

BEST OF THE BAY 2010: EDITORS PICKS

BEST AL FRESCO FEEL – GOOD

Nestled amid boxy-lofty tech startups and the frenetic energy of AT&T Park lies the small green courtyard wonderland of Crossroads Café. The sprightly enterprise is a component of the Delancey Street Foundation, one of the country's most innovative self-help organizations for the homeless, which has filled up this quiet little SoMa block with 370,000 square feet of housing, vocational schools, and the well-regarded Delancey Street Restaurant. But at Crossroads, all that is readily apparent of this commendable social enterprise is the distinct impression that the staff – composed mostly of Delancey residents learning workforce skills – want to create the best darn café ever. Proceeds from the large menu go toward resident education and support. through the small bookstore and grab Michael Chabon's new bestseller, order a housemade waffle or scoop of coconut ice cream, and settle into a seat on the garden patio for a little soul sunshine.

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