involved in—the Getty Center, the Staples Center, the [Skybridge](#) over the Grand Canyon, the [City Center](#) in Las Vegas, various terminals at LAX, along with numerous



Murrell

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hospitals and museums. The pride when you see something you've done that is so permanent. I'm so glad I'm not a plumber. You can't get that same aesthetic sense doing that as you can in the glass industry," Murrell said.

Murrell, now in her 80s, stepped down from Giroux Glass in January, with former CFO Nataline Lomedico **taking over** as chief executive. "How fortunate I've been. But, there comes a time for all of us to step aside. I announced two years ago that I would be seeking a new CEO to take over in January 2015. Many names came up. Many people were talked to. But, the real diamonds are really at your feet. And thus it was with Nataline," Murrell said.



Lomedico

The Giroux story will continue, with more growth, more innovation and more iconic projects. "But that's for Nataline to tell you about," Murrell said.

—*Katy Devlin, editor, Glass Magazine*

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