



Illinois Chapter of American
Society of Landscape Architects

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January 25, 2023

Dear Members,

I am honored and excited to begin my term as President of ASLA Illinois (ILASLA). As you will see in the year-end report attached here, 2022 was an important year for our organization, and the ILASLA Executive Committee is relieved and excited to be back on track with the Illinois Registration Act. We look forward to continued progress in 2023. This year, we will focus on ensuring CEUs are re-instated as part of our State of Illinois licensure rules, we will update the ILASLA Strategic Plan, and we will work to support National ASLA as they continue to advance the Climate Action Plan. Finally, as usual, we'll host myriad fun and engaging events and education sessions.

I am returning to the organization as a reformed, lapsed member, and it's great to be back in the mix among such a diverse and talented group of professionals. For me, this leadership role is uniquely exciting and challenging and requires the support of many. I'm sincerely grateful to former ILASLA President Adam DeFoor-White for his guidance, leadership, and uncanny ability to deliver a party. I'm also grateful to our dedicated Executive Committee members and Committee Chairs. Last but not least, I'm grateful to our Executive Director Susan Ragaisis who is truly the cornerstone of this operation.

Happy New Year, and I'm looking forward to working with all of you to grow and advocate for the best A+E profession, landscape architecture, in Illinois and beyond.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "SW", written in a cursive style.

Sarah White, ASLA
President, ILASLA



ASLA
ILLINOIS

Activities Report

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2022

Each year, the association provides a foundation to advance landscape architecture through advocacy, communication, education, and networking.

The Illinois Chapter continues to be a leader in the Society's mission.

2022 activities are summarized on these pages.

SUMMARY

We are most grateful that 2022 brought us back on track. A handful of live events, online education, and the reinstatement of Illinois registrations made it feel like we had finally come home again. We thank our sponsors and members for their flexibility and partnerships.

**ADVOCACY * COMMUNICATIONS * EDUCATION *
EMERGING PROFESSIONALS & STUDENTS * MEMBERSHIP * NETWORKING EVENTS *
PARTNERSHIPS * PUBLIC AWARENESS * SERVICE**

ADVOCACY

- **As noted above, the most significant change was the Illinois Registration Act passing through the Joint Committee of Administrative Rules (JCAR) rules process. Landscape architects registered with the state before January 1, 2020, were automatically re-registered by the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (IDPFR) without a fee or change in license numbers. Continuing Education requirements were removed from the Act, and in 2023 we will be working to have those requirements updated within the year.**
 - Relationship building continued throughout the summer and fall months with legislators, especially those on the House Labor and Senate Licensed Activities Committees.
 - Molly Rockford continued as a lobbyist for the chapter.
 - Throughout the year, the Executive and Advocacy Committee worked to raise funds for legislative efforts and to contract a lobbyist; Fundraising will continue throughout the process.
 - Three Volunteers, comprised of the ILASLA President and Advocacy Chair and Committee member, attended a successful virtual Advocacy Day on the Hill with ASLA.

DEI Initiatives

The Executive Committee has made the decision to advance DEI throughout each program, rather than calling it out as its own committee. The expectation is that a higher awareness and effort will be made through out the chapter to advance our goals. Highlights in 2022 include two donations:

- ASLA Women of Color Licensure Advancement Program
- Asian American Caucus PAC

Public Awareness Initiatives

Much of the year surrounded the celebration of the 200th Birthday of Frederick Law Olmsted.

- The Olmsted 200 Committee provided several opportunities to celebration the 200th Birthday of Olmsted, including a Birthday Party in Riverside, Illinois and a dinner attended by members of the Executive Committee and the National CEO, Torey Carter-Conneen and National President, Eugenia Martin, FASLA.
- Parking Day: IIT students created their own Parking Day Parklet on their campus. Members of the Executive Committee and Events Committee attended and help to construct the day.

AWARDS PROGRAM

The chapter sends out an annual call for award submissions which are juried by a different chapter each year.

- 16 of 30 projects submitted for review received an ILASLA Award. They were juried by members of the Minnesota Chapter. Three additional Public Recognition Awards, confirmed by the ILASLA Executive Committee, were also presented.
- Volunteers from ILASLA juried Minnesota awards this year.

COMMUNICATIONS

A new Communications Co-Chair and Social Media Chair and committee helped lead the chapter in a more consistent means of communication across channels. The Stream on-line newsletter was delivered monthly, and e-blast supported event communications along with updates on the progress of the Registration Act.

- Social Media outlets consisted of: Instagram, Facebook, and LinkedIn. A hold was put on Twitter.
- LinkedIn and Instagram saw worldwide followers from London, Portugal, Turkey, Taiwan, Italy, Greece, the Netherlands, Indonesia, China, Spain, and the US.

EDUCATION

- **6 PDH credits offered through ILASLA Education Committee**
 - 3 PDH Credits through ILASLA Webinars; free to members – live and on-demand
 - 1 Additional Webinar was co-sponsored by APA-IL
 - 2 Live Field Sessions took place
 - 1 days of LARE Prep – Virtual

EMERGING PROFESSIONALS & STUDENTS

- **6 Emerging Professional and Student Events**
 - 2 In person events: Emerging Professionals Happy Hours
 - UIUC Sasaki Day with presentations and awards held virtually
 - Student Project reviews at both UIUC and IIT
 - 1 Welcome Back Student Bar-B-Q at UIUC
 - 1 Welcome Back Student Bar-B-Q at IIT

FELLOW ELEVATION

- **1 Member was elevated to Fellow at the 2022 ASLA Conference on Landscape Architecture: Heidi Natura, Living Habitats. The Fellow's Committee recommended and reviewed the submission to ASLA.**

MEMBERSHIP (as of October 31, 2022)

- **Membership increased by 3% in 2022 (compared to an increase of 8% in 2021). Student Membership, not included in the regular membership count, decreased by 9% in 2022 (compared to a 52% increase in 2021).**
 - 8 New members joined, and 23 members rejoined in 2021
 - 35 members lapsed in 2020
 - 374 Active Members (not students) up from 369 Active Members in 2021. This is comprised of: 315 Full (v 310 in 2021) and 16 Associate Landscape Architects (12 in 2021), 17 Affiliate (16 in 2021), 2 Corporate (2 in 2021), 13 Emeritus, and 10 Honorary Members, and 1 International.
 - 312 (65%) Registered as Suburban (Chicago suburbs and further) and State-wide Members; 144 (30%) Registered as Chicago Members and 25 (.5%) Members with out of state addresses. (Note, the percentage of Suburban and State-Wide Members has doubled since 2021. This is, in part, due to students from UIUC being included in our membership count, but, additionally, the increased move to working from home since the 2020 Covid pandemic.)
 - 94 Students are members. These are in addition to the total members listed above. The drop of student membership fees to \$0 was still in effect.

NETWORKING EVENTS

- **5 ILASLA Networking Events – all in person**
 - Winter Spritzer
 - 2 Emerging Professional's Happy Hours
 - Summer Skyline Party
 - Celebration+ with Field Sessions, our largest event of each year, honoring 2022 awardees saw 136 attendees

PARTNERSHIPS

- **21 Sponsorship Partners supported programming and events**
- **14 Industry Partnerships were strengthened through co-sponsoring ILASLA events or providing discounts or free events for Members**
 - American Institute of Architects (AIA)
 - American Planning Association (APA)
 - American Public Works Association (APWA)
 - Architresures
 - Black Landscape Architects Network (BlackLAN)
 - Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)
 - Chicago Region Trees Initiative (CRTI)
 - Illinois Green Industry Association (IGIA)
 - Illinois Landscape Contractors Association (ILCA)
 - Illinois Institute of Technology, Landscape Architecture Program (IIT)
 - Great Lakes Region Climate Action Committee (In combination with ASLA Chapters)
 - Millennium Park Foundation (MPF)
 - Olmsted 200
 - University of Illinois, Landscape Architecture Program (UIUC)

SERVICE

- **1 Service Event**
 - 1 Park Cleanup at North Park Village Nature Center

STRATEGIC PLAN

- **Over the summer, members and allies on our mailing list were sent a survey regarding issues and goals set by the Chapter. Answers to these questions are helping to inform the Executive Committee to set strategy going forward. The first of several meetings took place regarding a 2023-2026 ILASLA Strategic Plan. Members will be kept apprised of progress as it develops.**

2022 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Adam De Foor-White	<i>President</i>	Cassandra Rice	<i>Secretary</i>
Sarah White	<i>President-Elect</i>	Alan Watkins	<i>Trustee</i>
Magdalena Aravena	<i>Past President</i>	Sarah Dreier	<i>Treasurer</i>
Stacey Libra	<i>At-Large-Member</i>	Susan Ragaishis	<i>Executive Director</i>

2022 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Mark Jirik	<i>Advocacy Chair</i>	David Traphagen	<i>Events Chair</i>
Jessica King	<i>Awards Chair</i>	Susan Jacobson	<i>Fellows Nominations Chair</i>
Stacey Libra	<i>Celebration Chair</i>	Ken Horinko	<i>HALS Representative</i>
Jim Forrester	<i>Communications Co-Chair</i>	Joshua Bauman	<i>Membership Chair</i>
Maelo Maldonado	<i>Communications Co-Chair</i>	Steven Gregory	<i>Public Awareness Chair</i>
Amanda Arnold	<i>Education Chair</i>	Cesar Gomez	<i>Social Media Chair</i>
Sophia Essian	<i>Emerging Prof Co-Chair</i>	Tadhg Barlow	<i>Webmaster</i>
Samantha Sutton	<i>Emerging Prof Co-Chair</i>		