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WINTER/SPRING '22 NEWSLETTER

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

TOM HAND, ASLA
VTASLA CHAPTER PRESIDENT

Greetings Friends,

Hoping you all had a happy World Landscape Architecture Month! What a fantastic opportunity to celebrate and promote the work of our profession here in Vermont. In addition, this year mark's the 200th anniversary of the birth of Frederick Law Olmsted on April 26th. There are events and activities happening nationally to celebrate both WLAM and Olmsted 200 and the Vermont Executive Board is busy planning our own events over the spring, summer, and fall.

Spring is an amazing season in the Green Mountain State as the snow melts off and the fields and forests around us wake up. Like many of you, it has been a busy winter with highs and lows that seemed to follow the unpredictable weather. There's an energy that comes from the amount of work and opportunity that is happening around us but is tempered by events such as the passing of longtime landscape architect David Raphael or the unrest across the world. Luckily, this time of year is a good opportunity to refresh and start anew.

In many ways ASLA National is doing the same thing, concluding a years-long planning process around the organizations strategic plan and debuting the new plan to membership at last Fall's annual conference. The new strategic plan shifts its focus onto five key focus areas including the Community, Connections, Innovation, Scale, and Voice. This is critical recognition that supporting and advocating for us, the members of ASLA and the work that we all do to design sustainable, resilient, socially responsible projects is at the core of our profession. Read more about the strategic plan starting on p. 9 of this newsletter or see more online at https://www.asla.org/uploadedFiles/CMS/AboutJoin/Plan_milestones.pdf.

Despite my busy professional and volunteer schedule, I frequently wish myself and the chapter were involved in even more opportunities that impact our profession and the communities around us. AIA VT recently hosted their Affordable Housing Charrette that paired architects with real estate developers and housing agencies. The Vermont Climate Council hosted public forums on April 12 and 13 to share updates on the states Climate Action Plan (CAP). The Council was created by the VT Legislature out of the Global Warming Solutions Act (Act 153) to address reducing greenhouse gas emissions as well as "consider opportunities for conservation through long-term carbon sequestration and identify actions Vermont communities can take to better prepare for more extreme weather." Which makes me think- what other opportunities are we missing or should be involved with? Taking a page from the new national strategic plan, how can the Vermont ASLA Chapter support you- our hard-working members?

If you have any thoughts, feel free to reach out to me at my new email tom@siteformstudio.com or the chapter at vtasla@gmail.com. Until next time, enjoy those new opportunities!

Best,

Tom Hand

IN MEMORY OF DAVID RAPHAEL

1949-2022



Board this last November, with a painfully short but characteristically passionate term until his death two months later. David served as the VTASLA member of the Vermont Urban & Community Forestry Council since 2009, advocating and contributing his expertise to urban and community forestry issues. He was a Professor at the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources for nearly 40 years, sharing his love of the environment and communities by engaging generations of students in hands-on learning. His classes have gained recognition for their ideas for neglected outdoor spaces in Burlington, Winooski, and around Vermont.

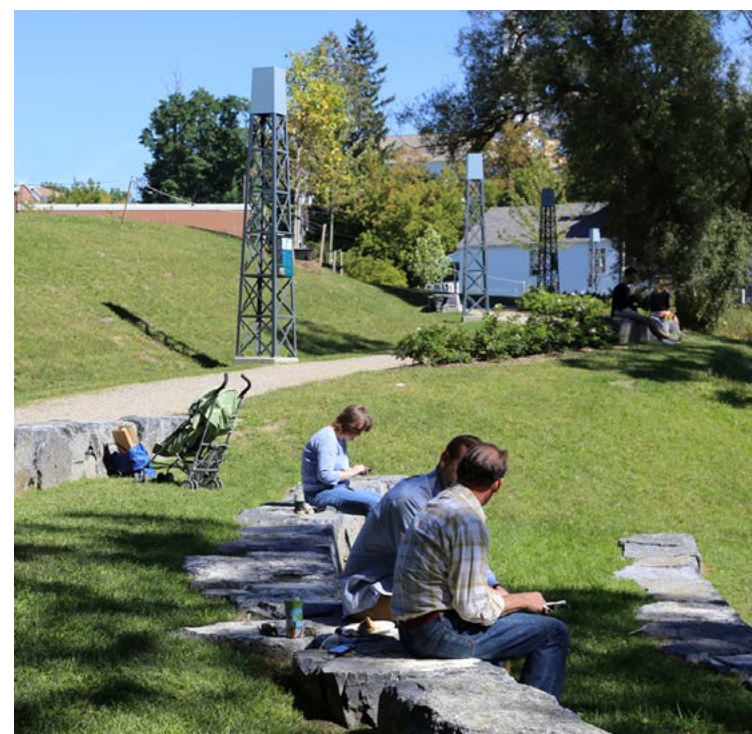
The Chapter Fellows Committee had just started working with David to prepare his nomination for Fellow of ASLA a few short weeks before he died. Unfortunately, the Fellows nomination system does not allow nominations posthumously.

“I worked for David as a landscape architect at LandWorks for almost 10 years.” said Patrick Olstad, ASLA. “I am incredibly thankful for the opportunities that he gave me to grow as a designer during that time. He had a level of trust in my design abilities that allowed me to gain

David Raphael grew up in Providence, Rhode Island. He held a Master’s in Landscape Architecture degree from the Harvard Graduate School of Design. He lived in Panton, VT since 1979 and was very involved with his community in many ways, including serving as the Panton Planning Commission Chair. Over the years, his professional contributions to other communities, both in Vermont and beyond, were innumerable. He was equally at home preparing development guidelines, organizing wayfinding systems, conducting visual impact analyses, and design parks and streetscapes.

David was a landscape architect, planner, and graphic designer. He founded LandWorks in 1986, based in Middlebury Vermont with many projects close to home, and others spanning across the country. He worked on site plans for ski areas, renewable energy siting, municipal parks, and more. He designed iconic signage for Burlington, VT to wayfinding in Jackson Hole, Wyoming; parks and places from Alburgh Dunes to the Middlebury College Football Stadium.

He served on the ASLA Vermont Section Board in the 1980s. He came back to the VTASLA Executive



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confidence as a landscape architect on a wide range of exciting projects, from downtown revitalization plans to Vermont State Park projects. One particularly rewarding project that we collaborated on was the design for Middlebury’s Riverfront Park (VTASLA Honor Award winner, 2015), which was right outside our office door. We led the project from concept design through construction, transforming the space between the Otter Creek and the Marble Works complex into a tremendous community asset. As a national leader in wayfinding design, David proposed a creative solution for displaying the proposed interpretive signs that would help elevate the park’s “sense of place” with the use of tower structures that mimic the structures that had once moved large blocks of marble when the old mill was in operation.”

“David was extremely passionate about improving the communities he served, and through him I discovered the power of meaningful community engagement to truly respond to the needs of the people who live and work in Vermont’s communities.”

David died doing what he loved - hiking in the forest. We will miss his optimism and energy, and he will not be forgotten.



Alburgh Dunes State Park

Adapted from David’s obituary in Seven Days Vermont, January 17, 2022.



City Center Park



Scenic Resources in the Shawangunk Mountains Region - A Guide for Planning Boards

VTASLA HOLIDAY PARTY

VTASLA continued our annual Holiday tradition this year in true covid-conscious Vermonter style - with a bonfire! A festive roaring flame kept us warm through the evening (don't worry, we got a burn permit!), as well as cider, hot chocolate and mulled wine prepared by the Donovan/O'Donnell's. The VTASLA Chapter was grateful for the chance to connect again with our small but mighty landscape architecture community.

The holiday party also gives us a chance to recognize contribution from the landscape architecture community and to the Vermont ASLA Chapter.

The VTASLA President's award was presented to Patricia O'Donnell, FASLA, preservation landscape architect and founder of Heritage Landscapes, LLC. Patricia most recently put landscape architecture into prominence being the first LA to receive the Louise du Pont Crowninshield Award for Lifetime Achievement in preservation by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Her pioneering work in landscape preservation, weaving in values of sustainability, ecological integrity, and social well-being has impacted the nation. Her advocacy within Vermont has helped increase the visibility of landscape architecture across the state.

A Chapter Service Award was presented to Ted Adams, ASLA, who just stepped down from the VTASLA Board after several years of tirelessly managing the Chapters social media. The Chapter is very grateful in his efforts in engaging members and the public through creative and consistent posts.



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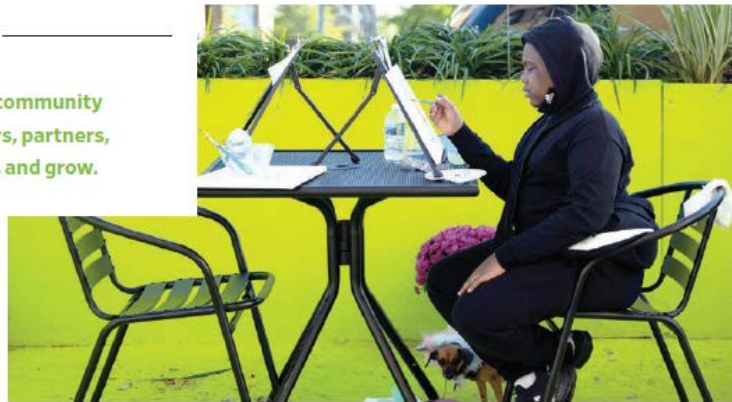
Focus Areas

With the 2022–2024 Strategic Plan, ASLA is charting a bold new course for the future that centers the needs of our members while advancing the profession. We are committed to becoming the community our members value, look to for professional development, and turn to for leadership.

To create the future we are committed to, we need to focus on the areas that will have the greatest impact. This starts with committing ourselves to serving the needs of our Community of current and future landscape architects and those in related disciplines and professions, and building collaborations and partnerships through deeper Connections with people and organizations that share our values and serve our profession. ASLA must lead the exchange of ideas and best and emerging practices through leadership and Innovation. Implementing this plan requires us to focus on how best to Scale the organization, both for our future health and to bring to bear the full impact of our membership. Our ability to achieve this future is dependent on creating value and providing a Voice for our members, one that allows us to promote awareness of our field and educate audiences about the importance of our profession.

Community

Build a welcoming and inclusive community that provides a place for members, partners, and supporters to connect, learn, and grow.



COMMUNITY OUTCOMES

Everything we do is focused on supporting members and championing and raising the visibility of the profession of landscape architecture. Our chapters are cornerstones of ASLA, offering members the opportunity to connect and learn from each other. In order to best serve the ASLA

community, we bring members and supporters into the conversations that impact them and their work.

Connection

Enable change through collaboration and effective partnerships.



CONNECTION OUTCOMES

ASLA creates value for members through the connections and community we foster. In an effort to expand our reach to a broader audience, we are building new relationships with organizations that support our field and

strengthening our partnerships with current collaborators. Through the ASLA Fund, we connect in new and meaningful ways with audiences committed to addressing climate change, environmental justice, and building community. This collaborative approach to working with partner organizations has furthered the organization’s influence and impact, creating new opportunities to work together and support one another.

We are also investing in bringing our network closer together. ASLA chapters are an important way members connect with one another and a vital conduit into the communities they serve. We will continue to assist chapters and support their work and volunteer leaders.

Innovation

Leverage the best practices developed by and for our members to keep us and the profession at the forefront of innovation.



INNOVATION OUTCOMES

Innovation is about finding new and better ways to provide value to members and deliver on the promise of our mission. We are committed to helping them succeed in the profession and connecting them to

opportunities to develop solutions and serve people through their work. The ASLA Fund allows ASLA to develop, pilot, and incubate new approaches to meeting our members’ needs and increasing the visibility of the landscape architecture profession. By creating new pathways into our profession and growing the pool of members, supporters, and other funding resources—including access to capital—we connect members to the business resources necessary to run a successful practice.

Scale

Make the investments necessary to bring to bear the power of our membership and our profession.



SCALE - OUTCOMES

Through our global network, ASLA helps members scale their influence and impact, from the local community to Capitol Hill, to advance transformative design, standards, and policies. Launching new programs while maintaining current services requires

scalability, or the ability to expand (or contract) services without affecting other functions, slowing progress, or impacting performance. Many of the outcomes and milestones identified in this document are new; others build on existing programs that are being scaled in ways previously unimagined. Effectively implementing this plan will require investments in our human and financial capital and more efficient use of the resources we have. This will require working with chapters to evaluate and streamline our structure to better support volunteer leaders.

Voice

Provide a platform to elevate expertise and the collective impact of our members.



VOICE - OUTCOMES

ASLA believes in the positive impact that landscape architects have on the world. We are determined to amplify their voice to better communicate the value and importance of the profession and the relevance of this work to everyday life. We are a vehicle to educate the public about the landscape architecture profession and its contributions to mitigate the impacts of climate change, improve health and public safety, and advance environmental justice. We have strengthened advocacy efforts locally, nationally, and globally; developed valued relationships with legislators, influencers, and decision-makers at all levels; and increased the stature and influence of the profession.

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VERMONT LEGISLATURE RECOGNIZES WORLD LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE MONTH AND FREDRICK LAW OLMSTED DAY!

On April 22nd, 2022, the Vermont House and Senate passed a joint resolution that recognized April 2022 as World Landscape Architecture Month and April 26, 2022 as Frederick Law Olmsted Day in Vermont. The Resolution was sponsored in the House by Representative, Mike Yantachka and in the Senate by Senators Campion and Sears. This was organized through the advocacy of VTASLA members, particularly Jim Donovan. A great step forward in recognizing the profession and its contributions!

View the full resolution on the following page.

CELEBRATE OLMSTED 200

This initiative was in part inspired by the celebration of Olmsted 200, the national celebration marking the 200th anniversary of the birth of Frederick Law Olmsted. Visit Olmsted200.org to learn ways to participate and show your commitment to natural and historical heritage.



State of Vermont House of Representatives



Montpelier, Vermont

Concurrent House Resolution

H.C.R. 148

House concurrent resolution recognizing April 2022 as World Landscape Architecture Month and designating April 26, 2022 as Fredrick Law Olmsted Day in Vermont

Offered by: Representative Yantachka of Charlotte

Whereas, landscape architecture encompasses the design, management, planning, and stewardship of the natural and built environment, and

Whereas, licensed professional landscape architects enhance public health, safety, and welfare, crafting accessible spaces that encourage active lifestyles, incorporating conservation techniques that promote safe activities, and planning spaces with economic, social, and environmental benefits, and

Whereas, the resilient and sustainable designs of landscape architects address climate change, reduce water demand and energy consumption, conserve or restore natural resources and wildlife habitat, and improve air quality, and

Whereas, through their designs, landscape architects are committed to addressing racial and social justice for all, including communities of color, low-income Americans, and Tribal and Indigenous groups, and

Whereas, Frederick Law Olmsted, who is considered the father of landscape architecture in the United States and who designed many prominent North American urban landscapes, provided guidance to Dr. William and Lila Vanderbilt Webb for their magnificent design of Shelburne Farms, which, for over a century, has shone as a gem of a planned outdoor space, and April 26, 2022 will mark the bicentennial of his birth, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly recognizes April 2022 as World Landscape Architecture Month and designates April 26, 2022 as Fredrick Law Olmsted Day in Vermont, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Vermont Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects in Burlington.

ASLA MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

SIGN UP AS A MENTOR OR MENTEE THROUGH ASLA



The ASLA Mentorship Program is a unique online networking and career development tool that connects ASLA students with professional members who match their interests.

This program is self-guided, with mentors and mentees working together to determine the goals and timeframe of the relationship. Your mentor or mentee can be in the same city or on the other side of the world. You can apply to the ASLA Mentorship Program in four simple steps:

Step 1: Complete Your Profile

Step 2: Enroll as a Mentor, Mentee, or both!

Step 3: Search the ASLA Mentorship Program Directory to search for mentors or mentees.

Step 4: Connect with a Mentor/Mentee

"I am so thankful for the opportunity to give back to the profession through mentoring, especially when our emerging professionals are facing unprecedented challenges during the pandemic. One hour a month is all it takes!" - Jean Senechal Biggs, ASLA, Mentor

"I have gained a sense of belonging to the landscape architecture field that I didn't really have before joining this program. The world feels a little bit smaller and more welcoming now that I know it is made up of people who want to help me succeed and grow in this disciplinary."

- Autumn M. McNinch, Student ASLA, Mentee

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