

EDUCATION

2012, Master of Landscape Architecture, University of Florida College of Design, Construction and Planning

1987, Bachelor of Landscape Architecture, University of Georgia College of the Environment and Design

PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES

1989 - Present, American Society of Landscape Architects, Member

2019 - Present, Chair, Dean's Advisory Council; University of Georgia College of the Environment and Design

2019, WFLA Scholarship, Juror

2019, onePULSE Foundation Museum and Memorial Design Team Shortlist, Juror

2018 – Present, Themed Environments Integration Advisory Council, University of Florida College of Design, Construction and Planning CityLab Orlando, Member

2018 – Present, Dean's Advisory Council; University of Georgia College of the Environment and Design, Chair

2017 - Present, Dean's Advisory Council; College of Design, Construction and Planning, University of Florida; Chair 2017-2019

2017 - Present, Design and Construction Committee, onePULSE Foundation; Member Co-Chair, 2017-2020

2011 - Present, Site Planning and Urban Design Studios, Professional Advisor, Department of Landscape Architecture, University of Florida

2014 - 2018, Alumni Association; University of Georgia College of the Environment and Design; President 2016-2017

Spring 2016, Urban Design Studio, Professional Advisor, College of the Environment and Design, University of Georgia

Christina E. Hite, ASLA

President / CEO, Dix.Hite + Partners

ASLA Council of Fellows Nomination: **Leadership/Management**

On behalf of the Executive Committee of ASLA FL, it is my privilege to nominate Christina E. Hite, ASLA for your consideration.

Executive Summary: The Culmination of a Career

Four and a half years ago, after the tragic terrorist attack on Pulse Nightclub rocked Central Florida as well as communities around the globe, Chris's lifelong devotion to inclusion and diversity coupled with her landscape architecture skills of community engagement, guidance and process positioned her perfectly to help a hurting community heal.

It could have been someone else, an artist, an engineer, an architect. No, it was a landscape architect, a member of ASLA, one with the rare universe of skills, abilities and beliefs needed to bring a worldwide community together in healing. Few ever thought that a landscape architect could fill such a deep hole. Now they know. Chris's highly effective leadership increased visibility of the profession on an international stage, advancing the impact of landscape architecture in a unique way.

Soon after the attack, the OnePULSE Charitable Foundation asked Chris to help develop the dream, vision and design for a memorial and museum on the site of the attack. The onePULSE Foundation Task Force and the Design and Construction Committee were charged with conceiving, designing and building the interim memorial to honor the 49 who died in the shooting. It came to be a beacon of hope, love and unity for the entire world.

Serving the best interests of countless stakeholders – many of whom were grieving from the tragedy – was an extraordinary task requiring the leadership of one of Florida's most extraordinary landscape architects. The resulting memorial has had a monumental effect, and became a destination, a sanctuary for quiet reflection and remembrance, and a place of healing for a hurting community.

During last summer's peaceful Black Lives Matter protests, the memorial served as a safe and restful site for community organizing. The media response to the memorial has reached over **1.4 Billion** viewers, resulting in global support for the PULSE Memorial and Museum fundraising effort. This, in combination with the launch of an Idea Generator and an international design competition for the permanent Memorial and Museum, has assisted in securing **\$19 Million** in funding for the project and yearly scholarships. Few landscape architecture careers culminate in the rare opportunity to apply all of one's leadership skills to the healing and greater good of a worldwide community.

"Chris came to one Design and Construction Committee meeting and the committee's chair immediately asked her to become the co-chair. She commands that much respect. She listens and then she listens some more, resulting in the provision of solutions that her teams are proud of, and that have never strayed from the ultimate vision."

Barbara Poma
Executive Director
OnePULSE Foundation

2008 - 2014, Committee for the Sustainable Environment ASLA FL; Visions of Smart Growth and Sustainability Charrette and Publication Committee Leader

SELECTED HONORS AND AWARDS **National Awards**

2016, Starkey Ranch, Pasco County, Florida National Association of Homebuilders Award for Master Planned Community of the Year, Silver

2009, Village at Lake Lily, Maitland, Florida NAIOP Mixed-Use Development of the Year

2005, Mirasol at Celebration, Celebration, Florida Pillars of the Industry Award
National Association of Homebuilders

2003, Florida's Turnpike Suncoast Parkway Aesthetic Design Guidelines IBTTA (International Bridge, Tunnel and Turnpike Association) President's Award of Excellence

Regional/Local Awards

2020, Bok Tower Gardens Viewshed Analysis: ASLA FL Award of Honor

2019, Pulse Interim Memorial: ASLA FL Frederic B. Stresau Award of Excellence

2019, Coastal Oaks Preserve: ASLA FL Environmental Stewardship Honor

2019, SASHTO Regional Award; SunRail Commuter Rail Expansion Orange and Osceola Counties, Florida

2019, Distinguished Alumni Award; University of Florida Department of Landscape Architecture

2018, Florida Planning & Zoning Assoc. Outstanding Plan/Study: Honorable Recognition Northwest Cape and 7 Islands Vision Plan Cape Coral, Florida

2016, Starkey Ranch, Pasco County, Florida ASLA FL Award of Excellence

2017, *Orlando Business Journal* CEO of the Year
Orlando, Florida

2017, CEO of the Year, *i4 Business Magazine*

Christina E. Hite, ASLA

Chris's firm donated all professional services to the Interim Memorial pro bono, nearly 1,000 total hours, and Chris stepped up to be Co-Chair of the Design and Construction Committee for the onePULSE Foundation. Her leadership is continuing now through design refinement for the permanent Museum and Memorial.

While the opportunity to lead a group through such a complex, emotional and impactful process may seem serendipitous, Chris's career was building towards that moment for more than 33 years. From designing large-scale landscapes and master-planned communities, to founding and leading her own firm, Chris had been honing her ability to lead the vision for large-scale and complex projects for her entire career. These skills equipped her to be the right leader, and the right landscape architect at the time when a hurting community needed her most.

Project Leadership: A Thought Leader's Impact

Chris's career is shaped by a belief that landscape architects have the responsibility to lead the design and vision process. Better than most, Chris *really* listens to what people want from a space. Her expertise in designing spaces that are functional, beautiful, contextually sensitive and sustainable sets her apart. Her constant preparation, including a master's degree centering on community engagement, (25 years into her career) enhance her ability to lead impactful, conscientious designs.

Bicycle and pedestrian design, master planning and corridor design were a big part of Chris's early career. She quickly learned to inform design elements with the intricacies of how end users would use the spaces. In the early '90s she was asked to lead influential design projects, including the recommendation to incorporate a mixed-use trail into the Suncoast Parkway and the associated award-winning Aesthetic Design Guidelines. Now, decades later, the Suncoast Parkway continues to serve as the example of a scenic highway, influencing Florida's Department of Transportation as it seeks to continue improving the travel experience and turnpike culture in Florida. Decades ahead of its time, the aesthetic design guidelines developed by Chris at the start of her career continue to influence design, policy, planners and engineers at the Florida Department of Transportation.

In 1996, as Chris co-founded Dix.Hite + Partners, she leaned into the sustainable and contextual design elements that she learned early in her career. Dix.Hite quickly became known for providing thoughtful design solutions sensitive to a site's socio-cultural and bio-geographical contexts by expressing the stories of nature and neighborhood through engaging design. Whether it was introducing native palettes and plants or championing low-impact development strategies before people even knew what they were, Chris's thought leadership established the firm's unique place in the practice of landscape architecture in the Southeast. Today, Dix. Hite's award-winning, influential and inspiring work touches all aspects of the public realm, including ecological and contextually sensitive master planning, wayfinding, logos, project naming, transect responsive landscape approaches, architectural character, building colors, finishes and exquisite attention to the built form, and the integration of low-impact development techniques. This thought leadership has influenced large-scale landscapes and associated green infrastructure on SunRail, Central Florida's commuter railway, a project that has provided transportation options, created village nodes, raised adjacent

2017, ASLA FL Award of Excellence:
Northwest Cape and 7 Islands
Vision Plan Cape Coral, Florida

2016, UGA College of Environment
and Design Circle Gallery Exhibit
Works

2016, ASLA FL Award of
Excellence Starkey Ranch
Pasco County, Florida

2016, ASLA FL Award of Merit
SunRail CFCRT
Orange, Seminole and Volusia
Counties, Florida

2012, University of Florida
Department of Landscape
Architecture and Planning
Service Award

2005, Artisan Park at Celebration,
Celebration, Florida
Grand Aurora Award, Southeastern
Builders Council

2005, Celebration Memorial Garden,
Celebration, Florida Award of Merit
ASLA FL

2003, Victoria Park, Deland, Florida;
Award of Honor
ASLA FL

2002, Florida's Turnpike Suncoast
Parkway Aesthetic Design Guidelines
ASLA FL Award of Merit

SELECTED LECTURES AND PANELS

2020, OUTSIDE Sustainable
Landscape Collaborative:
Industry Perspectives
2020, University of Georgia College of
Environment + Design
Commencement Speech

2019, ASLA FL Conference, Keynote
Passion Practice: The Creative and
Strategic Drivers of Four Women-Led
Firms

Christina E. Hite, ASLA

property values and shop keeper revenues, and is considered one of the best-designed commuter systems in the country. In addition, Chris has led and influenced sustainable approaches to large-scale landscapes on work such as the St. Joe Company's 4,500-acre master-planned community Victoria Park, multiple projects within the Walt Disney Company's new urbanist town of Celebration, recent award-winning work in Cape Coral (a 20-square-mile regional sector plan), Starkey Ranch, a 2,400-acre master-planned community in Pasco County, and the planning and design for Oviedo on the Park, the City of Oviedo's new village center. Each of these and more have impacted thousands of lives and ecosystems, and further cemented her firm as Florida's leader in community design work that honors local ecologies.

Practice Leadership: Empowerment, Diversity and Service

Words such as "empowering" and "team oriented" are used by Chris's employees to describe her leadership style. Leadership training and building people from within are constants within the firm. With Chris at the helm, Dix.Hite has expanded from a two-person organization at its founding to its current base of 37 employees, with offices in Florida, Alabama, and Georgia. Since Chris assumed the role of CEO and President in 2009 during an economic recession, Dix.Hite has grown its revenues by 400% and its employee base by 200%, facilitated by Chris's promotion of leadership and growth opportunities for her entire team. In addition to positive growth under Chris's leadership, the firm emphasizes empowerment and opportunities for its diverse employee base.

On a daily basis, Dix.Hite's leadership is inspired by Chris to challenge design teams to work in an integral fashion with the complex dynamics of sites and the natural characteristics of the land while maintaining effective collaboration with multi-disciplinary partners to establish a sustainable and aesthetically dynamic vision implemented in the field.

Chris's strong advocacy for connections between the built environment and its users continually results in thoughtful design solutions that are sensitive to socio-cultural and bio-geographical contexts as her work improves urban environments, creates communities, and enhances quality of life for diverse user groups and populations.

Chris's natural management and leadership style has allowed her to thrive within the traditionally male-dominated design and construction field. Through her leadership, she creates a sense of empowerment for her team and those around her. Dix.Hite has emerged as an industry leader with women at the helm. None of this is an accident. When women at Dix.Hite look up, they do not see a glass ceiling, but rather, they see a women-owned firm with a female CEO, CFO and COO, and a Board of Directors that is majority women (3 of 5).

"I've watched Chris lead committees and advisory councils, and she leads with quiet confidence that is non-threatening, participatory, and really strategic. She's always focused on the vision. She's successful because she holds people accountable, but not in a way that's heavy-handed at all. She has strong people skills, and at the heart of that is her ability to listen."

Daniel J. Nadenicek
Former CED Dean
University of Georgia

2019, Women's Leadership Summit Panel, UF College of Design, Construction and Planning

2019, onePULSE Interim Memorial Design Process, ASLA FL 2019 Conference

2019, Oviedo on the Park; Public Realm and Urban Frameworks, ASLA FL 2019 Conference

2019, Macro to Micro – Urban Living Frameworks: Building Community, Crescent Communities Annual Retreat

2019, 1000 Friends of Florida Webinar: OUTSIDE Sustainable Landscape Collaborative

2017, Women's Leadership Summit Panel Discussion UF College of Design, Construction and Planning

2016, University of Georgia College of Environment + Design Alumnae Leaders in Landscape Architecture

2015, ASLA FL Conference Mobility Beautiful: Central Florida's SunRail Commuter Experience

2014, APA Florida Conference Panelist/ Speaker Coordinating Sustainability Efforts Across Other Disciplines

2012, The Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture, Elderveice: motivating elder participation in community planning programs

2012, ASLA FL Conference Panelist Sustainability Best Practices for Florida Landscape Architects

2011, University of Florida DCP Research Showcase Panelist Professional Programs in a Research Institution

2009, South Carolina LID Summit Lessons from the Past and Plans for the Future

2009, Regional LID Workshops/ Florida Sponsored by SJRWMD and UF IFAS Extension Royellou: A Study in LID

Christina E. Hite, ASLA

The firm's Building Color Studio is led by a woman; and 4 of the firm's partners are women. Additionally, 20 out of 37 employees are female (14 of those 20 are landscape architecture graduates, and 7 employees are of Latin or Asian heritage). This model of diversity and inclusion was created in large part due to Chris. She allowed employees to create flexibility within their work schedules, paving the way for female employees to thrive professionally in addition to the many other responsibilities that they carry.

Chris has always placed an emphasis on the importance of bringing up the next generation within her firm, and many team members are actively involved in the ACE mentorship program, local community action groups, and rotary clubs. Firm employees are encouraged

to take active roles in ASLA, boasting a roster including the past president for ASLA FL, the conference chair for the 2018 ASLA FL conference, the Secretary and head of PR for the ASLA AL, the former chair of ASLA's Women in Landscape Architecture PPN, the current Orlando Section Chair, and numerous state and national committees including Chair of Section 4 Exam Writing Committee. In addition, Chris has passionately spoken on and presented the ethos of her work throughout her career, inspiring new generations to push the industry forward even further.

Academic Leadership: Empowering the Next Generation

A strong advocate for education and leading by example, Chris has long welcomed and toured visiting landscape architecture students at her firm from the University of Georgia (UGA) and the University of Florida (UF), inspiring them with the unique impact and influence the profession can provide, as well as the passion and ability to affect change in their communities. Two students once shared that a trip facilitated by Chris inspired them to be more passionate in their landscape architecture studies. Those same students are now partners at Dix.Hite, with one leading one of Dix.Hite's offices, and the other a studio. For Chris, these visits ignited a career-long commitment to involvement with both of her alma maters. Since 2014, she has been actively involved in UGA's College of Environmental and Design Alumni Association, serving as its president from 2016-2017, a professional advisor, and now chairing the dean's advisory council. Her involvement has led to fundraising consistently exceeding targets, providing increased opportunities for scholarships, research initiatives and discretionary funding.

In 2008, Chris was invited to serve as an adjunct professor for UF's School of Landscape Architecture in the College of Design, Construction and Planning. Students at the time shared that Chris's thought leadership in the classroom inspired their best work. Some of those students are now practicing as lead designers and project managers at Dix.Hite, careers sparked by the magnetic enthusiasm for her craft that Chris brought into their college classrooms. Chris also completed a Master of Landscape Architecture at UF. Her thesis focused on the effectiveness of participatory methods using the theory of

"Chris Hite is an admirable and inspiring leader. Her energy, talent and determination have resulted in achievements across diverse realms. She has grown a thriving business, led clients of global significance, used her platform to inspire the next generation of landscape architects and engaged the highest levels of the profession and academia. She is exactly the kind of leader that is worthy of the honor of Fellow and a much-needed role model for many."

**Gina Ford, FASLA
Co-Founder and
Principal
Agency Landscape +
Planning**

PUBLICATIONS & RESEARCH

2019, In Her Shoes, *Orlando Business Journal*

2015, Women in Landscape
Architecture Landscape Architect and Specifier News

2012, Developing a measure to Assess Participatory Methods: Testing for Perceptions of Empowerment Master's Thesis, University of Florida MLA

2012, *Elderveice*: motivating elder participation in community planning programs. Finding Center: Landscape + Values. The Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture (CELA)

2011, Implementing Low-Impact Development In Florida: Practitioner's Perspectives The Florida Watershed Journal

EXPERIENCE

2009 - Present, President and CEO
Dix.Hite + Partners, Inc.

1996 - 2009, Founding Partner/
Principal Dix.Hite + Partners, Inc.

2008 - 2010, Assistant Adjunct
Professor, University of Florida
Department of Landscape Architecture

1988 - 1996, Landscape Architect/
Associate; Post, Buckley, Schuh &
Jernigan, Inc.

Registered Landscape Architect:
Florida, Georgia, South Carolina,
Virginia, Delaware, Arizona, Hawaii

Christina E. Hite, ASLA

empowerment, and her work was used to help local decision-makers affect change in the rice terrace landscapes of Bali, Indonesia. These cultural landscapes are integral to the balance of food security, water supply management, and visual quality which is directly linked to economic health through sustainable tourism. Her work had lasting impact on the Bali residents. In the words of one of the participants: "When I prepared to go to the subak (rice terraces), I think 'why must we go to the subak?' It's very hot in the subak. But, while I am in the subak I realize that it's amazing! So many rice plants there! Then I started to do the project, and now I know why the subak is important to us. Thanks for the project you gave to me. Now I realize we must protect the subak for the next generation."

Chris has made it a point throughout her career to consistently provide internship opportunities for students across the US, fostering community involvement, service and leadership. The firm's most recent intern project focused on a pro-bono vision and plan for a transitional neighborhood in downtown Orlando, incorporating green infrastructure and park space connectivity.

Lastly, under Chris's leadership, Dix.Hite continues to raise the bar for landscape architecture practice across the Southeast and beyond through a sustained commitment to sharing its professional experience and knowledge with students, young professionals, public and private clients, and community and industry leaders. Dix.Hite recently joined the OUTSIDE sustainable landscape collaborative, with a goal to shift the Florida landscape paradigm towards a future demonstrating how research, policy, culture, and industry can work together to position landscapes as a vital solution to the health and viability of Florida's natural resources. By speaking at multiple conferences and webinars, and sharing best practice, Chris is shifting the landscape paradigm, bridging the gap between design, growers, installation and maintenance and research institutions. The result is already influencing change, with nurseries adjusting their grow inventories, developers refining their approach to landscape practices, research projects integrating with applied practice, and community leadership refining management practices.

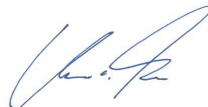
"Chris' sustained passion, leadership, management and community service are unparalleled. Her firm leadership through recession to recovery, her leadership and work on the PULSE Memorial Initiative and her unwavering commitment to sustainability through her part in the OUTSIDE Initiative are just a few examples that demonstrate her skill to lead."

Brian P. Kinzelman, FASLA
Senior Principal
MKSK

Summary by Chapter President

For more than 30 years, Chris has set a remarkably high benchmark for design, practice, academic and community leadership. It is my honor and privilege to elevate her for consideration for the ASLA Council of Fellows in recognition of her leadership, expansive professional achievements, and advancement of the profession and society.

Sincerely,



Alexander Carmel Fenech, ASLA
President

American Society of Landscape Architects | Florida Chapter

Elizabeth Joyce Kennedy, ASLA

Principal, Elizabeth Kennedy Landscape Architect, PLLC

ASLA Council of Fellows Nomination: WORKS

EDUCATION

Graduate Studies in
Landscape Architecture,
Cornell University, 1978-1981

Bachelor of Science, Design
and Environmental Analysis,
College of Human Ecology,
Cornell University, 1978

AWARDS

National Awards

Chicago Athenacum 2014
American Architecture Award,
Weeksville Heritage Center,
Brooklyn NY

Built by Woman 2014 Award
for Landscape. Weeksville
Heritage Center, Brooklyn

Built by Woman 2014 Award
for Landscape. Brooklyn
Navy Yard Building No. 3
Green Roof, Brooklyn NY

Architect Magazine 2013
Annual Design Review
Citation. Weeksville Heritage
Center, Brooklyn NY

Architect Magazine 2013
Annual Design Review
Citation, Weeksville Heritage
Center, Brooklyn NY

Roofpoint™ 2012 Design
Award for Excellence in
Water Management. Brooklyn
Navy Yard Building No. 3
Green Roof, Brooklyn, NY

Roofpoint™ 2011 Design
Award for Excellence in
Water Management. US
Postal Service Morgan
Processing and Distribution
Center, New York NY

National Organization of
Minority Architects 2009
Design Excellence Honor

On behalf of the Executive Committee of the New York Chapter, it is my privilege to nominate Elizabeth Joyce Kennedy, RLA, ASLA, for your consideration.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Elizabeth is the founder of Elizabeth Kennedy Landscape Architect, PLLC (EKLA). Since the firm's inception, EKLA's work under her direction has quietly challenged mainstream assumptions about the aspirations and needs of underrepresented voices. Systemic racism and bias have long dispossessed the less powerful of places and rendered the people who use them invisible. Elizabeth is best known for work that counters this invisibility. Her projects at the intersection of social justice and design exemplify landscape architecture's potential to engage a broader critical understanding of place and identity.

Elizabeth recently learned that she heads the longest-operating Black-owned, woman-run landscape architecture firm in the country. EKLA's longevity is inextricably tied to Elizabeth's belief in the importance of service—to her clients, to the communities they represent, to the emerging professionals she trains, and to the profession itself—through design. She believes that without an attitude of service—perhaps of servitude—a client's outlook on the world cannot be fully, empathetically understood.

BACKGROUND

Elizabeth has slowly and steadily built a portfolio of remarkable working landscapes with a rigorous approach to spatial organization and methodological confidence. She directs sensitive work that is quietly powerful, nuanced, and painstakingly researched. Her deeply personal approach to practice is rooted in still-vivid memories of open spaces intimately experienced as a child, and a fascination with marginalized land. Her particular affinity for the latter is what gives her unique insight into the mindset and aspirations of the non-profit clients with whom she works—most of whom have been traditionally underserved by the profession. Early in life, she found that informal, often neglected landscapes gave context to, and affirmed, her sense of being in the world in ways that architecture

I've known Elizabeth for decades as a design leader, collaborator, and a trusted colleague. I am always inspired by her commitment to design excellence, especially in the context of limited economic resources. Her consistently positive impacts include how she has navigated the profession and grown her firm, revealed the beauty of cultural and ecological imperatives in her firm's built work, and invested in the continuing education of generations of designers working under her leadership.

Kofi Boone, FASLA
Professor of Landscape
Architecture North
Carolina State
University

Elizabeth Joyce Kennedy, ASLA

Award. African Burial Ground National Monument, New York NY

National Organization of Minority Architects 2009 Citation for Built Projects. Marcus Garvey Houses Community Center Playground, Brooklyn NY

Local / Regional Awards

NYC Public Design Commission 2019 Excellence in Design Award for The Peninsula Mixed-Use Development, Bronx, NY

New York State AIA, 2014 Award of Excellence. Weeksville Heritage Center, Brooklyn NY

New York State AIA, 2014 Best in New York State Award. Weeksville Heritage Center, Brooklyn NY

New York State AIA, 2014 Award of Excellence and Best in New York State, Weeksville Heritage Center, Brooklyn NY

Historic Districts Council 2014 Award for Design. Weeksville Heritage Center, Brooklyn NY

Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce Building Brooklyn 2014 Award for Civic Design. Weeksville Heritage Center, Brooklyn NY

Long Island AIA, 2013 Award of Excellence. Brooklyn Navy Yard Building No. 3 Green Roof, Brooklyn NY

Long Island AIA, 2013 Award for Excellence in Sustainable Design, Commercial Project, Brooklyn Navy Yard Building No. 3 Green Roof, Brooklyn NY

did not. While she had long forgotten that her architect father once shared with her that Central Park “didn’t happen by accident; someone made this,” a chance reading about a landscape architect in one of his Architectural Record magazines made her realize, at age 14, that a site’s design could clarify and strengthen this affirmation. In the course of her 40-year career, this realization has remained the heart of her work.

In moments of candor, Elizabeth openly shares how her struggles to put her ideas into words have affected her career trajectory and led her to find alternate paths to licensure. She is equally candid that her career choices and mistakes have been the crucible of her design excellence: she would not have refined her design approach, gained the depth of her expertise, built and sustained a progressive practice, or made the impact she has today had she followed landscape architecture’s more orthodox career path.

Her story has inspired a younger generation of BIPOC and women creative professionals, drawing admiration for the way she has leveraged minority- and woman-owned business opportunities to advocate for social change and lend her voice to ASLA, LAF, BlackLAN, and NOMA. Her commitment to training and preparing young professionals for practice—particularly young professionals of color—is unmatched. ECLA alumni move on to the next stage of their careers ready to take on the world.

Elizabeth’s pursuit of design excellence has never been an end in itself. Rather, it is a by-product of the relationships she builds with her clients and staff, manifested in form, light, and shadow. The work for which she is best known is presented here through the eyes of her clients, as a testament to their engagement in the processes’ outcome.

SELECTED WORKS

Weeksville Heritage Center and Restoration of the Hunterfly Road Houses Landscape

The Weeksville Heritage Center offers a glimpse into the 19th c. lives of Blacks in Kings County and the period when the end of enslavement in New York State led to a proliferation of free communities in and around New York City. The centerpieces of the Center’s collection—four landmark structures remaining in situ along the path of the colonial-era Hunterfly Road—attest to Brooklyn’s physical and social history before the Civil War.

Elizabeth’s specifications to restore the Hunterfly Road Houses’ historic landscape establishes a 100-year timeframe for experiencing the site’s

I would describe Elizabeth as a force of nature, with a passion for making beautiful work reflecting the vitality, culture and stories of communities. While her dedication to the field is evident through her leadership, many achievements and awards, she is, moreover, a role model, mentor and inspiration to many women, and her accomplishments during a time when opportunities were limited for women of color are a testament to her intelligence, perseverance and incredible talent.

Anita Romero Warren,
Deputy Director
Weeksville Heritage
Center

Elizabeth Joyce Kennedy, ASLA

New York Landmarks Conservancy 2008 Lucy G. Moses Preservation Award. Harlem Stage Gatehouse Theater, NY

New York Construction Magazine 2008 Best Construction Project Award. African Burial Ground National Monument, New York, NY

US EPA & Mayor's Office of Long-Term Planning and Sustainability 2008 Green Building Competition Award. WE ACT Environmental Justice Center, New York, NY

Queens Chamber of Commerce 2008 Award for Excellence in Design. Queens Theater in the Park Addition, Queens, NY

Connecticut Building Council 2008 Project Team Award for K-12 Schools. Barnard Environmental Magnet School, New Haven, CT

Preservation League of New York State 2006 Award for Excellence in Historic Preservation. Hunterfly Road Houses, Weeksville, NY

Art Commission of the City of New York 2005 Award for Excellence in Design, Weeksville Heritage Center Landscape, Weeksville, Brooklyn, NY

CIVIC AWARDS & HONORS

Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce Black History Month Celebration, in Recognition of Outstanding Contributions to the Borough of Brooklyn, February 2012

NYC Department of Small Business Services "Minority and Woman-Owned Business Rising Star" Award, 2008

occupancy; her design for the surrounding, contemporary site creates a contextual framework for interpreting the Weeksville settlement's storyline.

The project continues to receive recognition; past awards include The Preservation League of New York's 2006 Award for Historic Preservation, the Chicago Athenaeum Museum of Architecture and Design 2014 American Architecture Award, the New York State AIA 2014 Award of Excellence; New York State AIA 2014 Best in New York State Award; Historic Districts Council 2014 Award for Design; Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce 2014 Building Brooklyn Award for Civic Design; MASTerworks 2014 Award for Excellence in Design; Architect Magazine 2013 Annual Design Review Citation; National Organization of Minority Architects 2013 Honor Award; and the Art Commission of the City of New York 2005 Award for Excellence in Design.

The African Burial Ground National Monument

The African Burial Ground National Monument commemorates an estimated 15,000 free and enslaved Africans who were buried in a 6.6-acre site in Lower Manhattan during the 17th and 18th centuries. The discovery of remains during construction of the Ted Weiss Federal Building led to the creation of a National Monument and National Park to raise awareness of the unmarked cemetery and its historical significance. Elizabeth's mounded design for the re-interment of found remains drew national attention to the site. The project received the National Organization of Minority Architects 2009 Design Excellence Honor Award.

Harlem Stage at the Gatehouse Theater

Before it was renovated as a performance center, the 135th Street Gatehouse was fenced and inaccessible to the public. Repairs to a significant water main break at the gatehouse left new infrastructure within inches of a steeply sloped finished grade, and few vestiges of the ground that once surrounded the structure. Elizabeth's design for a new plaza and entry employed an Italian Renaissance gesture to wind part of the theater's new entry around the Gatehouse tower, integrating the historic building and surrounding urban fabric with a gesture to the site's history. The landscape's material richness, historical continuity, contextual appropriateness, and understated modernity made the Gatehouse precinct a recognizable cultural destination worthy of the 2008 Lucy G. Moses Award for Preservation from the New York Landmarks Conservancy.

Elizabeth Kennedy's work has made significant impact on the lives of Black people! Her excellence in design highlighted their presence and contributions to the growth and development of NYC as demonstrated in her brilliant interpretation of the site for the African Burial Ground National Monument, the sensitive cultural narrative of design and plantings at Weeksville Historical Center, and the exceptional landscape architectural treatment in the historic reuse of the Gate House for Harlem Stage.

Karen A. Phillips, FASLA
LAF Medal Recipient

Elizabeth Joyce Kennedy, ASLA

Association of Minority Entrepreneurs of New York
"Entrepreneur of the Year"
Award, 2005

Congressional Achievement
Award, by Office of
Congressman Gregory
Meeks, November, 2005

NAACP Mid-Manhattan
Branch, Women's
History Month Award for
Achievement in Landscape
Architecture and Work in
Open Space Planning &
Design with Community
Development Organizations,
2004

FELLOWSHIPS

Design Trust for Public Space
Research Fellow, "Designing
for Security: Guidelines
for the Art Commission of
NYC," 1997-1998

Artist-in-Residence for
Arts Education, Roaring
Brook Elementary School,
Chappaqua, NY, Spring 1986

E. Gorton Davis Fellow in
Landscape Architecture,
Cornell University, 1981

Robert J. Eidlitz Fellow
in Architecture, Cornell
University, 1981

HUD Graduate Fellow,
Cornell University
1978 - 1981

PUBLIC SERVICE

American Society of
Landscape Architects 2018
Student Awards Juror

Regional/Urban Design
Assistance Team Program
New Orleans, LA 2018 AIA R/
UDAT National Team

Executive Board Member,
National Organization of
Minority Architects NY
Chapter, 2016

USPS Morgan Processing & Delivery Center Green Roof

Built in 1933 and designated a historic landmark, the 2.2-million-square-foot, seven-story Morgan Processing and Delivery Center, located in midtown Manhattan, was upgraded to consolidate operations from the nearby Farley Post Office. This modernization included many test case innovations for the US Postal Services' broader initiative to LEED-certify all postal facilities. When completed in 2009, the Center's green roof was the first completed for any U.S. federal building and – at almost 2.5 acres – then the largest in New York City. Designed for the Center's staff as an area of respite, Elizabeth's design for this massive area strategically alternated native grasses and sedum beds to visually break up and add human scale to the two-acre expanse.

The project was considered a milestone in sustainable design, and garnered much public attention, including a feature article in The New York Times (7/22/09). Dr. Majora Carter, founder of Sustainable South Bronx, noted, "The green roof on this building is not just a green roof on this building. This is going to be the type of education center that teaches people from around the country." It received the RoofPoint 2011 Excellence in Water Management Design Award.

Brooklyn Navy Yard Building 3 Roof Farm

The Brooklyn Navy Yard looms large in New York City's military and working-class history. Today, the Navy Yard is home to over 200 businesses, including some of the city's most innovative manufacturers, artists, and non-profit organizations. In 2009 the Brooklyn Navy Yard Development Corporation (BNYDC) set the goal to become the greenest model of industrial facility redevelopment in the country. As part of this effort, Elizabeth helped BNYDC secure a Department of Environmental Protection Office of Green Infrastructure (DEP OGI) community grant to retrofit a 60,000 square foot industrial roof for commercial agriculture, and designed its vegetated overburden system to retain 100 percent of the first inch of rainwater during storm events. The rooftop farm, managed by the Brooklyn Grange, annually yields 20,000 lbs. of market vegetables, and 1,500 lbs. of honey from an apiary on the site. Elizabeth's design set DEP OGI standards for retentive agricultural overburden systems funded by the grant initiative. Honors include: the AIA Long Island Chapter 2013 ArchiAward for Excellence in Design; the AIA Long Island Chapter 2013 Award for Excellence in Sustainable Design, Commercial Project, and RoofPoint 2012 Design Award for Excellence in Water Management.

Elizabeth has unique skills that she directs to the greater good of environmental justice. I was honored to nominate her to The Design Trust for its Designing for Security project. Elizabeth sees the city as a whole when designing for people, to fold compassion and dignity into her work. Collaborating to reimagine the former Spofford Juvenile detention center site, I can think of no one who better understands history, community and the power of design.

Claire Weisz, FAIA
Principal-in-Charge
WXY architecture +
urban design

Elizabeth Joyce Kennedy, ASLA

Executive Board Member,
Brooklyn Center for the
Urban Environment, 1997-
2005

PUBLICATIONS

Carmina Sanchez Del Valle.
"Unwrapping the Mystery
of a Lost Community and
Preserving and Extending Its
Legacy," The International
Review of African American
Art, Vol. 25 No. 2

"The Public and Academic
Sector: Abyssinian
Development Corporation,"
Innovative Design Solutions
in Landscape Architecture,
Steven L. Cantor (author),
Van Nostrand Reinhold, 1997

EXHIBITIONS

NY Horticultural Society,
Successful Green
Infrastructure Projects, 2013

AIA-NY, "City of Culture: New
Architecture for the Arts,"
Center for Architecture, 2006

Art Commission of the City of
New York, Exhibition of 24th
Annual Excellence in Design
Awards, Van Alen Institute,
2005

City College of New York,
Institute for Research on
the African Diaspora in the
Americas and Caribbean,
"Between Tradition and
Memory: Constructed Shelters/
Black Architects," 1996

EXPERIENCE

1994-present, Principal,
Elizabeth Kennedy
Landscape Architect, PLLC

1992 – 1994, Project
Manager, Affordable Housing
Development & Construction,
The Madyus Corporation

1982 – 1985, Landscape
Architectural Designer, Lois
Sherr Landscape Architect

Oakland Lake

NYC Department of Environmental Protection's Staten Island Bluebelt Unit implements ecologically sound, cost-effective alternatives to traditional stormwater management across one-third of Staten Island, by preserving and enhancing natural drainage corridors, or "bluebelts," that naturally channel and cleanse stormwater runoff. Since bluebelts also provide community open space and diverse wildlife habitat, DEP seized the opportunity to extend best practice stormwater management principles to other NYC boroughs as it mitigated severe erosion at Oakland Lake Park, in Queens.

In this instance technical staff under Elizabeth's management served as the project's expert landscape restoration consultant, to oversee erosion mitigation in the Park's more damaged ravines and construct new meadows, bio-retention swales and "rain gardens." Once upland restoration efforts significantly reduced silting in the lake and improved the health of its perimeter wetlands, and the neighborhood community showed more interest in safe, controlled access to restored wildlife areas and lake shore, new paths and rustic fencing were added to several rehabilitated areas.

The Staten Island Bluebelt Program has received awards from regional and national organizations, including American Rivers, American Council of Consulting Engineers, American Academy of Environmental Engineers, New York Association of Consulting Engineers, and Staten Island Chapter of the American Institute of Architects.

SUMMARY

Elizabeth Kennedy is an inspirational leader that elevates the profession of landscape architecture by challenging mainstream assumptions and uplifting underrepresented voices. She creates and restores for and with communities carefully curating to address social justice through design. Elizabeth founded and serves as working principal for the longest-operating Black woman-owned landscape architecture firm in the United States, a testament of time and thoughtful dedication in every nuanced detail of her work. A creator of quietly evocative landscapes that through form raise the spirit of the place and set the stage for future interactions that are inviting and accessible to all. Her interactive and collaborative approach is lasting in her design achievements and her mentorship of the next generation. On behalf of the ASLA New York Chapter Executive Committee it is with great honor to submit this nomination of Elizabeth Kennedy as an exemplary candidate for elevation as a Fellow to the ASLA Council of Fellows.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Moskalko, RLA, ASLA, WEDG, ISA
President, ASLA New York Chapter

Jennifer Nitzky, RLA, ASLA, ISA
Nominating Committee Chair, ASLA New York
ASLA New York Chapter Executive Committee

Lauren Griffith, ASLA

Principal, Lauren Griffith Associates

ASLA Council of Fellows Nomination: WORKS

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science in
Landscape Architecture,
Summa Cum Laude,
Texas A&M University, 1979

HONORS AND AWARDS

Individual Awards

2014 Outstanding Alumni Award, College of Architecture
Texas A&M University
(Fewer than 1% of graduates)

International Project Awards

2011 Global Award for Excellence Urban Open Space Finalist, Urban Land Institute,
Discovery Green

2011 Effectiveness Award,
World Architecture News,
Discovery Green

2011 Downtown Pinnacle Award for Public Space, International
Downtown Association,
Market Square Park

2010 Green Good Design Award, Chicago Athenaeum
Museum of Architecture,
Discovery Green

1998 Excellence on the Waterfront Award,
International Waterfront Center,
Sesquicentennial Park

National Project Awards

2019 Great Places in America Award, American Planning
Association, *Discovery Green*

2009 Award of Excellence,
Business Week/Architectural Record, *Discovery Green*

1999 Highest Honor for Enhancing Public Spaces,
American Planning Association,
Sesquicentennial Park

Regional Project Awards

2020 Merit Award,
Texas ASLA, Brown Courtyard,
Houston Baptist University

2019 Great Public Spaces Award, American Planning
Association - Texas Chapter,
Discovery Green

On behalf of the Executive Committee of the Texas Chapter /ASLA, it is my privilege to nominate Lauren Griffith, ASLA, for your consideration.

Executive summary:

A perceptive and intuitive designer, Lauren has amassed a body of meaningful, enduring work focusing on public space over the last four decades, creating innovative program and design features and building on lessons learned from collaborating with talented professionals. She graduated Summa Cum Laude from Texas A&M University and gained national experience early in her career at EDAA, Johnson, Johnson and Roy, and HOK. At the multi-disciplinary firm 3D/International in Houston, she became Director of the Department of Landscape Architecture and Planning and worked extensively overseas. When her daughter was born in 1987, she established her own firm and boldly committed her professional energies to improving the quality of life in the Houston region.

The fourth largest city in the United States, Houston is incredibly culturally diverse, with 145 languages spoken by residents. Located at the intersection of Coastal Prairie, Piney Woods and Post Oak Savannah, Houston is also ecologically diverse, and Lauren enriches her work through understanding these ecosystems. Embracing the opportunities this unique interface of diversities affords, she has created iconic projects that express the rich culture and unique landscape of Houston, becoming part of its identity.

An intensely creative, visionary landscape architect, Lauren targeted a collaborative approach that would allow her to keep the firm small and nimble so she could be selective about the work she undertook and remain engaged in the design of each project. Keeping fresh and energized by assembling the right team of exceptional artists and designers for each challenge, she has contributed to major works of landscape architecture, increasing her firm's stature and extending its influence and the relevance of our profession through collaboration rather than competition. In addition to leading multi-disciplinary teams as prime consultant on award-winning projects, Lauren has served as local landscape architect with Nelson Byrd Woltz for Memorial Park Eastern Glades, Hargreaves for Discovery Green and the ExxonMobil Corporate Campus, Sasaki for The Woodlands Waterway, Olin for the Miller Outdoor Theatre, and Japanese landscape architect Ken Nakajima for Hermann Park's Japanese Garden. Along with providing technical expertise, Lauren has assisted in assembling highly qualified consultants and worked with the teams throughout the design process to facilitate public engagement, share insights, and ensure their understanding of Houston's extreme climate, diverse cultural identities, and ways of life to create beautiful, authentic places that resonate with Houstonians and convey a strong sense of place to millions of visitors from around the world.

As a working mother, Lauren recognized the valuable resources of underutilized talent and experience in landscape architects with young children who were unable to work within a traditional office structure. Supporting their career development, she became an early proponent of flex time and hot desks in the 1990's, staffing her firm with parents who set their own hours. A strong advocate for the profession, she has also mentored and launched the careers of numerous landscape architects through

Lauren Griffith's transformational work at Sesquicentennial Park, Discovery Green, Market Square Park and the Barbara Bush Literacy Plaza has been instrumental in re-creating downtown Houston as a vibrant destination with livable neighborhoods. In addition to her landmark projects at our signature Hermann and Memorial Parks, she has engaged communities and brought high level design excellence to numerous neighborhood parks and 36 SPARK Parks in underserved neighborhoods, enriching the lives of Houstonians throughout our diverse city.

The Honorable Sylvester Turner
Mayor
City of Houston, Texas

Lauren Griffith, ASLA

internships at Lauren Griffith Associates and served on the Professional Advisory Board of the Texas A&M University Department of Landscape Architecture.

Exceptional accomplishments over time:

Lauren has developed long-standing relationships with government, civic and non-profit leaders through her decades-long commitment to Houston. Lauren's connection to the community is especially evident in her dynamic and sensitive engagement of stakeholders. She has played a major role in the revitalization of downtown Houston, contributing to its metamorphosis from a weekday commerce center, desolate after hours and on weekends, to an active destination with vibrant, award-winning open spaces. In large part because of the success of her downtown parks, Houston has become a destination for tourism and conventions, and the resulting downtown residential development makes it one of the nation's most attractive cities for millennials.

A seminal work establishing a precedent for high design projects facilitating connectivity within the floodplain, Sesquicentennial Park changed the way the public and the profession viewed the bayous. It is the nexus of an extensive park system stretching along Buffalo Bayou. In 1986, Lauren teamed with three independent architects to submit the winning entry for the international design competition for this 13-acre downtown park on Buffalo Bayou celebrating the 150th birthday of the City of Houston. She has served as lead landscape architect for all phases of Sesquicentennial Park. Phase One was completed in 1988, Phase Two was completed in 1999, and monuments to President George HW Bush and Secretary of State James Baker were added in 2004 and 2010.

In 2007, Lauren teamed with prime consultant Hargreaves Associates (now Hargreaves Jones) and Page Southerland Page (now Page) to design Discovery Green, an award-winning 12-acre park realized through a public/private partnership. Located on the east side of downtown in front of the George R. Brown Convention Center, the park has received international accolades and fulfilled its mission of serving as "Houston's Backyard". Lauren has continued to work with the Discovery Green Conservancy and Hargreaves Jones over the last 12 years, sensitively inserting improvements in response to thriving surrounding development and evolving park programming.

In 2008, Lauren led a team of architects, lighting designers, engineers, and artists in creating a new plan for historic Market Square Park for the Downtown Redevelopment Authority, designing a 9/11 memorial and layering historical interpretive elements and art with neighborhood amenities. Opening in 2010, the park has received international recognition and been credited with stimulating economic development in the historic district. The beautifully crafted park is now a lively neighborhood gathering spot as well as a downtown destination.

In 2013, Lauren was tapped by the Houston Mayor's Office and the Downtown Redevelopment Authority to create a master plan for the Barbara Bush Literacy Plaza, a space over an underground parking garage between a historic building and the 1970 main library building across the street from City Hall. Lauren led a team of architects, lighting designers, artists and engineers to create the master plan and prepare design and construction documents for the improvements scheduled to be completed this summer. The Bush family is planning to host international dignitaries at a birthday celebration honoring the late Mrs. Bush at the plaza in June, 2021.

Leading the design team for Market Square Park, Lauren produced a timeless plan that reflects the site's rich history while providing a delightful, highly programmed public space. Working with a family foundation, she also created a beautiful, deeply emotive memorial honoring a Houston 9/11 victim. A talented designer and responsive, active listener, she personally transformed our community's visions into a dearly beloved, remarkable place used by neighbors, downtown workers, and visitors from the entire region.

Bob Eury
President
Houston Downtown
Redevelopment Authority

2018, 2014, 2000, 1993 Mayor's Proud Partner Awards, Keep Houston Beautiful, *SPARK Parks*

2016 Development of Distinction Urban Open Space Award, Urban Land Institute Houston, *Navigation Esplanade*

2016 Preservation Award, City of Galveston Landmark Commission, *Hendley Green*

2016 25 Year Award, AIA Houston, *Sesquicentennial Park*

2015 Merit Award, Texas ASLA, *Market Square Park*

2014 Classic Award, Texas ASLA, *Sesquicentennial Park*

2012 Parks and Natural Areas Awards, Houston-Galveston Area Council, *Herman Brown Park, Hermann Park Pedestrian Trail*

2011 Good Brick Award, Greater Houston Preservation Alliance, *Market Square Park*

2011 Parks and Natural Areas Award, Houston-Galveston Area Council, *Market Square Park*

2009 Development of Distinction Urban Open Space Award, Urban Land Institute Houston, *Discovery Green*

1998 President's Award, Texas Downtown Association, *Sesquicentennial Park*

PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES

Boards + Advisory Panels

2013 - Present, Professional Advisory Board, Department of Landscape Architecture, Texas A&M

2009 - 2015, City of West University Place Zoning and Planning Commission

1998 - 2006, Weekley Family YMCA Board

ASLA

1990, Legislative Committee - Sunset Review, Texas Chapter

1983, Chairperson, Houston-Galveston Section

1982, Secretary, Houston-Galveston Section

Lauren Griffith, ASLA

Expanding her green legacy, Lauren is serving as prime consultant/lead designer for a multi-disciplinary team including Gensler for Houston's Southern Downtown Park for the Downtown Redevelopment Authority. The park will open in March, 2022.

Lauren also has a long history of collaboration with conservancies, guiding and supporting them as they emerge as major players in the transformation of Houston's flagship parks into nationally recognized public spaces. In addition to recently collaborating with Nelson Byrd Woltz on Memorial Park Eastern Glades, she has worked in both Memorial Park and Hermann Park since the 1990's and is currently prime consultant/lead designer on significant projects in each of them.

Mastery of the art, stewardship and social responsibility of landscape architecture:

As Chair of the ASLA Houston-Gulf Coast Section in 1983, Lauren was instrumental in organizing pro bono efforts among local landscape architects to launch the SPARK School Park program, an innovative park equity program that combines public and private funds to develop parks on school grounds that are open to the public when school is not in session. Lauren has donated services for 27 SPARK Parks in racially diverse neighborhoods throughout Houston, many of them in underserved communities. In 2016, the Kinder Foundation and Houston Endowment created the Park Desert Initiative, donating millions of dollars toward SPARK Parks in neighborhoods without parks within 10 minutes' walking distance. Lauren has led teams including artists in working with individual schools and neighborhoods to express the distinct identities and aspirations of their cultures and curricula, infusing pride and meaning into intergenerational play spaces for 9 Park Desert SPARK Parks.

No park is more inclusive of Houston's rich cultural diversity than Discovery Green, named a Great Place in America by the American Planning Association. Lauren's intimate, reflective gardens, play areas, and large open spaces, along with dining opportunities and programmable amenities throughout, have made it the heart of Houston. Hosting highly personal moments such as marriage proposals as well as major events like Super Bowl and Final Four, the park draws people of all ages, ethnicities, and socioeconomic backgrounds. From Asian festivals, Gay Pride parades, and Hispanic Heritage concerts to peaceful protest marches in honor of George Floyd, Houstonians come together to express their identities and issues in this beautiful and welcoming downtown park. Perhaps the most poignant gathering was the influx of displaced people seeking respite and care after Hurricane Harvey's historic floods.

Sustainability is at the heart of stewardship. Lauren has served as landscape architect for 35 LEED certified projects, including 1 LEED Platinum and 4 LEED Gold projects. As local landscape architect for Hargreaves Associates for the highly confidential, 415-acre ExxonMobil Campus north of Houston, Lauren coordinated with civil engineers to develop an extensive condensate and rainwater harvesting system that directs stormwater to a lake where it is filtered through wetland plants and then used for irrigation. Lauren worked to preserve existing forests and prepared planting and soils plans for wetlands, rain gardens, interpretive courtyards representing different biomes, native plant gardens and formal malls and quads. The project received LEED Gold certification.

Lauren and I have worked together for four decades, including as Sesquicentennial Park's co-designers and Discovery Green's designer and client. A highly creative landscape architect, she is lead designer for a key bridge project in Memorial Park and nine Park Desert Initiative projects funded by the Kinder Foundation. In every case, Lauren contributes more than great design – she uses the full breadth of her considerable talents in successfully working with multi-faceted stakeholder and client groups.

Guy Hagstette, FAIA
Senior Vice President of
Parks and Civic Projects,
Kinder Foundation
Past President, Discovery Green

National Presentations/ Tours

2016, Cultural Landscape Foundation "Leading with Landscape II: The Houston Transformation," *Sesquicentennial Park, Market Square Park tours, guidebook, online guide*

2015, Urban Land Institute National Spring Meeting *Market Square Park tour*

2015, Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning National Conference *West Downtown Tour, including Market Square, Sesquicentennial Park*

2013, National Recreation and Parks Association Congress and Exposition *Off Site Institute Tour – Discovery Green, Market Square Park, Sesquicentennial Park*

State Presentations/ Tours

2014, Aggie Workshop, Texas A&M University, "Integrating Functional Art into Landscape," *presentation*

2009, Texas Society of Architects Convention "Discovery Green – Creating a Park in Downtown Houston" *presentation*

Local Presentations/ Tours/ Exhibits

2020, Pilgrim Academy STEM Night "Be a Landscape Architect" *interactive workshop*

2014, "Garden Architecture" Architecture Center Houston curated exhibit, *Brown Courtyard, Sesquicentennial Park, Market Square, Discovery Green*

2013, "We Built This City" Blueprint Houston curated exhibit, *Discovery Green, Market Square Park, Sesquicentennial Park*

2010, AIA Houston Urban Design Committee *Market Square Park tour*

2010, Mayor's Green Building Tour, *Discovery Green*

Visiting Professor

2017, Texas A&M University Landscape Architecture Design Studio, Soltis Center, Costa Rica

Lauren Griffith, ASLA

Visiting Critic

2018-2015, Texas A&M University, Landscape Architecture Design Studio

2014, University of Houston, Architecture Design Studio

2011-2010, Rice University, Architecture Professional Practice Case Studies

PUBLICATIONS

Books

2016 What's Out There Houston, Charles A. Birnbaum, The Cultural Landscape Foundation, *Discovery Green, Market Square Park, Sesquicentennial Park*

2014 Houston's Hermann Park: A Century of Community, Alice (Barrie) M. Scardino Bradley; Texas A&M University Press, *Discovery Green*

2014 Urban Design for an Urban Century: Shaping Move Livable, Equitable, and Resilient Cities, Second Edition, Lance Jay Brown, David Dixon, Oliver Gillham; John Wiley & Sons, *Discovery Green*

2013 Operative Landscapes: Building Community through Public Space, Alissa North; Birkhauser, *Discovery Green*

Selected Articles

11/2020 "Microcosmic Wetlands," *Landscape Architecture Magazine*

08/04/2020 "Eastern Glades a Place to Reflect," *Houston Chronicle*

09/25/2019 "Discovery Green Named One of America's Great Places," *Houston Chronicle*

05/01/2019 "What Houston's Next Downtown Park Will Look Like," *Houston Chronicle*

05/05/2019 "Get a Sneak Peek at Downtown Houston's Highly Anticipated Urban Park Before It Blooms," *CultureMap Houston*

11/14/2018 "Local Firm Selected to Design Park in Downtown Houston," *Houston Business Journal*

Outstanding quality and significant impact:

Not only has Lauren's elegant work received recognition through international, national, regional and local awards, her projects have become beloved landmarks with a huge presence on Instagram, a testament to the significance of these places to Houstonians and visitors alike. Media coverage of her projects in national publications such as "Microcosmic Wetlands," *Landscape Architecture Magazine*, 11/2020; "Houston is the New Capital of Southern Cool," *GQ*, 8/23/18; "Super Bowl Returns to a Transformed Houston," *New York Times*, 1/24/17; "Houston's Big Green Transformation," Charles Birnbaum, *Huffington Post*, 01/26/16; and "Four Landscape Projects that Celebrate their Local Character," *Metropolis*, 7/23/2012 attests to the impact of her work on the public and profession.

Sesquicentennial Park, Houston, Texas - 1988, 1999, 2004, 2010

Awards: *International Waterfront Center's Excellence on the Waterfront Award - 1998, American Planning Association's Highest Honor for Enhancing Public Spaces - 1999, Texas Downtown Association's President's Award - 1998, ASLA Texas Chapter Classic Award - 2014, AIA Houston 25 Year Award - 2016*

Lauren has served as lead landscape architect for all phases of this 13-acre project on the banks of Buffalo Bayou on the west side of downtown Houston. The park includes major works of public art as interpretive elements, a plaza, promenade, water features, boat landings, trails, and a grassy common for gathering. Lauren's scope included all hardscape, grading and planting, along with overall site design and coordination with architects, artists, lighting designers and engineers. An artful expression of Houston's resilient character, this park in the floodplain has survived numerous hurricanes and inundations.

Discovery Green, Houston, Texas – 2008, 2013, 2014, 2016, 2020

Awards: *American Planning Association's Great Places in America Award - 2019, American Planning Association Texas Chapter Great Public Spaces Award – 2019, Urban Land Institute Global Award for Excellence Urban Open Space Finalist - 2011, World Architecture News Effectiveness Award - 2011, Chicago Athenaeum Museum of Architecture Green Good Design Award – 2010, Business Week/Architectural Record Award of Excellence - 2009, Urban Land Institute – Houston Development of Distinction Urban Open Space Award - 2009, US Green Building Council Houston Outstanding Environmental Project Award - 2008*

Lauren teamed with prime consultant Hargreaves Associates and Page Southerland Page to design this 12-acre park on the east side of downtown adjacent to the George R. Brown Convention Center. As local landscape architect, she collaborated on the overall design of the park, making sure that the team had a good understanding of Houston's extreme climate and extensive cultural diversity, engaging the public, and working with the client to create opportunities for active programming. Lauren was also responsible for the playground, planting and soils aspects of the project, restoring microbiology in soils that had been under parking lots for decades. Discovery Green includes a lake, lawns, gardens, promenades, amphitheater, playground, park offices, dog runs, and two restaurants.

Market Square Park, Houston, Texas – 2010, 2011, 2014

Awards: *The International Downtown Association's Downtown Pinnacle Award for Public Space – 2011, ASLA Texas Chapter Merit Award – 2014, Greater Houston Preservation Alliance's Good Brick Award – 2011, H-GAC Parks and Natural Areas Award - 2010, ULI-Houston Development of Distinction Award Finalist - 2010*

Lauren's contribution to the design of Discovery Green helped the project resonate with a landscape that is uniquely Houston – a planting palette that evokes this city of gardens and creates the shady oasis the park was meant to be, as well as features for play and respite that delight and draw the millions of visitors the park hosts every year. Lauren's knowledge and exceptional design talents made this award-winning project richer for her involvement.

Mary Margaret Jones, FASLA
President
HargreavesJones

Lauren Griffith, ASLA

10/11/2018 "Friendswood Downtown Vision Takes Shape as Council Approves Plan," *Community Impact Newspaper*

8/23/18 "Houston is the New Capital of Southern Cool," *GQ*

6/13/2018 "Houston Public Library's Downtown Plaza to Undergo More Renovations Costing \$5M," *Houston Business Journal*

01/24/2017 "Super Bowl Returns to a Transformed Houston," *New York Times*

01/26/16 "Houston's Big Green Transformation," *Huffington Post*

06/17/2013 "Houston Exhibit Honors Transformational Downtown Projects," *Houston Business Journal*

07/23/2012 "Four Landscape Projects that Celebrate their Local Character," *Metropolis*

09/03/2010 "Q&A: For Landscape Architect, It's a Labor of Love. Market Square Park Among Outdoor Spaces that Architect Has Shaped to Improve City's Quality of Life," *Houston Chronicle*

08/28/2010 "Dogs. Flowers. Gyros: Market Square Park's Recipe for Drawing People to a Public Space," *Houston Chronicle*

12/16/2009 "Market Square Park Ready for a Facelift," *Houston Business Journal*

12/01/2009 "The Biggest Little Park in the World," *Landscape Architecture Magazine*

EXPERIENCE

1987- Present
President,
Lauren Griffith Associates

1983 - 1987
Sr. Associate, Director of
Landscape Architecture and
Planning, 3D/International

1981 - 1983
Landscape Architect, HOK

1979- 1981
Landscape Architect, JJR

1978
Intern, EDAW

The site of Houston's original city hall, Market Square Park occupies 1.5 acres in the downtown historic district. The park contained significant works of art created in the early 1990's but was underused. As prime consultant/lead designer, Lauren led a team in creating a plan that integrated the historic components and artworks with amenities to provide a neighborhood gathering place and stimulate economic development of the district. She reached out to stakeholders including neighbors, business owners, preservationists and arts supporters to understand their visions and thoughtfully layer the many aspects of the site's identity into a beautiful, functional open space. All existing trees have been preserved, all existing art pieces have been relocated or re-purposed by the original artists, and new art has been added. Lauren coordinated the work of 8 artists, ensuring their works animated the spaces while supporting the historical narrative and functionality of the park.

Lauren selected a sculptor to integrate new bronzes into the fountain she designed for Lauren's Garden, a memorial to the victims of 9/11. It is funded in memory of Lauren Catuzzi Grandcolas, a native Houstonian and the only Texan on Flight 93. Lauren worked closely with her family to envision a memorial that would be appropriately reflective while capturing Ms. Grandcolas's love of nature and joyous spirit.

Memorial Park Eastern Glades, Houston, Texas – 2020

Recognition: *Featured in November, 2020 Landscape Architecture Magazine, Houston Chronicle*

As local landscape architect, Lauren led the design of the extensive planting and soils aspects of the project, coordinated a stormwater management system that directs runoff to a new lake, and assembled the consultant team for Nelson Byrd Woltz (NBW.) The first phase of NBW's master plan created for the Memorial Park Conservancy and the City of Houston, the 100-acre Eastern Glades includes an expanded trail that serves 10,000 runners daily, a relocated park road, a new parking lot, entry features, plazas, a new lake, central activity lawn, event lawn, pavilions, food truck and picnic areas, trails and boardwalks. Lauren identified vegetation to be protected, documented trees to be removed, and specified eradication methods for invasive plant species. 137 new native species create a powerfully evocative, nuanced plant palette to delight visitors and support wildlife in Post Oak savannah, wetlands, riparian slopes, and upland forest. The project has been designed and constructed in compliance with SITES requirements and is currently under review for certification. Eastern Glades opened to accolades in June, 2020.

Brown Courtyard at Houston Baptist University -2020

Awards: *ASLA Texas Chapter Merit Award -2020*

Houston Baptist University's student center and adjacent courtyard, built in the 1960's, were badly damaged by Hurricane Ike. As prime consultant/landscape architect, Lauren was charged with renovating the courtyard. She engaged the administration, staff and diverse student body in dialogues exploring the history and significance of the space's traditions. Expanding and enriching the program, she proposed layering amenities to create an active, multi-purpose space that functions as an exterior extension of the student center. A trellis-covered ipe deck at the end of the courtyard adjacent to the Music Department serves as a stage for performances and weddings. The students, faculty and staff have reclaimed the Brown Courtyard as the heart of Houston Baptist University. From daily study and lunch breaks to campus events, this meaningful, well loved space has become fully integrated into the life of the school community.

Summary by Chapter President: Lauren's exceptional work in designing some of the most inclusive, resilient, memorable places in the huge metropolis of Houston exemplifies the leading role that landscape architecture can play in creating equitable, livable, economically viable communities. Her projects enrich the experiences of millions of residents and national and international visitors annually. The Texas ASLA enthusiastically recommends outstanding nominee Lauren Griffith for elevation to the Council of Fellows.



Shawn Massock, ASLA
President, ASLA Texas Chapter

Thomas L. Mroz Jr., ASLA

Senior Vice President / SmithGroupJJR Inc.

ASLA Council of Fellows Nomination: Leadership & Management

EDUCATION

Master of Business Administration, University of Michigan, 1986

Master of Landscape Architecture, University of Michigan, 1982

Bachelor of Science in Horticulture, Cum Laude, University of Maryland, 1980

EXPERIENCE

2011 – Present

Senior Vice President / AA Office Director, SmithGroupJJR

2001 – 2011

Senior Vice President, JJR

1995 – 2011

Principal and CFO, JJR

1990 – 1995

Studio Director and Principal, JJR

1987 – 1990

Project Manager and Associate, JJR

1984 – 1987

Landscape Architect, JJR

1983 – 1984

Site Designer, Johnson, Johnson and Roy (JJR)

On behalf of the Executive Committee of the Michigan Chapter ASLA, it is my privilege to nominate Thomas L. Mroz Jr., ASLA, for your consideration.

Executive Summary

Tom Mroz has built a career of over 34 years on a foundation of insightful management and dedicated leadership. He has applied these skills to advancements in various areas of the landscape architecture profession—yielding transformative impacts for his clients, his firm, the profession of landscape architecture, and a future generation of landscape architecture professionals.

The influence of Tom's leadership and direction has expanded as his career developed. During the earlier years of his career, Tom served as a team leader and project manager, guiding large and complex project teams to successfully deliver award-winning work. Tom has spent the entirety of his career dedicated to the growth of one firm in particular, SmithGroupJJR, where he has held numerous leadership positions—directly contributing to the professional development of hundreds of landscape architects while also advancing a fully integrated, interdisciplinary design culture.

Recognizing that his business acumen was a valuable asset not only to his firm but also to the advancement of his profession, Tom has put these skills to work through advocacy at the state and national level. This has included multi-year service on the ASLA Finance and Investments and Audit Committees, as well as his current work as a member of the ASLA Executive Committee as the Vice President of Finance. In the spirit of strengthening the profession, Tom participates in the Landscape Architecture Firm CEO Roundtable with other firm leaders across the industry to discuss organizational strategies that leverage the impact of landscape architecture to address new challenges in a rapidly changing business environment.

In his leadership positions both within SmithGroupJJR and through ASLA, Tom has been a passionate advocate and driver of initiatives that support, mentor and develop future landscape architects. Tom provides abundant opportunities, encouragement and flexibility for emerging professionals to meaningfully invest in their careers. Additionally, Tom pioneered the establishment of the Clarence Roy Endowed Lecture at the University of Michigan and the Carl Johnson Endowed Visiting Professorship at Michigan State University, both now in their sixteenth and sixth years, respectively. Last year, Tom organized and launched the inaugural SmithGroupJJR Diversity and Inclusivity Scholarship Program, supporting professional development for landscape architecture students from underrepresented populations.

Integrated Project and Team Leadership

While a student of Landscape Architecture at the University of Michigan, Tom began to realize the tremendous impact that landscape architects could have on the natural and built environments and on society at large. At the same time, he also developed a keen interest in the business of landscape architecture, and the leadership of people as a way to positively leverage the impact he could have through his work.

Thomas L. Mroz Jr., ASLA

PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES

2016 – Present

VP Finance, ASLA National Executive Committee

2014 – 2016

Chair, ASLA National Audit Committee

2013 – 2014

Member, ASLA National Audit Committee

2011 – 2016

Member, ASLA National Finance and Investments Committee

LEED Accredited Professional

Registered Landscape Architect: States of Arkansas, Colorado, Kansas, Maryland, Michigan, North Carolina, Minnesota, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Ohio, Missouri, Nebraska, South Dakota, Texas, Virginia, Utah, Tennessee, Wyoming

PUBLICATIONS / RESEARCH

1982 Master's Thesis – Construction Management: A Systems Approach to Project Organization and Delivery

HONORS AND AWARDS

2013 – 2017

Detroit Free Press "Top Workplace" Award for five consecutive years

The vital role of team leadership was cemented in Tom's brain in 1983 with his very first project at Johnson, Johnson and Roy (JJR)—a national ASLA award-winning transportation and recreation project in Franconia Notch, New Hampshire that required a high level of multidisciplinary collaboration. Three years later, as a freshly minted project manager on a federally funded Urban Mass Transit Association project in Rochester, New York, Tom honed his ability to wield the power of persuasion and effectively manage polarized interests. As a result of Tom's advocacy for interdisciplinary design with the City Engineer, this successful Main Street project elevated the role of Landscape Architects as prime consultants on complex urban transportation projects, a staffing approach that was still unconventional in the 1980s.

In 1992, Tom helped lead the team designing the new Chrysler Headquarters and the expansion of the Chrysler Technology Center (CTC) in Auburn Hills, Michigan. As Principal-in-Charge and Project Manager for the site work on this 500-acre campus, Tom served as the client's lead advocate for project entitlement, giving dozens of presentations to the Planning Commission, the Zoning Board of Appeals and the City Council. Tom's personal investment in moving this multidimensional project through the regulatory process resulted in the CTC successfully consolidating their headquarters, expanding their R&D facility, and improving time to market in the development of new products. By coaching his team to think beyond traditional disciplinary boundaries to address the holistic needs of the client, Tom built significant rapport and demonstrated to key stakeholders the multifaceted and invaluable role of the landscape architecture professional. As a result, this 18-month design effort parlayed into a nearly 10-year relationship with the CTC that spawned over 40 additional projects to implement the campus vision. As testament to the project team's enduring legacy under Tom's leadership, the site still serves as Fiat Chrysler's de facto headquarters and primary R&D facility to this day.

Tom's successful track record in cultivating lasting, collaborative relationships with clients has culminated in his role as Principal-in-Charge of numerous projects for the Veterans Affairs' National Cemetery Administration (NCA), the agency charged with designing, building and maintaining the nation's 135 national cemeteries. Tom's persistent leadership is evident in how he successfully manages to elevate the NCA's vision to create visually inspiring national shrines beyond mundane and bureaucratic governmental requirements. Leading by example as a trusted "go-to" resource, he has instilled in his teams unwavering perseverance amidst contracting constraints to deliver sustainable outcomes that

I have had the pleasure of working with Tom for the last 7 years on numerous NCA projects in Tennessee and Michigan. Many of those projects have been extremely complex, involving numerous technical challenges and multi-faceted teams. Successful delivery of those projects has required superior leadership and management which Tom has repeatedly demonstrated, along with his perseverance and a non-wavering commitment to the NCA. I truly have come to regard Tom as a trusted advisor!

Philip Obianwu,
Assistant Director
Design and
Construction Services
National Cemetery
Administration
Department of
Veteran Affairs

Thomas L. Mroz Jr., ASLA

2015

ASLA Michigan Legacy Award, Crosswinds Marsh, MI

ASLA Illinois Honor Award, Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery, IL

2011

ASLA National Firm Award, JJR (member of JJR's senior leadership team since 1995)

2010

ASLA Michigan Outstanding Firm of the Year Award, JJR

1999

ASLA Centennial Medallion Project, Franconia Notch State Park, NH

1994

Gold Pentastar Award for Performance Excellence, Chrysler Technology Center, MI

Quality Excellence Award for Outstanding Performance on On-Going Projects, Chrysler Technology Center, MI

1989

ASLA National Merit Award, Franconia Notch State Park, NH

ASLA National Merit Award, Detroit Zoo Entrance Renovation, MI

bring the client's vision to fruition on 37 projects over the past 10 years. Tom also demonstrates a strong commitment to the NCA's federal procurement mandate for Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Businesses (SDVOSB)—going beyond the minimal participation requirements to provide tangible training and professional development opportunities for SDVOSB firms alongside his own staff as part of a truly integrated project team.

Multiple Leadership Roles, National Influence

Tom's 34-year career cannot be separated from the growth and evolution of one firm, and the burgeoning national presence it has enjoyed under his watch. Instead of dictating solutions, Tom developed a management approach that guided his staff to adopt an entrepreneurial mindset and take risks. This inclusive and collaborative leadership style helped develop the business resiliency that the firm needed during the economic recessionary period of the early 1990s and late 2000s. Despite the downturns, Tom's leadership approach and strategies kept up engagement and morale among his staff by defining new outcomes and leveraging business development efforts.

Tom's demonstrated studio leadership led to his appointment as JJR's CFO. During his tenure, Tom oversaw the operations of five JJR offices in Ann Arbor, Chicago, Madison, Phoenix and Washington DC, and he was responsible for managing project performance, profitability and quality throughout the entire firm. Most notably, he worked with three different CEOs from 1995 to 2011 to successfully grow and expand the business both geographically and in its breadth of practice, particularly in environmental science and waterfront design. Recognition swiftly followed as JJR garnered over 150 local, state and national awards, including over 80 ASLA awards, throughout the 16-year period of growth under Tom's senior leadership. Tom's dedication to building upon the legacy of JJR's founding partners as a successful, multi-generational design firm culminated in 2011, when JJR won the esteemed ASLA Landscape Architecture Firm Award.

In 2012, Tom was at the forefront of the reorganization effort that combined the architecture-based SmithGroup (founded in 1853) with its site and landscape architecture-based subsidiary JJR (founded in 1961) into a single organization. The move created SmithGroupJJR, the nation's oldest continuously practicing integrated design firm. Concurrently serving in multiple leadership roles, Tom demonstrates exemplary administrative acumen through his work on the Board of Directors, chairing the firm's Finance Committee, and serving as Office Director of the Ann Arbor office.

I've worked with Tom both as a colleague and client for over 30 years. Tom has always shown great leadership in organizational strategies and planning for the firm's future. While others only talk of talent recruitment and succession planning, Tom's foresight and strategic initiatives have positioned SmithGroupJJR to be an industry leader in sustainable practice. SmithGroupJJR has consistently delivered outstanding quality through generations of professional development, thanks to Tom's insights and strong administrative acumen.

Barry S. Murray
Economic and
Community
Development Director
City of Dearborn

Thomas L. Mroz Jr., ASLA

1982

ASLA National Merit Student,
University of Michigan, MI

TEACHING / ACADEMIC SUPPORT

2017

Program Leader / Organizer,
SmithGroupJJR Diversity
and Inclusion Scholarship
Program

2015 – 2016

Leader / Organizer,
SmithGroupJJR Pro Bono
Team, University of Michigan
Metro Studio Class

2011

Leader / Organizer, Michigan
State University Carl
Johnson / SmithGroupJJR
Professional Landscape
Architect in Residence
Endowment

2001

Leader / Organizer,
University of Michigan
Clarence Roy/
SmithGroupJJR Endowed
Lecture

1991

Adjunct Instructor, LA 480:
Professional Practice,
Michigan State University

Tom continues to support overall business development and growth, with firm revenue increasing 67% and Ann Arbor office revenue increasing 68% since 2011. He has also led a conscientious, significant investment in recruiting practices, mentorship and ongoing staff development to promote the growth of an inclusive office culture. Over the past seven years under Tom's guidance, the percentage of women among professional staff in the Ann Arbor office has increased from 26% to 37%, while the percentage of professional staff from underrepresented populations has increased from 2% to 17%.

Commitment to Diversity and the Next Generation of Leaders

Tom has demonstrated an authentic commitment to the development of landscape architects throughout the firm, both in their project roles and in their personal impact as ambassadors of the profession within the greater community. He seeks meaningful ways to advance the contributions of emerging young professionals and remains deeply invested in their career development. To promote flexibility in work schedules and patterns, Tom actively leverages office resources to empower staff to enroll in master degree programs, teach courses for nationally renowned industry programs and, in the case of one newly licensed junior landscape architect, pursue "work abroad" research opportunities in Europe—all while remaining full-time employees at SmithGroupJJR. Additionally, as a result of Tom's direct encouragement, 33% of the Michigan ASLA chapter's Executive Committee members and two participants in the ASLA National Diversity Summit hail from SmithGroupJJR's Ann Arbor office.

Having worked alongside two of JJR's founding partners, Clarence Roy and Carl Johnson, Tom sought to create a lasting and tangible legacy that reflects their tireless efforts in paving the way for future landscape architects. With Roy's passing in 2001, Tom took the lead within the firm to establish an endowed lecture series focused on sustainability at the University of Michigan, Roy's alma mater. Seventeen years later, the annual Clarence Roy/SmithGroupJJR Endowed Lecture continues to bring together thought leaders, students and environmental sustainability advocates from all over the world to discuss and share ideas, compelling strategies and the latest challenges facing the profession. Likewise, upon Johnson's passing in 2011, Tom helped establish an endowed professorship in his honor to support a Professional Landscape Architect in Residence at Michigan State University.

Tom is a great friend to those of us in academia. The recently instituted SmithGroupJJR Diversity and Inclusion Scholarship Program, established under Tom's leadership, will play a critical role in attracting a more diverse pool of professionals to landscape architecture. Tom also led the establishment of the Clarence Roy/SmithGroupJJR endowed lecture that has brought a wide range of national and international scholars to lecture in the landscape architecture program at the University of Michigan since 2002.

Robert E. Grese
Director, Matthaei
Botanical Gardens
and Nichols
Arboretum
Professor, School
for Environment and
Sustainability
Theodore Roosevelt
Chair of Ecosystem
Management

Thomas L. Mroz Jr., ASLA

In 2010, SmithGroupJJR served as a Founding Partner of the Landscape Architecture Foundation (LAF) Landscape Performance Series, providing an online library of case studies with quantifiable performance metrics for sustainable site design and restoration. Under Tom's leadership, the firm continues to provide both financial support and board-level leadership for innovative programs that advance professional practice and research. During LAF's recent 50 & Forward Campaign to expand existing educational programs and invest in new initiatives that deepen the pool of talent in the industry, Tom undertook a campaign of his very own. Believing deeply in the position and capacity of emerging landscape architects to meet the escalating needs of our world, Tom solicited personal financial contributions to LAF's campaign from 100% of the Principals in the Ann Arbor Office.

Lastly, Tom has worked diligently to address the systematic issues of gender, racial and ethnic diversity that exist within the profession, focusing on topics that include the missing 32%, unconscious bias, flexibility and work-life balance, and career outreach. His dedication to authentically promoting diversity is most evident in the development of implementable strategies to recruit, retain and support professionals from underrepresented populations, both among his 80 Ann Arbor-based staff and within the larger field of landscape architecture. Under Tom's guidance, 2017 has seen significant in-office momentum to employ diverse perspectives in decision-making through internal surveys, proactive brainstorm sessions, and studio presentations led by a newly created Inclusivity Task Force. Most notably, Tom spearheaded the successful development and roll-out of the inaugural SmithGroupJJR Diversity and Inclusion Scholarship, focused on supporting African American, Hispanic and Native American landscape architecture students enrolled in accredited undergraduate or graduate programs. Influenced by Tom's pioneering example in Ann Arbor, SmithGroupJJR has established five additional Diversity and Inclusion Scholarships across the firm's other disciplines—a legacy that speaks to Tom's guiding belief that landscape architects can and must lead the way.

I have worked with Tom and his staff for over 20 years. The consistency of professionalism, creativity, and independent initiative his teams have brought over the years is a testament to his leadership. Tom has instilled a sense of personal responsibility and ownership in his staff, and has nurtured their professional growth and development. I have had the pleasure of witnessing this maturation first hand and attest that they are ultimate evidence supporting his nomination!

Connie Pulcifer, PLA
Systems Planner
City of Ann Arbor

Summary by Chapter President

Tom's consistent leadership and example have significantly advanced the practice and profession of landscape architecture, particularly in the State of Michigan. Serving in multiple leadership roles for the largest private employer of landscape architects in the State, Tom has successfully led integrated, multidisciplinary design teams for numerous award-winning, high-profile projects that interface with the public through media communications and extensive community outreach.

What sets Tom apart is his deeply rooted commitment to cultivating the next generation of emerging landscape architects. Under Tom's guidance, dozens of SmithGroupJJR professionals are active members of Michigan Chapter ASLA, and their contributions to the Chapter and the community through volunteerism, advocacy and educational initiatives have been vital to the big-picture growth and representation of landscape architecture throughout Michigan and nationally. Furthermore, Tom's success in developing and executing initiatives that promote greater diversity within the profession have gained significant momentum and admiration as a new standard of leadership to strive for among many of his colleagues at Michigan Chapter ASLA.

I hope you will join my enthusiasm in endorsing Tom's merited elevation to the ASLA Council of Fellows. Thank you very much in advance for your consideration.



Sincerely,
Wesley Landon
President, Michigan Chapter ASLA

Michael Edwin Nichols, ASLA

Mayor and City Council Member, Solana Beach, California
Principal, Nichols Design Group, Inc.

ASLA Council of Fellows Nomination: Leadership/Management

PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES

2012-Present

National American Society of
Landscape Architects, Member,
Government Affairs Advisory
Committee

2014, 2016-2017

California Council of the American
Society of Landscape Architects,
Member, Board of Directors

2015

Vice President, Membership, San
Diego Chapter of American Society
of Landscape Architects

CIVIC LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES

2006-Present

City of Solana Beach, CA
City Council Member – Leadership
includes the following city council
committee assignments: Parks and
Recreation Committee, Highway 101
& Cedros Development Committee,
Public Arts Committee, School
Relations Committee, 22nd
Agricultural District Community
Relations Committee

2009, 2013, 2017

City of Solana Beach, CA
Mayor

2008

City of Solana Beach, CA
Deputy Mayor

2006-Present

Vice Chair,
Regional Solid Waste Association,
Joint Powers Agency for the cities of
Del Mar, Solana Beach, Encinitas,
Escondido, National City, Poway and
Vista, CA

On behalf of the Executive Committee of the San Diego Chapter ASLA, it is my privilege to nominate Michael (Mike) Nichols, ASLA, for your consideration.

Executive Summary

Mike Nichols has demonstrated a sustained leadership role as mayor and city councilmember since 2006. He is also a licensed, practicing landscape architect since 2000. Through his extensive public service as an elected official, he has greatly enhanced the public's appreciation and broadened recognition of the profession in a prominent way.

Since 2002, Mike has served and provided leadership on a variety of high-profile boards and commissions as a community volunteer and elected official. In addition, he's been active in ASLA serving on the Government Affairs Advisory Committee, as a member of the California Council of ASLA, and locally with the San Diego Chapter.

Consistently, and with considerable influence, Mike has proven his ability to leverage his elected leadership position in concert with his professional background to effectively advocate from a landscape architect's perspective on development of public policy and best management practices to address a variety of issues from local land use planning, to global crises such as effects of climate change and the effects of sea-level rise on the natural and built environments.

As a public figure and a licensed landscape architect with his own design firm (Nichols Design Group), Mike's actions and accomplishments span the private and public sectors and have greatly broadened the understanding and appreciation of the profession in the eyes of the public. He has also successfully collaborated and demonstrated influence with policy makers locally in the San Diego region, within the State of California and with our federal representatives in Washington, D.C. While always emphasizing positive contributions that our professional can have on the development of public policy and projects.

Through his dependable leadership activities and his constant messaging of the value of superior design, strong community outreach and stewardship of the land, he has drawn upon his knowledge and training to accomplish positive results in his public role. All while highlighting the value and importance of our profession in the process.

Mike's leadership has positioned Solana Beach as one of the most environmentally progressive cities in Southern California. He is hands-on tackling policy issues and was instrumental in the development of the City's first Climate Action Plan to address global climate change.

He is a trailblazer in the San Diego region and proudly represents the profession of landscape architect by consistently demonstrating that stewardship of the land is the highest priority in development of public policy.

Hon. Todd Gloria
State Assemblymember
78th District, California

Michael Edwin Nichols, ASLA

CIVIC LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES (Continued)

2006-Present

San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG), Member, Board of Directors (alternate); Member, Transportation Committee (alternate); Member, Shoreline Preservation Working Group

2012-Present

League of California Cities, Member, Executive Committee (San Diego Region), Member, Coastal Cities Working Group; Member, Local Legislative Committee

2012-Present

San Dieguito River Valley Joint Powers Authority, Member, Board of Directors (alternate)

2012-2016

Member, Board of Directors, North County Transit District (NCTD)

2002-2006

Member, Solana Beach Parks and Recreation Commission, (Chairperson, 2004-2006)

SELECTED PRO-BONO PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

"Tide Park Scenic Overlook", Solana Beach, CA, public beach access improvements with Boy Scout Troup 782

"Community Gardens Project", grant writing, design and implementation of two community gardens in Solana Beach, CA

"Fallen Soldier's Memorial", design for war memorial in collaboration with Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5431, Solana Beach, CA

"Fletcher Cove Community Center", Solana Beach, CA, site design and construction administration services, project processing for LEED-Silver rating

Address the nominee's exceptional accomplishments sustained over an extended period of time.

As a landscape architecture undergrad at the University of Georgia in the 1990's, Mike worked for the Athens-Clarke County Parks and Recreation Department where he was inspired by his experiences working with others and witnessed the selfless charity of civic-minded volunteering. He channeled this energy into a senior class project that addressed the lack of recreational programming for "at-risk youth" in the community. This process, initiated by Mike's leadership, gained momentum and the attention of city leaders. The result of Mike's efforts led to the successful creation of the first public skateboard park in the community.

In 1997, Mike moved to Southern California with his zeal for making a difference and his interest in furthering his community activism. He immediately began working professionally as a landscape architect, sharpening his design skills and looking for opportunities to volunteer and share his talents and passion. He became involved with his community as a Parks and Recreation Commissioner, donating countless hours on community-based projects.

He provided pro-bono conceptual design services for the community's "Linear Park" project, which greatly contributed to a 1.7-mile-long pedestrian and bicycle trail through the center of town. He also designed, acquired grants and constructed the city's first "Community Garden" project, and successfully led the effort to design and install a "Fallen Soldiers" veteran's monument with the local VFW Post. In all cases, Mike donated his services for these community-centered projects, many of which were featured in local newspapers or magazines and garnered an increased public appreciation and provided positive exposure for the profession in the press.

Inspired by public service, Mike's positive experiences with volunteerism and civic involvement, he ran for elected office and won a seat on the Solana Beach City Council in 2006.

He is currently in his third term on the city council, where he also represents the city on numerous local and regional boards and commissions, including the region's metropolitan planning organization (SANDAG), the region's transit agency (North County Transit District) and served three times as the city's mayor.

As mayor, he has represented the interests of his constituents and demonstrated a positive reflection on the profession of landscape architecture when working with other jurisdictions, governmental agencies and law makers at the local, state and federal levels.

I'm writing today to recommend Mayor Mike Nichols to become a Fellow of the American Society of Landscape Architects.

As the former President of San Diego City Council, one of my initiatives and passions was to implement smart urban planning.

I know Mike shares this goal for San Diego County and has exemplified this through his work as a landscape architect and elected official. His design talent has resulted in better projects for his community.

Hon. Scott H. Peters
U.S. House of
Representatives
(CA-52)

Michael Edwin Nichols, ASLA

SELECTED PUBLIC SPEAKING

2013

San Diego North Economic Development Council, Presentation, "Downtown Redevelopment and Revitalization"

2013

California Coastal Commission Hearing, Speaker, US Army Corps of Engineers project "50-year Coastal Storm Damage Reduction Project"

2012-2013

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission Hearings, Speaker, "San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station Safety Issues"

2012

Citizens for Coordinate Century 3 (C3), Presentation, "Community Revitalization in North County"

2012

New Partners for Smart Growth National Conference, San Diego, Field Session Speaker/Contributor, "Exploring North County Coastal Revitalization" (with Dan Burden)

2011

Walk San Diego
"Complete Streets Case Study: Highway 101 through North County Cities"

2010

American Planning Association, California Chapter Annual Conference, Presentation, "Rethinking San Diego County's North Coast Highway 101"

2007

Sam Diego State University, Guest Lecturer, Parks and Recreation Department, "The Landscape Architect's Role in Park and Recreation Design Process"

Address the influence and impact of the nominee's work on the profession of landscape architecture and contribution to public advancement of the profession.

Throughout Mike's history of leadership in public service, from 2002 to today, he has utilized his skills and training as a landscape architect to make a positive difference and enhance the quality of life within the communities he has served. As a result, his actions have greatly advanced and positively influenced the public's perception of the profession. His direct involvement and contributions to the public through his position as an elected leader and landscape architect, have earned Mike the respect of his elected colleagues, other landscape architects and allied professionals.

This is confirmed by his invitation to speak at a variety of conferences, participate in field sessions and attend other public venues to educate and raise awareness for the proper planning, design and development of programs for public improvement projects, such as streetscapes, parks and recreation. He has also addressed the development of policies to mitigate for sea-level rise and climate change, and testified as an elected official with subject matter authority to State and Federal agencies regarding land-use issues related to environmental protection, planning and public safety.

The results of Mike's efforts to influence and impact the profession of landscape architecture and contribute to the public advancement of the profession are easily witnessed throughout the entirety of his time in public office. During his tenure, he has used his landscape architecture background as a public official to direct and influence the conversation regarding land use and the environment. In often cases, he has helped to facilitate public projects in cooperation with commissioned landscape architecture consultants working for the city or agency that Mike represents.

The development of La Colonia Park in Solana Beach is an excellent example of Mike working in his role as an elected official to advance and assist in the development of programming, community outreach, various design features and implementation of a city park. Van Dyke Landscape Architects worked

on the project, and Mike regularly met with them to review plans, provide feedback and direction, attend public workshops to educate the public input on design alternatives. Mike also worked to establish priorities and assist with possible phasing plans to address City budget allocations. The ability for Mike, as an elected official, to share and use his knowledge of landscape architecture to effect and enhance the development of a public projects distinguishes him from others in his field.

As a consultant to the City, I have worked with Mike for many years.

Mike exhibits excellent skills as a leader and problem solver, which pays tribute to his training and education as a landscape architect

His actions and leadership have truly broadened the understanding and appreciation of our profession in the eyes of the public, and he has provided these skills to the benefit of the projects that he oversees as an elected official.

Mitch Phillippe, ASLA
President
Van Dyke Landscape
Architects

Michael Edwin Nichols, ASLA

EDUCATION

2006

Master of City Planning
San Diego State University

1997

Bachelor of Landscape Architecture
University of Georgia

- American Society of Landscape Architects Georgia Chapter, Certificate of Honor for Excellence in the Study of Landscape Architecture

1993

Bachelor of Arts, Multidisciplinary Studies, Minor in Parks, Recreation and Tourism Management
North Carolina State University

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2011-Present

Principal, Nichols Design Group, Inc.,
Solana Beach, CA

2001-2011

Senior Associate, MW Peltz + Associates, Solana Beach, CA

1997-2001

Associate, KTU+A, San Diego, CA

PROFESSIONAL ACCREDITATIONS

Member, American Society of Landscape Architects

Registered Landscape Architect:
California #4414
North Carolina #1990

Council of Landscape Architectural Record Boards (CLARB #48926)

American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP)

AICP Advanced Specialty Certification, Certified Urban Designer

LEED Accredited Professional

Address the nominee's personal leadership role and administrative ability demonstrated in the accomplishment of project initiation or design, policy formation, or planning.

Through his unique experiences as a landscape architect, a business owner and an elected official, Mike has developed his leadership and management acumen with an understanding of the complexities required to balance an economic growth while weighing development with community context and environmental protection. His dedication and accomplishments have set an example and continue to influence others.

Directly, Mike's actions have placed Solana Beach in the spotlight of environmental sustainability in Southern California by innovating and developing progressive environmental programs ahead of other jurisdictions since his election in 2006. In 2009 the city received a "cool cities" award from the Sierra Club San Diego Chapter, and over the past decade the city has won awards from SANDAG, the Institute for Local Governments, ASLA San Diego Chapter, California Parks and Recreation Society, San Diego Chapter of the American Planning Association and others as they relate to projects, programs or policies that Mike had a direct involvement.

In 2011, Mike was instrumental in the movement to establish Solana Beach as the first city in the county to ban single-use plastic bags, and in 2015 to eliminate the use of expanded polystyrene (EPS) products from food establishments. Mike used his professional expertise to craft ordinances for landscape requirements, public arts programs, and require LEED certified public projects. In 2007, he encouraged the city to join the US Mayors Climate Action Protection Agreement, and 10 years later in 2017, as mayor, he signed onto the #wearestillin ("We Are Still in" Declaration) and wrote letters to demonstrate his leadership in delivering on the promise of the Paris Agreement after President Trump withdrew from the accord. He has also voiced his objection to the recent federal proposal to consider off-shore oil drilling, and other policies to roll back regulations that protect the environment.

Most recently, as mayor in 2017, he successfully led the charge for two very important environmental programs. First, the development of a local government energy district that would provide green energy choices for electric ratepayers within the community at competitive rates with a reinvestment of funds from the proceeds to be dedicated for future city projects, such as parks and public beach access. Second, the culmination of a 10-year effort to develop and adopt the city's first-ever Climate Action Plan (CAP) to address the challenges of climate change and sea-level rise. The CAP provides a roadmap towards environmental sustainability for the City, and has become a model for other communities in the region to follow.

As a resident of Solana Beach, and landscape architect, I have witnessed Mike's leadership and management in action as Mayor, guiding our city to become an environmental frontrunner on issues such as climate change, walkability and green development with projects like the redevelopment of Highway 101.

He enthusiastically represents, and has triggered an increased public awareness of our profession through his actions, motivating other communities to follow suit. I support Mike for Fellowship in ASLA.

Jim Burnett, FASLA
President
OJB Landscape
Architecture

Michael Edwin Nichols, ASLA

Mike has been an outspoken leader, an advocate and a champion for the environment. In 2015, he was instrumental in the nomination of Senator Barbra Boxer as an Honorary ASLA member and has written numerous letters of support as an elected official to influence or support programs that align with ASLA's mission and in support of other landscape architect's applications for appointment to boards or commissions. In 2012-2013, he spoke out publicly, in letters, and at meetings with Nuclear Regulatory Commission members in support of closing the troubled San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station, citing the dangers of the failed generators and possible public safety and environment catastrophes for the nearly 8 million people living within 50 miles of the facility. The nuclear power plant was permanently closed in 2013.

One of the best examples of Mike's leadership achievements was his direct, decade-long effort to successfully manage and guide the redevelopment of Solana Beach's primary business corridor, Highway 101, into a prime example of a "complete street" by emphasizing pedestrian and bicycle circulation, public transportation and green infrastructure into every aspect of the \$7 million transformation. Mike took a strong leadership role in this project, working directly with design and engineering consultants. He walked the corridor to meet with business owners, held meetings with stakeholder groups and residents. He personally checked design plans and details to ensure the perfect outcome for this major undertaking. The award-winning project was recognized by local and state agencies and highlighted nationally in AARP's "Dangerous by Design 2014" report as case-study for good planning and street design to address safety and the pedestrian experience.

The success of the project and Mike's direct contributions to influence the project design and implementation placed him personally in a leadership role as a spokesperson for complete street projects within the region, including his participation as a featured speaker at the American Planning Association's California Chapter Annual Conference in 2011, and as a field session speaker at the New Partners for Smart Growth Conference in San Diego in 2012.

Summary by Chapter President:

Mike Nichols has an established track-record for progressive environmental programs and policies and is a recognized leader in the San Diego region, far beyond his involvement with landscape architecture. Yet, in all his accomplishments as a local elected official, he has held true to his profession and consistently makes a point to advocate and bring landscape architecture into the conversation when working on the development of public programs or policies, and when speaking publicly at events with other elected officials or business leaders and the public. As a result, he has used his position as an elected official to advance our profession in the eyes of the public, and he has bettered the communities in which he serves.

His prominent position in local politics also serves an example and inspiration for other landscape architects who volunteer their time on community projects and serve on community or foundation boards. Last year, our local chapter ran an interview with Mike in our quarterly newsletter about his path to becoming an elected official and how landscape architects can become involved with advancing the profession through advocacy or service on boards or commissions. We are hoping that more landscape architects will follow Mike's lead.

The San Diego Chapter strongly endorses Mike's nomination as an ASLA Fellow. We believe that he is worthy of this honor through his proven, and exceptional level of leadership and his significant advancement of the practice of landscape architecture. He is an excellent representative for our profession.

Sincerely,



Michael Brennan, ASLA
President, American Society of Landscape Architects, San Diego Chapter

Ted H. Spaid, PLA, ASLA, CLARB

Co-Founding Principal, SWT Design, Inc.

ASLA Council of Fellows Nomination: LEADERSHIP/MANAGEMENT

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Landscape Architecture, Kansas State University, 1984, cum laude, Manhattan, KS

EXPERIENCE

1995 - Present
Partner, Founder, SWT Design

1984 - 1995, Associate, HOK

PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES

1996, ASLA Member, Past President

2005 - 2015, St. Louis City Planning Commission, Commissioner

2014 - 2017 Washington University, St. Louis Urban Issues Studies, Guest Lecturer

2014 - Present, Washington University, St. Louis, Tree Campus USA Advisor

2003 - Present, Dean's Advisory Council for the College of Architecture, Planning & Design (CAPD) at Kansas State University, Council Member

2008 - Present, Gateway Greening Advisory Committee, Committee Member

1996 - 1999, Forest Park Advisory Board, Inaugural Board Member

On behalf of the Executive Committee of the St. Louis Chapter ASLA, it is my privilege to nominate Ted H. Spaid, PLA, ASLA, CLARB for your consideration.

In 35 years Ted Spaid has made a significant and sustained impact on the profession of landscape architecture through his actions, passion, and civic leadership. After co-founding SWT Design in 1995, Ted has cultivated one of the largest stand-alone landscape architecture firms in the Midwest that continues to advocate for sustainability and evidence-based design. Under his management, the firm has impacted more than 130 communities throughout the country in the last 21 years, grew 30 percent during the economic downturn in 2009, and in 2016 opened its second studio in Kansas City. In 2009/2010 he was a practitioner and leader in developing the SITES rating system during its pilot phase and in the subsequent certification of two SITES Pilot Projects. Prior to founding SWT Design, Ted was a design associate with HOK, Inc. From 1984 to 1995 he broke new ground as a key authority in the development and use of CAD technology. During this time, Ted worked on major projects such as New York Hospital, Northwestern Memorial Hospital, resorts in Japan and Indonesia, corporate world headquarters, and large-scale development projects across 11 countries. He has elevated the profession within the greater design and construction community, and has dedicated his career to growing the public's perception of landscape architecture's diverse impact on the public realm. For this, the ASLA St. Louis Chapter presented Ted with the Robert Goetz Award in 2013 for his lifetime of achievement. His legacy continues through his 25 years of mentoring young professionals and working to revamp design curricula at leading landscape architecture programs.

Advancing the Profession.

At a national level, Ted advocated for and contributed design leadership to the technical foundation of the "SITES Guidelines and Performance Benchmarks." From this came what is now known as the Sustainable Sites Initiative (SITES), the rating system used across the globe to promote the sustainable design and development of our landscape. In 2010, Ted would go on to lead the design of two SITES certified pilot projects, further promoting and advancing the profession as a global leader in sustainable design. These projects continue to serve as relevant case

Ted is a true leader and his impact in our region is respected by many. His work spans a variety of scales and complexities, and almost always involves a rigorous public engagement process. It is in this complicated alignment venue where Ted's leadership and management is so effective. His individual effort and contribution to our public realm is relentless.

Chip Crawford, FASLA
Sr. Principal
Forum Studio

Ted H. Spaid, PLA, ASLA, CLARB

HONORS AND AWARDS

Robert Goetz Award,
St. Louis ASLA Lifetime
Achievement Award

2017, Audubon Center at the
Riverlands, Central States
ASLA Excellence Award

2017, The Commons
at Cortex Innovation
Community, Central States
ASLA Merit Award

2016, Webster Groves
Sculpture Garden, Central
States ASLA Honor Award

2015, Echo Bluff State
Park Master Plan, St. Louis
Chapter ASLA Honor Award

2014, Brightside St. Louis
Urban Demonstration
Garden, Missouri Arbor
Award of Excellence

2013, Washington University
Campus Tree Master Plan,
St. Louis Chapter ASLA
Award of Excellence

2013, Saint Louis Zoo
Expansion Framework Plan,
Missouri APA Outstanding
Plan Award

2013, Brightside St. Louis
Urban Demonstration
Garden, St. Louis Chapter
ASLA Honor Award

2012, SWT Design Campus,
2-Star SITES Certification

2012, Novus International
Headquarters, 3-Star SITES
Certification

2011, Novus International
Headquarters, St. Louis
Chapter ASLA Presidential
Award of Excellence

studies within our industry. In a press release from ASLA in 2012 announcing the first SITES certified projects, ASLA Executive Vice President & CEO Nancy Somerville said, "The innovation and analytical thinking of these first certified projects is helping point the way for the next iteration of the guidelines, which will form the basis for open certification in 2013" (asla.org). In the proceeding four years, Ted gave more than 30 presentations to academics, professionals and the public on the benefits of the initiative's core concepts, further positioning landscape architects as leaders in the greater design community.

At a regional scale, more than 80 individual communities throughout the greater Midwest and 50 more across the country and Canada have recognized economic, environmental, and human-health benefits from his design leadership and management of SWT Design.

Locally, Ted has brought greater recognition and understanding of the profession to local civic leaders. Prior to 2015, no landscape architect led or managed a project under the direction of the City of St. Louis. Through Ted's persistent lobbying of civic leaders and city engineers, SWT Design is now the first landscape architecture firm to lead a St. Louis City-funded project through the Board of Public Service – a \$5.5 million redesign of 32 acres in Forest Park, one of our nation's largest city parks. Likewise, Ted's dedication to expanding the public's understanding of the profession is evident in his management of the strategic and business planning process for the CityArchRiver Alliance. This process, now led by a landscape architect, will create a 20-year business plan for the Alliance, whose members include the City of St. Louis, National Park Service, and 4 other public/private partners who direct the daily operations of the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial.

Academic Leadership.

For the past 15 years Ted has served as one of five landscape architects on the 25-member Dean's Advisory Council for the College of Architecture, Planning & Design (CAPD) at Kansas State University. Here, his leadership has advised the college on numerous major curriculum advancements, including the development of its 5-year Master of Landscape Architecture program in 2005. Since this time, the program has consistently ranked as a top five national program, and in 2014 it ranked 2nd in the nation. While serving on the Dean's Advisory Council, Ted provided review and recommendations for program accreditation, aided in the preliminary study for new and updated classrooms in all departments, and lobbied for the formation of interdisciplinary

Ted has redefined the role of landscape architects not only in St. Louis, but in our larger region. I have known him for more than 20 years, and have seen his passion and design impact millions, bringing influential change to our city through urban renewal, inclusion, mentorship, and sustainability. His service to the city has positioned our region for prosperity for years to come.

Lyda Krewson
Mayor
City of St. Louis

Ted H. Spaid, PLA, ASLA, CLARB

2011, The Little Lighthouse,
St. Louis Chapter ASLA
Presidential Award of
Excellence

2011, Des Peres Lakeside
Improvements, St. Louis
Chapter ASLA Presidential
Award of Excellence

2011, SWT Design Campus,
Central States ASLA Merit
Award

2010, Southeast Missouri
Hospital Nature's Landing,
Central States ASLA Merit
Award

2010, The Magic House,
Central States ASLA Merit
Award

2009, Indian Camp Creek
Park, Central States ASLA
Merit Award

2009, Ranken Jordan
Pediatric Care Hospital,
Central States ASLA Merit
Award

2008, St. Louis Children's
Hospital "Together We Play"
All-Inclusive Playground at
Tilles Park, Ladue News
Platinum Award - "Most Fun
Playground in Town"

2008, The Orthwein Animal
Nutrition Center - St. Louis
Zoo, Central States ASLA
Merit Award

2007, Saint Louis
Art Museum - Art Hill
Restoration, Central States
ASLA Honor Award

2004, 1904 World's Fair
Flight Cage - Saint Louis
Zoo, St. Louis Chapter ASLA
Merit Award

design studios after advocating for greater collaboration across disciplines. In 2017, at the conclusion of a decade-long campaign, Ted collaborated with Dean Dennis Law, FASLA, and Dean Tim de Noble, AIA, on a \$75 million renovation and expansion of the CAPD. The result was 114,000 square feet of integrated design labs, fabrication shops, and a 300-seat auditorium. In addition to advising both deans, Ted personally contributed to the funding of preliminary studies that led to the implementation of the expansion. Afterwards, Ted and his wife personally contributed to a \$4.4 million scholarship endowment for CAPD students, and have recently provided a lead gift for the expansion's new roof garden laboratory and event space. He often serves as a guest critic for design studios, developed a professional mentorship program, and provided guidance for the internship and study abroad program.

Aside from his leadership on the Dean's Advisory Council, Ted believes in mentoring students and young professionals. Throughout his career, he has mentored 35 student interns who have transitioned into professional practice, two of whom became partners of SWT Design. Under his management, SWT Design provides regular opportunities for high school students to job shadow, and offers educational tours of the firm's campus to scouting groups, grade schools, and local universities.

Environmental Leadership.

Ted's leadership in landscape architecture extends well beyond environmental best practices. In 1996 Ted and his business partner Jim Wolterman, FASLA made a philosophical and financial commitment to invest in an office culture that embodies sustainable design. As SWT Design continued to grow and expand, the campus joined the SITES Pilot Program in 2010 as one of 150 pilot projects evaluating the 2009 version of the rating system. Under Ted's leadership, the firm invested more than \$250,000 in campus improvements. As a result, the project earned a 2-star rating from SITES in 2012, making SWT Design the only design firm in the world at the time to have its own campus certified. With continued success, Ted led the design of the firm's most recent addition in 2016. Following the SITES guidelines, the campus now manages 95 percent of stormwater on site, and is comprised of 33 percent pervious hardscape surface and 75 percent native plant species. It continues to serve as a living laboratory not only for staff, but also as a model for sustainable corporate campus design and construction.

Mr. Spaid has been a valued contributor to our success over the last 20 years. He has been a part of well over \$75 million worth of construction - construction that has changed the Zoo's trajectory, and almost tripled our revenue over the last two decades. He is a remarkably talented and dedicated man who has made a difference, not just to our Zoo, but to the community of which we are a part.

Jeffrey P. Bonner, Ph.D.
Dana Brown President
& CEO
Saint Louis Zoo

Ted H. Spaid, PLA, ASLA, CLARB

1999, Whitecliff Park Master Plan for Crestwood, MO - St. Louis Chapter ASLA Presidential Award of Excellence

1996, Top of the Rock Golf Course Resource Management Plan - Governor's Town Treescape Award

PUBLICATIONS / SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

2017, "St. Louis Sings the Blues" (Interview on the State of Stormwater in St. Louis) *Journal for Surface Water Quality*

2017, "Influencing Community Perception on Urban Design," ONE STL Sustainability Summit

2016, "Trends in Parks and Recreation," University of Missouri Sports, Parks, Recreation, & Tourism Association

2016, "Defining What Will Steward the CityArchRiver Area," NRPA Conference

2016, "Innovation Inspired by Nature," Shaw Salon Series

2016, "Cortex Innovation Community: Innovation Inspired by Design," Washington University - St. Louis

2016, "SITES as a Tool for University Campuses," Association of Physical Plant Administrators of Universities and Colleges, Missouri Chapter

During this time, Ted also served as Principal-in-Charge for the design, construction, and development of a long-term maintenance strategy for Novus International Headquarters in 2010 under the guidelines of the Sustainable Sites Initiative. In addition to the SWT Design Campus, Novus became a second of 150 pilot projects evaluating the 2009 rating system. Earning a 3-star certification, Novus International Headquarters stood as the highest-rated sustainable landscape in the world for two years after its certification. Through his design leadership, Ted brought together more than a dozen stakeholders during the process, including the Missouri Department of Conservation and the University of Missouri to redevelop this existing greyfield into a regenerative landscape that contributes to the ecological system's overall performance and biodiversity. Later published in *Landscape Architecture Magazine* in 2013, Novus continues to serve "as a model project relative to SITES refinement" (*LAM*, Feb 2013).

In 2015 Ted served as Principal-in-Charge for the master plan and phase one construction of Missouri's newest 440 acre state park in the heart of the Ozarks. This park represents Missouri's newest and largest addition to its state park system since 1933. Working in conjunction with the State of Missouri, Department of Natural Resources, and Division of State Parks, Ted led the master plan of a park that was founded on the sustained economic impact it would provide for the surrounding communities. He worked closely with Governor Jay Nixon to realize a vision for the park that would respect the natural beauty of the site, sustain development with low-impact design, and promote local, regional, and national connectivity. Phase One of the park was recently completed in 2016 with the average lead time for reserving lodging within the park currently at nine months.

As a way to give back to the local business community and educate others on the benefits of sustainable design, Ted led a collaborative effort with the St. Louis Regional Commerce and Growth Association (RCGA) in 2010 to become a more sustainable business operation as outlined by the RCGA Green Business Challenge. Ted provided leadership and resources for SWT Design employees to successfully implement and monitor environmentally-conscious improvements to the studio campus environment, including single-stream recycling, a food composting program, reduction in printing, and alternative travel methods for employees. As a result, in 2011 SWT Design was recognized for earning the highest point total on the

It isn't every day that you get to build a new state park, and the partners you choose are paramount. Ted has been a visionary leader in working with me on creating Missouri's newest state park, recognizing the impact this will have on the region for future generations. This is a legacy of which I am very proud. Echo Bluff State Park is a great success. Ted's leadership in his profession is certainly worthy of this national recognition.

Jay Nixon
Former Governor
State of Missouri

Ted H. Spaid, PLA, ASLA, CLARB

Green Business Challenge scorecard. In subsequent years, Ted continued his collaboration with RCGA to provide mentorship opportunities to more than 150 participating companies throughout the St. Louis metropolitan area.

Civic Leadership.

Throughout his 35-year career as a practicing landscape architect, Ted has been dedicated to the development of the greater St. Louis community. From 2005 to 2015, Ted was the only landscape architect to serve as a City Planning Commissioner. During this time, he collaborated in the development of a city-wide comprehensive land use plan, representing the city's first update to its comprehensive plan in 60 years. The new plan was adopted in 2005, and Ted would go on as a planning commissioner to work with Mayor Francis Slay to adopt the city's first sustainability plan in 2013.

From 1996 to 1999, Ted served as one of the first inaugural members of the Forest Park Advisory Board (FPAB). Established by city ordinance, the FPAB was developed to provide ongoing citizen input into the implementation of the Forest Park Master Plan. Forest Park represents one of our nation's largest urban parks with more than 13 million annual visitors. Members are appointed by the Mayor of St. Louis and serve on a voluntary basis, representing a diverse array of expertise within the community. Within the last 22 years, Ted has navigated more than \$130 million worth of restoration projects for the park's various cultural landmarks and institutions, including the Saint Louis Zoo, Saint Louis Art Museum, Saint Louis Science Center, The MUNY (our nation's oldest outdoor theater), and the Missouri History Museum.

Since 2008, Ted has served as an active member of the Advisory Council for Gateway Greening, a St. Louis City non-profit whose mission is to empower, educate and provide urban residents with access to fresh produce and safe open space. During his 10 years on the Advisory Council, Ted has helped the organization grow to include more than 200 gardens throughout the greater St. Louis area. In this time, Gateway Greening has seen its budget grow from \$600,000 to over \$1 million.

Ted Spaid's commitment to advancing the profession of landscape architecture is evident in his many decades of leadership in our region. On behalf of the Executive Committee of the St. Louis Chapter of ASLA, it is my privilege to nominate Ted H. Spaid, PLA, ASLA, CLARB for elevation to the American Society of Landscape Architects Council of Fellows.

Sincerely,



Cory Murner, PLA, ASLA
President

ASLA St. Louis Chapter

2015, "Below-Grade Exploration: Innovative Soil Solutions for Stormwater Management," *Landscape Record*, vol. 1 2015.02

2014, "Contributing to the Urban Biodiversity Network: Appropriateness Assessment," Missouri Chapter American Planning Association Conference

2013, "Welcome Back, Nature" A Corporate Three-Star SITES Project Looks No Farther Than Its Surroundings," *Landscape Architecture Magazine*, vol 103 no.2

2012, "Positive Impacts of Stormwater," St. Louis Engineers' Club

2011, "Beyond the Normal Landscape: Immersive Design," Michigan Green Industry Association

2010 - 2012, "An Overview of the Sustainable SITES Initiative," National Green Center Conference and Multiple ASLA Chapters

2010, "Stormwater Friend or Foe: Rain to Recreation," Missouri Parks and Recreation Association

2008, "Greening Your Infrastructure: Defining Infrastructure in the Public Realm," Missouri Parks and Recreation Association

2007, "Parks, Playgrounds and Conservation Areas: The Evolution of the American Park," National Garden Clubs

2006, "Going for the Green," *St. Louis Business Journal*