



ASLA
ILLINOIS

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il-asla.org

Activities Report

2021

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. 2021 activities are summarized on these pages.

SUMMARY

2021 was another year that took creative problem solving and patience. COVID-19 continued to spread in its original form and its variants producing questions of how to implement live events while keeping our members and guests safe. We cautiously held four events in person allowing for networking and celebrating the field.

The Chapter was determined to continue its excellent access, services, and education to our members with online webinars and virtual social activities, all of which were free of charge for members. We thank our sponsors and members for their flexibility and partnership.

Most importantly, the Illinois Title Act was passed and signed by Governor J. B. Pritzker on August 6, 2021. We expect the process to be complete by mid-2022.

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

ADVOCACY

- After a large push by bill sponsors Illinois Senator Ram Villivalam (D-8) and Representative Theresa Mah (D-2), the Illinois Title Act was passed and signed by Governor J. B. Pritzker on August 6, 2021. As of the end of 2021, the Illinois Department of Professional and Financial Regulation (IDPFR) had not completed the rules section (despite the Chapter being told they would be completed by the end of November or December). Once they are completed, they will be forwarded to the Governor's Office for approval and then onto the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules (JCAR) for review, which includes two 45-day public review sessions in which ILASLA will provide input. JCAR, in conjunction with IDPFR will determine the process by which Landscape Architect registrations will be reinstated and the requirements for CEUs. We expect the process to be complete by mid-2022.
 - 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.

MEMBERSHIP (as of December 31, 2021)

- Membership increased by 8% in 2021 (compared to a decrease of 2.5% in 2020). Student Membership, not included in the regular membership count, increased by 52% in 2021 (compared to 82% in 2020).
 - 8 New members joined, and 23 members rejoined in 2021
 - 35 members lapsed in 2020

- 369 Active Members (not students) down from 390 Active Members in 2020
310 Full (v 326 in 2020) and 12 Associate Landscape Architects (17 in 2020), 16 Affiliate (20 in 2020), 2 Corporate (3 in 2020), 19 Emeritus, and 9 Honorary Members, and 1 International.
- 91 (25%) Registered as Suburban and State-wide Members; 256 (69%) Registered as Chicagoland Members and 22 (6%) Members with out of state addresses.
- 97 Students are members (32 from IIT; 65 from UIUC). These are in addition to the total members listed above. The increase is continuing due to the drop of student membership fees to \$0 and a wide push to engage students.

EDUCATION

- **12 PDH credits offered through ILASLA Education Committee**
In addition to chapter webinars and the expansion of our partner based webinars; a new program: Cultivating Connections was implemented in partnership with our Service Committee and the Millennium Park Foundation.
 - 5 PDH Credits through ILASLA Webinars; free to members – live and on-demand
 - 3 Additional Webinars were co-sponsored by APA-IL
 - 1 Additional Webinar was co-sponsored by Chicago Region Trees Initiative
 - 3 Live Field Sessions took place
 - 2 days of LARE Prep – Virtual
 - 3 Cultivating Connections community events – in person

NETWORKING EVENTS

- **3 ILASLA Networking Events – all in person**
 - Junk in the Trunk both in the City and Suburbs in July
 - Celebration+ our largest event of each year, honoring 2019 and 2021 award winners (skipping 2020) saw 153 attendees and was hosted by the new ASLA CEO, Torey Carter-Conneen

EMERGING PROFESSIONALS & STUDENTS

- **8 Emerging Professional and Student Events**
 - 2 In person events: Emerging Professionals Leadership Series and Happy Hour
 - 1 virtual event: Emerging Professionals Trivia Night
 - UIUC Sasaki Day with presentations and awards held virtually
 - Student Project reviews at both UIUC and IIT
 - 1 Food Truck bbq at UIUC, in which ILASLA addressed the full UIUC College of LA
 - 1 Lunch Meeting with ILASLA to meet & greet the IIT Student Chapter

SERVICE

- **4 Service Events**
 - 1 Lakefront Cleanup
 - 3 Cultivating Connections Outreach Events
 - Purchase of ILASLA Service Vests for better outreach at Service events

PARTNERSHIPS

- **22 Sponsorship Partners supported programing and events**

- **8 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)
 - Chicago Region Trees Initiative (CRTI)
 - Illinois Green Industry Association (IGIA)
 - Illinois Landscape Contractors Association (ILCA)
 - Illinois Institute of Technology, Landscape Architecture Program (IIT)
 - Millennium Park Foundation (MPF)
 - University of Illinois, Landscape Architecture Program (UIUC)

PUBLIC AWARENESS

- **World Landscape Architecture Month in April was optimized through the sharing of social media posts featuring images of built projects for the national “This is Landscape Architecture” campaign.**
 - IIT students also created their own Parking Day Parklet next to their campus at the 35th-Bronzeville-IIT green line stop.

See officers and Chairpersons on the next page

2021 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Magdalena Aravena	<i>President</i>	Alan Watkins	<i>Trustee</i>
Adam De Foor-White	<i>President-Elect</i>	Sarah Dreier	<i>Treasurer</i>
Rob Reuland	<i>Past President</i>	Susan Ragaishis	<i>Executive Director</i>
Cassandra Rice	<i>Secretary</i>		

2021 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON

Mark Jirik	<i>Advocacy Chair</i>	Maddie Clark	<i>Emerging Prof Co-Chair</i>
Jessica King	<i>Awards Co-Chair</i>	David Traphagen	<i>Events Chair</i>
Dana Kraus	<i>Awards Co-Chair</i>	Susan Jacobson	<i>Fellows Nominations Chair</i>
Sarah Dreier	<i>Celebration Co-Chair</i>	Joshua Bauman	<i>Membership Co-Chair</i>
Scott Stewart	<i>Celebration Co-Chair</i>	Adam De Foor-White	<i>Membership Co-Chair</i>
Jim Forrester	<i>Communications Co-Chair</i>	Camille Applewhite	<i>Service Chair</i>
Nicole Maskooki	<i>Communications Co-Chair</i>	Deborah Steinberg	<i>Webmaster</i>
Amanda Arnold	<i>Education Chair</i>	Ken Horinko	<i>HALS Representative</i>
Sophia Essian	<i>Emerging Prof Co-Chair</i>		