



BOSTON SOCIETY OF
LANDSCAPE
ARCHITECTS

CALL FOR ENTRIES

Recognizing Excellence In Landscape Architecture

Boston Society of Landscape Architects (BSLA) seeks to recognize excellence in the diverse practices of landscape architecture. Landscape Architects are encouraged to submit their best professional work for review by the 2017 BSLA Awards Program Jury. Projects should demonstrate excellence and reflect the careful stewardship, wise planning, and artful design of our cultural and natural environment. Submitted projects should merit recognition in one or more of the following areas:

- Exemplary social, cultural, educational, or environmental significance
- Outstanding quality, craftsmanship, creativity, or artistry
- Unique and innovative technologies, techniques, or concepts
- Advancement of the public's awareness and perception of the field of landscape architecture

CATEGORIES

Landmark Award

Seeks to recognize a distinguished landscape architecture project completed 15 years ago, or more. The installation should retain its original design integrity and contributes significantly to the community in which it is located. Typical entries include: parks, plazas, sculpture gardens, botanical gardens, river walks, and more.

Professional Awards

Seeks the best in landscape architecture, planning and urban design projects nationally and internationally. Submissions in this category are not permitted in the Landmark category and will not be reviewed.

Design

This category recognizes entries including public, institutional, or private landscapes of all kinds; residential and garden, historic preservation, reclamation, conservation; green roofs, stormwater management, sustainable design; transportation or infrastructure design; landscape art or installation; interior landscape design; and more. Entries in this category must be built.

Analysis and Planning

This category is for all Master Planning and other non-constructed, non-site specific work, and recognizes the wide variety of professional activities that lead to, guide, and evaluate landscape architecture design. Entries in this category are not required to be built or implemented. Typical entries include: urban, suburban, rural, or regional planning efforts; development guidelines; transportation, town, or campus planning; plans for reclamation of brownfield sites; environmental planning in relation to legislative or policy initiatives or regulatory controls; cultural resource reports; natural resources protection; historic preservation planning; and more.

Communication

This category recognizes achievements in communicating landscape architectural works, techniques, technologies, history, or theory, and recognizes the research's lesson value to the intended audience. Typical entries include: print media, film, video, audio, CD, or DVD formats; online communications; interpretive design; exhibition design; and more.

Research

This category recognizes research that identifies and investigates challenges posed in landscape architecture, providing results that advance the body of knowledge for the profession. Typical entries include: investigations into methods, techniques, or materials related to landscape architecture practice; studies of relationships of landscape architecture to law, education, public health and safety, or public policy; and more.

Student Awards

Seek to recognize academic achievements by students performed in an educational framework as part of coursework or internships credited toward a degree in Landscape Architecture, Regional Planning, or Urban Design. Typical entries include: site specific projects, master planning, regional planning, environmental planning, conservation, or historic preservation planning such as cultural landscape reports, landscape architectural communications, research into innovative techniques, technologies, history, or theory, or other academic projects related to the field of landscape architecture.

ELIGIBILITY

Landmark and Professional

Landmark and Professional categories are open to submissions of work by landscape architectural practitioners/design offices based in the states included within the BSLA chapter area (Massachusetts and Maine) and to projects sited within the BSLA chapter area, whether or not the design offices are located in the chapter area states. Individuals, firms, project owners, public agencies, organizations, or other entities may be the formal submitting entity as long as the project's creative team includes

a registered landscape architect or a graduate of an accredited landscape architecture program. Submitting firms and individuals are not required to be members of BSLA or ASLA.

Student

The Student category is open to submissions of work performed by students enrolled in a landscape architecture or design program within the BSLA Chapter area (Massachusetts and Maine), and to students with legal residence in the BSLA Chapter area, but enrolled in a program outside of the chapter area. Submitted projects must have been developed in an educational framework as part of coursework or internships credited toward a degree in Landscape Architecture. Entries may be submitted by individual students, studio classes or student project teams, but only one award per project may be made. For group projects, the entry may be made by the studio, class or with all members of the project team listed and recognized, but a team project may not be submitted by an individual team member for individual recognition. Submissions may be made after the student(s) has graduated from the program, but must be within two years of the completion of the work.

RECOGNITION LEVELS

Each professional and student category submission will be reviewed for the quality of design and implementation; effectiveness of the presentation; value of the information to the intended audience; quality of the analysis process; respect for site history; site context and the appropriate expression of local or regional characteristics; environmental sensitivity and sustainability; innovativeness and creativity of solutions; demonstration of design value provided to the client, the public, and to the profession of landscape architecture; project's sustained value to the community it serves and the continued relevance of the project's design expression.

Excellence

Represents an extraordinary advancement and innovation to the profession of landscape architecture. Excellence Awards may be given to one submission in each of the professional and student categories. Excellence Awards given to a student (individual or group) submission will receive a \$500 or \$1500 grant, respectively.

Honor

Represents a project worth distinction and its attempts to further the profession of landscape architecture. Any number of honor awards may be given in the professional category.

Merit

Represents a noteworthy project in the profession of landscape architecture. Any number of merit awards may be given in the professional category.

SUBMISSION PROCESS

Intent to Submit (Deadline – 5 P.M. Monday, January 30, 2017)

Complete the online form with contact and basic information. Payment is made at this time. Filing your intent to submit by December 30 has the lowest fee. Fees increase over the weeks leading to the deadline of January 30. Fees are not refundable.

Content Submission (Deadline – 5 P.M. Monday, February 27, 2017)

Each submission should contain, at a minimum, project information, summary, and slideshow which appropriately and fully explains the submission. Have all submission content prepared prior to starting the process as all online entry forms cannot be revisited and/or edited.

Information

- Location (City / State / Country)
- Completed Year
- Project Size
- Budget (Design and Construction)
- Submitter's Role (Prime consultant, lead designer, etc.)

Summary

This section should summarize the projects' purpose, process and why it is distinctive. The narrative should be unique to each project, but could include: investigations, methodologies, project scope, design programs, surrounding context, intent, materials and methods. Expand upon the project goals and objectives, and how they were accomplished throughout the process. Elaborate on any issues and or concerns throughout the process, and they were overcome. How was or would the project be implemented, maintained, and administered. Describe the intended purpose, audience, message(s), impact and effectiveness of the project. Overall the summary section should exemplify the project's significance and why it is deserving of recognition. This section should not exceed 600 words. Award winners will be required to provide an executive summary between 150 - 200 words for use in *BSLA Fieldbook*.

Slideshow

This section should be a visual representation of the submission and is required to follow the templates found on the [BSLA Awards website](#). It should consist of an introductory project code slide, 2 information slides and a maximum of 20 images which could include; any variety of current photographs, site plans, historical photographs and plans, detail plans, diagrams, unique detailing, renderings, etc. All imagery is required to contain only one image and should not be montages, collections of images, or multiple images. Each slide is required to have an identifying caption of no more than 5 words (e.g. Existing Conditions Plan) and a description of no more than 25 words (legends will count towards the 25 word description). Landmark Award submissions are required to provide the estimated year of when each submitted photograph was taken. Slideshows at a minimum should provide, if applicable:

- One full site design plan (required to be the 1st slide)
- One existing conditions plan (required to be the 2nd slide)
- One existing conditions photograph

Winning submissions are responsible for clearing photograph use with photographers for publication and reproduction by BSLA. BSLA will provide proper photography credits when using photos, but will not assume responsibility for any copyrights or photography fees. BSLA retains the right to publish photos submitted in winning entries in *BSLA Fieldbook* and in promoting the awards program.

Optional Documentation

Plant List

Documentation of common and botanical names for all significant planting specified within the project.

Supplemental Hardcopy

Professional and Student category submissions have the option to submit a hardcopy of their final deliverable, which could include; a report, book, booklet, brochure, flier, etc. The hardcopy should not be a print version of the submission content. Hardcopies should be received by the deadline of content submission. Hardcopies will be available for retrieval at the Annual Awards Gala.

Two hardcopies should be mailed to:

Attn: Joseph Strayer
Brown + Sardina
24 Roland Street, 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02129

Important Links

[Intent to Submit](#)
[Content Submission](#)
[Templates](#)

ANONYMITY

All submissions are required to be anonymous (supplemental hardcopies are not required to be anonymous). Project team, firm, or individual identity may not be visible on any of the materials submitted, including the project narrative, descriptive text, plans, photographs, graphics, etc. Photographs may not include members of the project team. Submissions with the identity of the entrant or the entrant's firm on any of the materials will be disqualified and entry fees will not be refunded.

FEES

Fees will be assessed during the intent to submit phase and are for each project submitted. Fees will increase as the deadline approaches, which will be adjusted following midnight (EST) on the dates listed below. Fees will not be refunded for any reason.

Early – Friday, December 30, 2016

\$25 – Student
\$80 – Member of Boston Chapter of ASLA
\$150 – Member of other ASLA Chapters
\$255 – Non-Member

Standard – Friday, January 13, 2017

\$30 – Student
\$100 – Member of Boston Chapter of ASLA
\$190 – Member of other ASLA Chapters
\$320 – Non-Member

Last Call – Friday, January 27, 2017

\$35 – Student
\$120 – Member of Boston Chapter of ASLA
\$225 – Member of other ASLA Chapters
\$380 – Non-Member

DATES

Intent to Submit – 5 P.M. Monday, January 30, 2017
Content Submission – 5 P.M. Monday, February 27, 2017
Jury Review – Friday, March 17, 2017
Award Notification – Friday, March 31, 2017
Award Presentation – Thursday, May 11, 2017

QUESTIONS

All questions, comments, and concerns should be forwarded to Joseph Strayer at awards@bslanow.org