Gear Up for 2012 SD/ASLA Design Awards

Planning for the 2012 San Diego Chapter Design Awards is now underway. The awards program, to be held in early December as the Chapter’s Annual Meeting, will focus on celebrating the vital accomplishments of our Chapter members and the profession at large. Now more than ever, it will be important to participate in this event and take advantage of the opportunity to showcase the works that help distinguish our abilities as designers and practitioners.

In the coming weeks, more information will be forthcoming in regards to this event. As in the past, design categories will include general works, residential/garden design, planning and analysis, professional research, and communications. The Chapter is keeping the category for Unbuilt Works.

For further information or to join our Design Awards Committee to assist with the event, please contact:

David Reed, ASLA
Past President and Awards Committee Chair
619-239-3300 • david@drasl.com

Public Health and Active Living Awareness Day

Brooke Pietz, Vice President of Visibility and Public Affairs

The American Society of Landscape Architects will hold another nationwide public awareness and outreach day on April 26, 2012 at noon revolving around a public health and active living theme. This day presents an opportunity for us to demonstrate how landscape architects have contributed to the health and wellbeing of the general public by providing outdoor space and recreational opportunities that engage the human spirit and get people moving.

The San Diego Chapter will participate by persuading people to get out and walk on their lunch break. You, and everyone you know are encouraged to attend one of four guided walks in La Mesa, Downtown San Diego, Balboa Park, or UCSD.

Visit our website, watch our Facebook and Twitter pages for specific meeting locations. If you have one, be sure to wear your “ask me about landscape architecture” button and tell someone what it is you do! For questions, or to get involved in the public outreach committee, please e-mail brooke@ktua.com.
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2011/12 Executive Committee

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San Diego Landscape Architecture
From the President

Now is the Time to Get Involved

During my 30 years in the profession, I have experienced three different economic slowdowns or recessions. In my opinion, this one has been the longest and has hit the profession of landscape architecture the hardest. Now that we see some signs of recovery, what can we do as landscape architects to get ourselves back in the marketplace? I believe the answer is that we must educate people on the importance and value of our profession. This awareness will increase our practice and generate jobs for landscape architects.

Landscape architects are great leaders, very creative people and have a lot to offer to make this world a better place. Now is the time to show off that great talent by getting involved in our chapter, and more importantly in your community. Volunteer in your community. Get yourself on committees or planning groups. Run for a board position in your homeowners association. Get yourself out there and show people how much you can give and accomplish.

ASLA/SD is working very hard and volunteering their time to make the general public aware that we participate in the careful stewardship, wise planning and artful design of our cultural and our natural environment. This is important to all of us in ASLA and we are always looking for help and volunteers.

I would like to leave you with a comment I heard from a gentlemen I met while volunteering at our ASLA booth at the recent Smart Growth Convention in San Diego. “Most groups think they are very important,” he said, “and most individuals think they are very important, but you guys (landscape architects) ARE very important.”

Thanks for your membership with ASLA, and let us know what you are doing to promote the profession and make a difference in your communities.

Committee of One Hundred Honors Vicki Estrada

The Committee of Hundred, who are dedicated to the preservation of Balboa Park’s Spanish Colonial architecture, announced they will honor Vicki Estrada, FASLA with their 2012 Gertrude Gilbert Award for her work done to help preserve Balboa Park’s architecture, gardens and public spaces.

The Committee of One Hundred will present several awards at their luncheon on May 25 in the Balboa Park Club. The luncheon guest speaker will be former Union-Tribune columnist, Welton Jones, who will speak about the Zoro Garden at the 1935-36 Exposition. For more information, go to www.c100.org.
CCASLA has been actively involved in addressing the recently constituted LATC Exempt Area of Practice Task Force. The Task Force will shortly begin conducting a series of public meetings aimed at reviewing the existing Exemption Clause (Section 5641) of the Landscape Architects Practice Act. CCASLA nominated two individuals for ASLA representation on the Task Force; Baxter Miller, President of the Southern California Chapter and Marq Truscott, Sierra Chapter Secretary and current ASLA Chapter Presidents Council Chair. The LATC Board selected Baxter for the position with Marq serving as alternate. The Task Force will address questions raised in the recently completed Sunset Review report of the Senate Business, Professions and Economic Development Committee, specifically the practice of landscape architecture in regards to the public’s health, safety and welfare and the qualifications of non-licensees to provide certain services as defined in the Practice Act. Input from landscape architecture practitioners will be critical, especially those currently involved in residential design. Further information regarding Task Force meeting dates and locations will be sent to you as it becomes available.

CCASLA is working with the California Center for Urban Horticulture at UC Davis to support efforts to update the Water Use Classifications of Landscape Species (WUCOLS) database. This advocacy action has reached a critical juncture in the effort to provide needed updates to information every landscape architect is dependent upon when addressing water conservation in the landscape. Look for a separate article addressing this issue and an appeal for technical support and donations to fund the WUCOLS update in this newsletter.

The 2012 legislative session has begun. CCASLA will continue to address hold-over and other important legislation as it pertains to the practice of landscape architecture. This legislation includes indemnity, Mechanics/Design Professional Liens, water use efficiency/grey-water building standards, environmental, community redevelopment, professional services taxation and small business legislation among others. To assist the CCASLA Board with these efforts, your input is critical. The CCASLA Board depends on hearing from you regarding your personal concerns or other important information that will help make this effort a success.

For further information on these and other legislative issues, please feel free to contact me at jsreschinsky@pacbell.net, or 619-916-6956 or contact other CCASLA representatives.
WUCOLS Revisions and Development Reaches Critical Moment

The California Center for Urban Horticulture at UC Davis in an effort to update the Water Use Classifications of Landscape Species (WUCOLS) database is embarking on an effort to engage the landscape industry of which landscape architects are an important part in the following tasks:

- Convene a group of horticultural and UC experts, professional practitioners and others to conduct a series of regional meetings to review and update the WUCOLS document (8 – 14 reviewers per region)
- Redesign a user-friendly WUCOLS template (e.g., sort and search by region, downloadable search results)
- Develop a training guide “How to Use WUCOLS”
- Document the review process and develop a streamlined way for users to easily access WUCOLS
- Find a permanent home for WUCOLS, ex. Online CCUH website, “Water Quality and Conservation...Connecting people with Water Resources” (http://ccuh.ucdavis.edu/projects)
- Develop a process for users to submit plants for review and inclusion in WUCOLS (maintenance)
- Develop standardized protocol to conduct landscape plant water use research
- Develop documentation and training for landscape professionals on MWELO compliance
- Support development of the Simplified Landscape Irrigation Demand Estimation (SLIDE) program

The update is needed to complete these important tasks that were unable to be completed due to prior state funding constraints. Since WUCOLS is currently the official plant database utilized in Maximum Applied Water Allowance (MAWA) and Estimated Total Water Use (ETWU) calculations for landscape projects, this work is especially important now.

In order to complete this important work, CCUH is asking for direct support from those who will benefit most from this update. Remaining funds provided from previous public service grants is inadequate to complete the work. For this reason, CCUH is asking for donations to help offset these costs. In an effort to help support this solicitation, the California Council, ASLA has agreed to help CCUH by collecting funds from those individuals and firms wishing to support the WUCOLS update and deliver those funds as a single contribution from the landscape architecture community. This method has been agreed to per a request from CCUH both for accounting purposes and as a way to better understand landscape architects commitment to this work. Depending on the amount of contributions raised from the landscape architecture community as well as allied industries will determine how many of the tasks listed above will be completed by CCUH. Any unused funds have been promised to be returned to contributors on a pro-rated basis. This is another reason why CCASLA has chosen to keep track of all contributions from members of the four California Chapters.

The CCASLA Board believes that support of this work is directly aligned with its advocacy mission since it directly affects the practice of landscape architecture here in California. CCASLA highly encourages all landscape architects to consider contributing to this cause. A number of positions on the regional review groups have been promised to go to interested landscape architects. For this reason, it will be vitally important to show our support through our contributions. No minimum is expected though every contribution will help.

To provide technical and financial support to successfully update the WUCOLS, please use the enclosed form.

For further information, please contact CCASLA President, Jon Wreschinsky at jsreschinsky@pacbell.net, 619-916-6956.
Water Use Classifications of Landscape Species (WUCOLS) Revisions and Development Update

The California Center for Urban Horticulture and California Council, ASLA (CCASLA) needs your help to update the WUCOLS document and plant database!

Your generous contribution will help achieve the following:

- Convene a group of horticultural and UC experts, professional practitioners and others to conduct a series of regional meetings to review and update the WUCOLS document (8 – 14 reviewers per region)
- Redesign a user-friendly WUCOLS template (e.g., sort and search by region, downloadable search results)
- Develop a training guide “How to Use WUCOLS”
- Document the review process and develop a streamlined way for users to easily access WUCOLS
- Find a permanent home for WUCOLS, ex. Online CCUH website, “Water Quality and Conservation...Connecting people with Water Resources” (http://ccuh.ucdavis.edu/projects)
- Develop a process for users to submit plants for review and inclusion in WUCOLS (maintenance)
- Develop standardized protocol to conduct landscape plant water use research
- Develop documentation and training for landscape professionals on MWELO compliance
- Support development of the Simplified Landscape Irrigation Demand Estimation (SLIDE) program

CCASLA thanks you for your technical and financial assistance in this advocacy effort and requests that your contributions be forwarded to us by April 30, 2012.

☐ I’m interested in serving on a WUCOLS regional review committee

Name: _______________________________________
Firm: ______________________________________
Email: ______________________________________
Phone: ______________________________________

☐ Contribution only (All contributions are tax deductible)

☐ $25  ☐ $50  ☐ $100  ☐ $500  ☐ Other __________

Make checks payable to: CCASLA (WUCOLS Fund)
1050 ROSECRANS ST, STE B
SAN DIEGO, CA 92106

For information, contact Jon Wreschinsky, CCASLA President at jswreschinsky@pacbell.net or 619-916-6956.
ASLA/SD Executive Committee Nomination Form

ASLA/San Diego encourages you to participate in the Chapter’s leadership by serving as an Officer or Vice President on the ASLA/San Diego Executive Committee. Service on the ASLA/SD Executive Committee will enable you to learn more about your profession and enjoy the benefits of networking and working with fellow members of your industry. Candidates may be nominated for consecutive terms (ASLA National Trustees may only serve two consecutive terms).

Simply complete your/your nominee’s information and check the Executive Committee position(s) where you are interested in serving/nominating and fax or email the Nomination Form to ASLA/SD. We will contact you to discuss your interest in serving on ASLA/San Diego’s 2012-2013 Executive Committee. Deadline to nominate is Friday, June 8 by 5 pm.

Nominee (print name): ___________________________________________________________

Nominator (complete for self-nominations): _________________________________________

Phone: ___________________________ Email: _________________________________

☐ President Elect (Full Member/3 yrs): Assists President and presides in President’s absence. Assumes Presidency in cases of illness or resignation. Oversees all chapter fundraising (annual sponsorships and golf tournament benefiting SDASLA Annual Community Grant). Serves as President and Past President following two years. Attends/reports monthly to Executive Committee.

☐ ASLA National Trustee (Full/Fellow/3 years): Represents San Diego Chapter at ASLA National level and reports to Chapter regarding national initiatives and issues impacting the profession. Coordinates the nominations of local Chapter members for ASLA National Fellow recognition.

☐ Secretary (Full/Associate Member/1 yr term): Take and distribute minutes of monthly Executive Committee meeting actions. Email bi-monthly event/activity update to membership and sponsors. Collects quarterly newsletter articles and transmits to newsletter manager with recommendation for layout. Coordinates Executive Committee candidate nominations. Notifies candidates of their election to office each July/August. Maintains constitution, bylaws, roster and contracts.

☐ VP Programs/Education (Full Member/2 yr term): Coordinates Lecture Series speakers, venue and catering. Coordinates LARE Review sessions and instructors. Works with other VPs to organize Chapter Meeting topics and speakers. Submits list of events for newsletter and website. Attends & reports monthly to Executive Committee.

☐ VP Community Outreach (Full Member/2 yr term): Coordinates the annual Community Grant and School Outreach activities. Submits list of events for newsletter and website. Attends & reports monthly to Executive Committee.

☐ VP Visibility/Public Affairs (Full Member/2 yr term): Oversees chapter public relations by sending media advisories & press releases to local media regarding Chapter events and key issues. Ensure website reflects current activities through monthly updates. Coordinate member involvement in key issues impacting the industry. Attends & reports monthly to Executive Committee.

For a full description of each Board position description and qualifications for serving on the San Diego ASLA Executive Committee email ASLASD@sbcglobal.net or call (619) 225-8155.

Fax completed form to ASLA/SD (619) 222-8154
or e-mail form to ASLASD@sbcglobal.net
How do you get from here to there?
Join ASLA members and other design professionals for an opportunity to hear from four prominent local landscape architects

April 19, 2012
6 PM Networking / 7 PM Panel Discussion
RSVP to ASLASD@sbcglobal.net ✉️ Free w/RSVP by 4/17

The Neurosciences Institute
Sherwood Auditorium
10640 John Jay Hopkins Drive
San Diego, CA 92121

Here is your opportunity to learn about key decisions these professionals have made over the course of their careers that has shaped who they are today.

❖ Kathy Garcia, FASLA, Planning & Community Development Director, City of Del Mar
❖ Mike Singleton, ASLA, Principal @ KTU+A
❖ Kelly Broughton, FASLA, Development Services Director City of San Diego
❖ Marian Marum, ASLA, Principal @ Marum Partnership

The Neurosciences Institute – ASLA Venue Sponsor
Lecture Series:  
San Diego ASLA Announces 2012 Lecture Series 

Kasia Trojanowska, LLA, VP Programs and Education

ASLA San Diego is excited to continue the tradition of the Lecture Series. We are pleased to announce our May 2 lecture speaker Christine Ten Eyck, FASLA of Ten Eyck Landscape Architecture Inc. On October 25, Ana Valderrama, professor at the State University in Rosario, Argentina and the Chief of the Rosario Urban Development Department will present. Please check the website (www.asla-sandiego.org) and upcoming email blasts for dates and locations for these events.

We are in need of Lecture Series sponsors. If you or your firm would like to contribute, please fill out the sponsorship form in this newsletter (see insert) or download the form from our website at www.asla-sandiego.org and send it back with your lecture donation. We also welcome all volunteers who want to help with the events. To volunteer or for more information, please contact ASLA at aslasd@sbcglobal.net or 619.223.8155 or email me directly at kasia.trojanowska@urs.com

Please join us in our efforts to make these events memorable and worthwhile! See you at the SD ASLA events.

Business Update:
SBA Issues Size Standards for Landscape Architecture Firms

The Small Business Administration (SBA) issued a final rule for size standards affecting the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Sector 54, the professional, scientific and technical services industries, including architecture, landscape architecture, engineering, planning, and a host of other professions.

ASLA is pleased that SBA will maintain the $7 million threshold to be considered a small landscape architecture firm for purposes of federal procurement opportunities, as recommended by the Society.

In March 2011, SBA issued a proposed rule that recommended increasing the threshold to $19 million to be considered a small landscape architecture firm. ASLA argued that the $19 million threshold was significantly high and did not accurately reflect the current state of annual receipts in the landscape architecture profession. Instead, ASLA, along with many member firms, recommended that SBA maintain the current cap of $7 million dollars because it more accurately represents annual revenue for the profession.

The final rule increases the size standard for architecture services to $7 million and $14 million for engineering services. The rule is effective March 2012.

For more on ASLA Advocacy visit www.asla.org/advocacy.

Be sure to check out San Diego’s new virtual community of design professionals:

DESIGNCOLLAB.org

Tim Jachlewski, ASLA, President-Elect

DesignCollab was created to fill a void in the San Diego design community. Prior to DesignCollab, there was no central clearinghouse of information or connectivity for architects, urban planners, landscape architects, and other professionals committed to enhancing the lives of citizens via the built environment.

DesignCollab consists of multiple non-profit organizations, educational institutions, and other entities within the region referred to as “Collaborators.” Current Collaborators include local chapters of ASLA, AIA, GBC, APA, BEEP, CSI, ANFA, Council of Design Professionals, Newschool of Architecture and Design, and the San Diego Architectural Foundation.

DesignCollab also has “Subscribers.” These are individuals or organizations who subscribe to DesignCollab in order to receive several benefits, including receiving weekly email updates, and exclusive offers from Collaborator Organizations.

Anyone can view DesignCollab.org for free and check out the latest blog posts and comprehensive event calendar which covers all of the collaborators’ events. You can also become a “Subscriber” and get exclusive offers, the ability to post comments, and receive weekly email updates with news and views from your peers in the design community.

Check it out and get connected!
New Design Professional Lien Law to Benefit Landscape Architects

Tracy Morgan Hollingworth, ASLA San Diego and CCASLA Executive Director

ASLA members throughout California have the hard-working California Council of ASLA (CCASLA) looking out for their interests in Sacramento. Two years ago, CCASLA successfully included Landscape Architects in legislation (SB 189) to give landscape architects design professional lien rights.

ASLA San Diego and CCASLA will host a program this June (date to be announced) with attorney’s Kimberly Blake and Jesse Blyth of Gordon & Rees LLP who will explain the benefits and processes of using the new lien law for design professionals.

We thank Kimberly Blake for sharing an article on the law with our members (the full article is posted on San Diego ASLA’s website at www.asla-sandiego.org). A synopsis of her article follows:

Amendments To California’s Professional Design and Mechanic’s Lien Laws

Kimberly Blake, Partner, Gordon & Rees, LLP

In 2010, California passed SB 189 to revamp the professional design and mechanics lien statutes. Effective July 1, 2012, the amendments repeal the current professional design and mechanics lien statutes and enact a new chapter and title incorporating both professional design and mechanics liens. This bill added licensed landscape architects to the current list of design professionals (licensed architects, engineers, and surveyors) who may claim a design professional lien. The process for filing a lien has also been streamlined.

As a result of the changes made last year, the Legislature enacted several additional amendments to the new lien statute. First, SB 190 made technical amendments to last year’s bill, updating cross-references and making technical corrections. Additionally, it provides clarification that a lien claim cannot be invalidated under slander of title, but any willful additions of labor, services, equipment, or materials not furnished for the property in the lien claim will result in a forfeiture of the lien. Second, AB 456 adds specificity regarding the contents of the required proof of service affidavit. The affidavit must contain the name and address of the owner or reputed owner upon whom the mechanics lien was served, and the title or capacity of person served with notice.

Newly enacted section 8319 of the Civil Code becomes effective July 1, 2012. It allows design professionals to convert their expired design liens into mechanics liens when the lien is partially or fully unpaid, and the mechanics lien is recorded within 30 days of expiration of the design lien. The recorded mechanics lien will note that it is a converted lien, but will be effective as of the date the mechanics lien was filed and given priority as such. Additionally, a converted professional design lien will not require a preliminary notice.

Thank You to our 2012 Sponsors

I want to thank all the returning sponsors and the new 2012 sponsors for your support of our Chapter. We encourage members to look up our wonderful sponsors on our website at www.asla-sandiego.org and do business with their representatives. Thanks so much for your support!

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- Victor Stanley, Inc.

Landscape Architecture Panel and Lecture Sponsor Thanks and Call for Sponsors

Thanks to the following firms that have stepped up to support the 2012 landscape speaker panel program on April 19 and the Spring and Fall ASLA San Diego Lectures.

KTU+A Rick Engineering

If your firm is interested in sponsoring the 2012 lectures, please review the sponsor benefits flyer included in the newsletter and contact Kasia Trojanowska at kasia.trojanowska@urs.com or complete and return the sponsor form with your sponsor payment.
Sponsor Spotlight:

Modern Builders Supply

Modern Builders Supply hosted a wonderful ASLA San Diego event at their headquarters in the summer of 2010, an evening which they are planning on reprising later this year. It was a wonderful night of fine Italian cucina, wine and an exhibition of natural stone products from around the world. Carlo Odorizzi was the featured speaker and made a presentation on his Italian porphyry quarry. You can see his porphyry products at the new Hilton Oceanfront Resort and Spa in Carlsbad, currently under construction and supplied by Modern.

The most notable benefit of a visit to the Modern yard in San Marcos is the array of “pop out” natural stone displays. The panels give the designer a chance to see the product as it is installed, including corner views and capstone options. They represent a nice selection from the impressive $5 million dollar inventory Modern maintains at their three San Marcos yards.

As proud as Modern is of that vast selection on hand, they are prouder still of their staff. The dozen or so employees who work the counter at Modern are the most experienced, knowledgeable and friendly crew around, with an intimate knowledge of the material, and stack up favorably against any purveyor, anywhere, at any time. Each staff member averages well over twenty years in the industry and has had virtually no turnover in years. They probably have the answers to your questions on masonry, and if they don’t, they’ll find it for you.

Most are aware of Modern’s two registered trademark products, Padre Gold Sandstone which clads Petco Park, and Southern Buff Limestone which is prominent in all the architecture at Pelican Hills Resort, but Modern is constantly expanding their product lines. Recent acquisitions include Ocean Blue Lavastone, Navajo Tan Sandstone, Turning Leaf Quartzite, Blue Black Granite Tumbled Cobbles, Argentine Indian Red Porphyry and Jerusalem Gray Gold Limestone. In addition, Modern’s exclusive Telluride Goldstone can be seen being installed at the new Pacific Coast Grill on the beach in Cardiff.

Modern is also proud to be Belgard’s newest stocking distributor in San Diego and is prepared to assist with any of your Belgard line needs.
CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Vision
A world where the built and natural environments coexist in harmony and sustainable balance; where all peoples can express their diverse heritage and their individual desires to grow and thrive; and where we, as a profession, can substantially contribute to the process of achieving these ends.

Mission
To lead, to educate and to participate in the careful stewardship, wise planning and artful design of our cultural and natural environments.