

New Jersey ASLA Today

Supporting landscape architects in their professional endeavors

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including creating a sense of place and protecting natural systems through innovative planning and design.

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LA Biz–Buzz Death and Taxes

By Jeffrey A. Tandul, CLA, ASLA

It is said "The only sure things in life are death and taxes". So why enter into either before you have to? Beware of paying taxes on "Bad Debt". The other sure thing is that some of your clients may not pay you even after attempts at collection. If you are using an accrual basis of accounting, you may be paying taxes on outstanding receivables that may not be paid but have not been yet declared as "Bad Debt". In the accrual method, these unpaid receivables were recorded as income when the service was completed. Therefore, you have the requirement to prove to the IRS that the debt is uncollectible. Be sure to discuss your "Bad Debt" clients with your accountant and as always, document, document, and document! Often the paper trail seems like a burden at the time you execute and record the paperwork. However, it is really your only legitimate defense to the IRS or in court. The project file should include all correspondence to and from the client and phone log with notes. Be sure to include all correspondence with your collection agent regarding that non-paying client.

This article is intended for general information only, and readers should consult their legal council, financial advisor / accountant to evaluate their particular situation and the applicability of the items contained herein.

National Landscape Architecture Week, April 19–27

Two national events for the Washington D.C. area are being planned by ASLA. On April 22, a tree will be planted in memory of Ian McHarg, FASLA, on the U.S. Capitol grounds. The flowering dogwood will be placed on New Jersey Avenue, SE, beside the Cannon House Office Building. To commemorate this event, ASLA will sponsor a reception and public lecture by Frederick R. "Fritz" Steiner, ASLA, AICP, on McHarg's life and legacy. The reception/lecture will be held on April 23 at 6:30 pm at the American Institute of Architects building in Washington, D.C.

ASLA Includes New Jersey in Public Relations Efforts

National staff have been working with reporters from CSOonline, an e-zine for security designers; Who, What, Where, New Jersey, a high-end lifestyle magazine for residents of New Jersey; and the St. Louis Post-Dispatch in efforts to have landscape architects interviewed for upcoming stories about landscape architecture. CSO Magazine Senior Editor Daintry Duffy visited Washington, DC, this week to be shown security design at work in the downtown area. Jeff S. Lee, ASLA, conducted the tour and was interviewed for the magazine.





ASLA Calendar of Events

April

NJ LARE Review Seminar
2nd or 3rd Saturday in April - To be determined. Location: Blake Hall, Cook College, Rutgers University
 Reviewing all sections including NJ section. \$120 for ASLA members and nonmembers. Registration deadline April 5. For registration form contact Dan Yannaccone at dyannaccone@melilloandbauer.com or call 732-295-9630.

Exhibitor & Sponsorship Participation at the Annual Meeting

We would like to thank all of the exhibitors, advertisers and sponsors for participation in the 2003 NJASLA Annual Meeting & Exhibition. Without their participation, our Annual Meeting and Exhibition would not be the success that it continues to be. We appreciate your time and efforts to provide timely information and innovative features about your products and services to our membership during the Annual Meeting, as well as through our daily business activities. We hope that this event proved to be a success for the many exhibitors, sponsors and advertisers, and thank you for your continued support!

NJASLA Would Like To thank The Following Exhibitors For Their Participation:

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Designing The High Line – An International Open Ideas Competition

Architects, landscape architects, horticulturists, designers, artists, community members, and all other interested parties are invited to create visionary design proposals for reuse of the High Line rail structure as a 1.5-mile-long elevated promenade on the West Side of Manhattan. The competition is funded in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.

All competition information, resources and registration are online and located at: <http://www.thehighline.org/competition/>

ASLA New York Chapter Awards

Have you done a project which deserves special attention?

The NY Chapter is resuming a local awards program, organized this year by Marcha Johnson, Michael Spitzer and Aris Stalis. Our intention is to bolster visibility, acknowledge the work of our membership and publicly recognize excellence in landscape architecture. Awards will be selected by an independent, multidisciplinary panel. NY Chapter awards will be presented formally at the New York City Chapter Annual Holiday Party in December, and announced through a press release to local media.

The Chapter awards will be similar to the National ASLA Awards, so that the same submittal package can be sent to both NY Chapter and National. See Professional Awards 2003 Entry information at: www.asla.org. In addition, the Chapter will have two new award categories:

1. The Collaborative Design Award: recognizing collaboration between a landscape architect and an allied professional, such as an artist, architect, and engineer; and
2. Small Projects Under \$50,000.

Submittals will be due in late June 2003. We are seeking to determine the level of interest for this event. Please R.S.V.P. to: NYASLAAwards@aol.com no later than Monday, March 31, 2003, to permit the New York Chapter Executive Committee to estimate the scale of the New York Awards Program.

ASLA 2003 Awards Call for Entries Released; New Entry Process, Digital Images Instituted

The ASLA 2003 Awards Program Call for Entries has been sent to all ASLA members and includes major improvements to the entry process.

"ASLA members are designing wonderful projects around the world and we hope that firms will decide to participate so that these projects can receive the recognition they deserve," said Nancy C. Somerville, executive vice president of ASLA. "We're counting on our members and chapters to identify good candidates for the new Community Service Award and the Landmark Award as well."

This year, entrants will complete the Call for Entries entry form (also located at <http://www.asla.org/Members/awards/entries/callforentries.html>) and send it along with the entry fee for each submission to the ASLA. Immediately upon receipt, ASLA will return an Entry Kit for each submission. Each Entry Kit includes detailed submission requirements and a standard Entry Binder. The Entry Kit also includes pre-paid return shipping for the completed binder to ASLA to facilitate tracking by the entrant and the ASLA.

"We asked previous jurors how we could improve the judging process and the top suggestion was to require uniform entry binders," said Rodney L. Swink, FASLA, immediate past president of ASLA and Executive Committee liaison to the ASLA Medals and Awards Review Committee.

"This will place the focus on the project and improve the consistency of information provided for each entry, which in turn will help the jury review the submissions more thoroughly and efficiently."

In response to requests from previous entrants, digital images will be submitted on a CD-ROM, replacing the multiple sets of 35mm slides required in the past. This will simplify the process for the entrants, enhance the quality of the images being viewed by the jury, and facilitate promotion of award recipients to the media. Simple instructions are included in the entry requirements outlining the resolution and file type required. Many firms have the capability to produce their own CD-ROMs, but for those that do not, any photo-processing store can provide this service for a nominal fee.

The deadline for returning the Entry Form and fee(s) is Friday, May 2, 2003, and the deadline for submitting the completed Entry Binder is Friday, May 16, 2003. Click on <http://www.asla.org/Members/Awdcrit.htm> for details. Questions, call Jeff Lofton, ASLA Manager of Public Relations, at 202-216-2331 or email: jlofton@asla.org.

North Carolina State University College of Design Sponsors Early Childhood Outdoors Design Institute

"The Natural Learning Initiative" June 5-7, 2003

Think back to when you were four, five, or six years old. It is likely some of your fondest memories are of the outdoors. Do you still remember when you used to pick summer blackberries, spy on a hidden bird's nest, build a secret fort in the woods, climb a favorite tree, or play with water? Research (and personal experience) tell us that nature has a strong impact on the lives of children. But do today's children have those same opportunities?

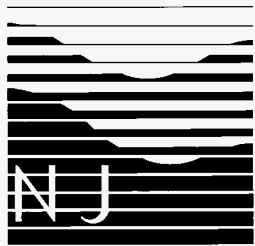
The goal of the Early Childhood Outdoors DESIGN INSTITUTE is to help designers, recreation professionals, and educators bring back the richness of the outdoors as a resource for education and healthy child development.

The Design Institute will be held at the College of Design, NC State University, 200 Pullen Road, Raleigh, NC, June 5-7, 2003. It will feature site visits, presentations, discussions, and interactive sessions.

Participants

Participants include architects, landscape architects, designers, childcare owners and directors, early childhood education teachers, extension agents, master gardeners, parks and recreation professionals, horticultural therapists, public health professionals, and other individuals interested in creating healthier environments for young children.

The Natural Learning Initiative, College of Design, NC State University, 200 Pullen Road, Raleigh, NC 27695 Registration: 919-515-8320 Fax 919-515-7330 www.naturalearning.org



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The Hubbard Educational Foundation Call For Proposals

The Hubbard Educational Foundation was created to further understanding of and appreciation for landscape architecture. It is concerned with landscape architectural education, the history of landscape design, and communication of landscape architects' vision of the environment.

It recognizes, supports, and honors significant scholarship and service to landscape architecture and society. Foundation grants have supported research in landscape architecture and the preparation of educational materials for students, practitioners, and the public.

Please Note: The Hubbard Educational Foundation Has Revised Its Submittal Process
Submittal and notification dates are now biannual: Applicants submitting by January 15 will receive notification by April 1; applicants submitting by July 15 will receive notification by October 1.

Written proposals should be in letter form, beginning with a one-page summary that clearly states the purpose of your project and how it addresses the mission of the Hubbard Educational Foundation. Please limit responses to no more than three pages.

Supporting text should clearly outline the scope of your project, other participants, and a work schedule. All proposals should include your estimated completion date, indicate the amount of funding requested, and specify how it will be used. Other project funding sources and amounts must be identified as well.

Travel expenses are not funded. Expenses that qualify for funding typically include those for photography, publications, exhibits, videos, or other media that serve to further the Foundation's mission.

Send Proposals To:

The Hubbard Education Foundation, C/o Lynn Wolff, Copley Wolff Design Group, 160 Boylston Street, 4th Floor, Boston, MA 02116

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