I hope everyone in the Georgia landscape architectural community, family, and friends are staying safe and enjoying the end of summer. Despite the never-ending cancellations and postponements of events and activities, The Executive Committee of GAASLA has been hard at work this year developing innovative ways to serve our community. I’m excited about the events in development, and how our current initiatives are maturing.

We kicked off the summer with our annual Executive Committee elections. I’d like to congratulate and welcome our new officers and a huge thanks to our membership that participated in the vote. We tallied double the votes as our previous elections. The Executive Committee is a volunteer organization and I’ve been incredibly impressed with what this group of landscape architectural leaders has accomplished. The daily time and effort by all the separate committees to run this organization and adapt to the pandemic is an incredible service to our profession. If you are interested in joining our ranks in a committee role, please let me know. Be sure to review the GAASLA.ORG website for the different committee options. Come team up with an amazing group of landscape architects.

The upcoming months are going to be a busy time for landscape architects and our Executive Committee. After months of development, and becoming an approved LACES CEU provider, we were excited to announce our 2020 Virtual Lecture Series. Kicking off on October 1st with Lynn Ross of Spirits for Change. Our new series is planned to run once a month with future plans for 2021. Stay tuned for upcoming lecture announcements. Sign up today, earn your CEUs, and learn something new.

Have you and your colleagues been working remotely? In just a few days, Friday, September 18th, we will be celebrating the annual ‘Parking Day.’ The planning committee has created an innovative socially-distanced, remote work and play experience. We are setting up at the Lang-Carson Community Center, along the Beltline in Reynoldstown. Come join us to get a little work done, fresh air, and most importantly expand landscape architecture’s profile in our local community.

We hope that you will join us in our new initiatives, as well as our current programs. We are always looking for additional mentors to join our FOUNDATIONS Mentorship Program. Don’t miss out on becoming a mentor Please take a minute to sign up today. This is one of the most beneficial relationships for both mentor and mentee. It sets the mentee up for life-long success in their chosen profession and offers the mentor new perspectives.

As always, please don’t hesitate to reach out regarding any new ideas on how our organization can better itself. Even with all the setbacks of 2020, with the foundations that have been laid for GAASLA over the past few years, the future is bright. We hope you will join us in becoming not just a participant, but a leader of our landscape architectural community.

P.S.

Make sure you register to vote for the November Presidential Election. Always remember to be change, design change, create change.
This publication is produced by elected members of the Executive Committee in an effort to inform our Chapter Membership about relevant stories, opportunities, and items of interest on both the local and national levels. In the production of this publication, many contributors are often enlisted to share their professional and personal opinions. These opinions do not necessarily reflect the official position of the Georgia Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (GA|ASLA) nor the national association of the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA). The chapter’s positions on various topics are aligned with ASLA National’s positions, which can be found at the ASLA website. For archived issues of the LA Letter, simply go to the chapter website at www.gaasla.org for further information. All archived issues are found in the “Publication” navigation bar and listed as “eNewsletters.” If the issue you are looking for is not found, please contact the Communications Member at Large (mal_comweb@gaasla.org).

The Georgia Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects seeks to support a healthy planet through environmentally conscious production and distribution of its quarterly publication. In an effort to strive for sustainable financial stewardship, the Chapter has dedicated the formerly accrued printing / mailing expenses from the LA Letter to better serving the membership.
Call for firms to organize PARK(ing) Day!

September 18th, 2020
We need your help! This year we are looking for innovative ideas to stir conversations. More information coming soon. Contact info@gaasla.com to sign up.

> READ MORE ABOUT NATIONAL ASLA SITE TOUR MONTH CAMPAIGN HERE: CELEBRATE PARK(ING) DAY WITH ASLA
CALLING ALL ATL MEMBERS AND GUESTS!

Please join us next Friday, September 18th in the Reynoldstown neighborhood Lang-Carson Park parking lot for a socially distanced PARK(ing) Day. This PARK(ing) Day will look a little different and will include outdoor co-working and play experiences. We will be providing free Wi-Fi for your use—so feel free to set up your 9-5 workspace. Bring your kids and enjoy the sunshine, chalk games, and some other surprise activities!

Stay tuned for more details as we get closer to the event.

What would you like to see in your outdoor working space? How do you balance work and play?

Please BYOC (Bring Your Own Chair) and maintain a social distance of 6'-0" from others.

#GAASLAPARKINGDAY2020 #PARKingDay @rtownatl

The purpose of Park(ing) Day is to bring public awareness to the importance of public open spaces in the community as opportunities for gathering, relaxation, and cultivating stronger connections.
First Thursdays

All proceeds of the virtual series will benefit GA ASLA’s MLA Scholarship at the University of Georgia College of Environment and Design.

GA ASLA offers a BLA and a new MLA scholarships to students who are UGA’s emerging leaders in landscape architecture and are involved in ASLA.

FIRST THURSDAYS

LECTURE SERIES / LICENSURE

GA ASLA is excited to announce lecture series. GA ASLA recognizes how difficult these times can be, and with many conferences and events being canceled -- many opportunities to gain continuing education credits.

We have an exciting line up of lectures throughout the fall following current events to urban design to environmental stewardship.

Registration is now open to all members!

Now open through Eventbrite, be sure to reserve your ticket.
GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!

JOIN US FOR OUR FIRST INSTALLMENT
“EQUITY IN THE COMMONS”
WITH LYNN M. ROSS OF SPIRIT FOR CHANGE

FIRST THURSDAYS
LECTURE SERIES / LICENSURE

First Thursdays

October 1st
Equity in the Commons
by Lynn M. Ross of Spirit for Change
**First Thursdays**

**Cost:** Free to ASLA members  
$35 for Non-ASLA members

**CEUs:** Professional Landscape Architects are eligible for 1 hours of LACES credits per session.*

Registration will open September 1st, 2020. A link to registration can be found on our website.

* LACES credits pending

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Speaker/Institution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 1st</td>
<td>Equity in the Commons</td>
<td>Lynn M. Ross of Spirit for Change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 5th</td>
<td>Healthy Cities</td>
<td>Brian Jencek of HOK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 3rd</td>
<td>Chattahoochee Riverlands</td>
<td>Liz Camuti of SCAPE and Walt Ray of TPL</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO STAY UP TO DATE ON CEUS OPPORTUNITIES
The FOUNDATIONS Mentorship Program is a collaborative effort between the Georgia Chapter of ASLA and the Georgia Students of Landscape Architecture as a way to provide learning and support from the beginning of students’ academic careers into professional life. With the ongoing pandemic, Curt felt a sense of urgency to ensure that emerging professionals have the resources and connections they need to secure a bright future in the landscape architecture profession.

After hearing back from interested students and professionals via surveys, we matched mentors and mentees as best we could based on shared interests. We officially launched on July 22, with 15 mentors and 17 mentees.

Anybody is interested in joining as a mentor or mentee, they can get in touch with the Emerging Professionals Chair QUYNH PHAM at qpham216@gmail.com.
PLEASE SAVE THE DATE FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE COASTAL SECTION.

• UPCOMING INVITATION FOR OUR DISTANT FALL MEETING. MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW. YOU MAY CONTACT AUDRA LOFTON, HON. ASLA (AUDRAHON@GMAIL.COM) OR JAY GEHLER, ASLA (GEHLERJAYASLA@GMAIL.COM) FOR ANY QUESTIONS. SAVANNAH ASLA MARKER IN JOHNSON SQUARE

• SAVANNAH TINY HOUSES | CLEAN UP DAY! SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 8:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M. 761 WHEATON STREET, SAVANNAH

• GEORGIA HI-LO TRAIL | ATHENS TO SAVANNAH RIDE OCTOBER 23 & 24

• GA ASLA COASTAL SECTION OYSTER ROAST SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7 CAPTAIN BUTLERS, 115 PENROSE DR., WHITMARSH ISLAND
Quynh Pham is a Master’s student of Architecture and City and Regional Planning at Georgia Tech and Emerging Professionals Chairs for GAASLA.

In the article she outlines her experiences of how the pandemic has effected her campus life - from remote learning and closed cafeterias to virtual graduations.

However there have been some positives, being able to jump from online webinars between Europe and the US has had seemingly overall success and expanded accessibility of educational platforms. To read more of her insights of campus life in these modern times, visit Saporta Report.

VISIT SAPORTA REPORT TO READ THE ENTIRE ARTICLE.
25 YEARS!

PLEASE JOIN US IN CELEBRATING...

GERALD HAS BEEN A VALUABLE MEMBER OF ASLA GEORGIA CHAPTER FOR 25 YEARS. THANK YOU GERALD!

GERALD E. REISINGER, ASLA
GAASLA IS EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE
2022 ASLA SOUTHEAST REGIONAL CONFERENCE IS COMING TO ATLANTA!

WE ARE EXCITED TO HOST SERC 2022 AND WELCOME GEORGIA, SOUTH CAROLINA, AND NORTH CAROLINA ASLA CHAPTERS TO ATLANTA.

WE ARE CURRENTLY DEVELOPING THE COURSE, SPEAKERS, TOURS, AND VENUE SELECTION. KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR MORE INFORMATION ON EVENTS AND HOW YOU CAN BE INVOLVED!

SERC 2022 ATL
This guide was written by three masters of landscape architecture students who wanted to learn more about how landscape architecture can promote social justice and equity through design. In 2016 we became the student representatives for the ASLA’s Environmental Justice Professional Practice Network so we could better connect the important work of professionals, academics, and activists working towards environmental justice with students.

This guide is a response to our own desires to educate ourselves about environmental justice and share what we learned. It is a starting-off place for students - a compendium of resources, conversations, case studies, and activities students can work through and apply to their studio projects. It is a continuously evolving project and we invite you to get in touch to give us feedback, ask questions, and give us ideas for this guide.

Environmental justice is achieved when all people regardless race, color, national origin, gender, or income live in neighborhoods free of health hazards, are able to enjoy equal access to safe, healthy places, and participate meaningfully in the planning of their communities (adapted from US EPA).

Landfills, industry, and other types of high-pollution uses have historically been disproportionately concentrated in low-income, minority, and native communities. In the 1980’s, the environmental justice movement emerged from local community struggles over the siting and operation of toxic and waste sites in black and Hispanic communities. Residents affected by these hazards mobilized against various threats to their health from pollution, leaks, and contamination and tapped into the discourses of the civil rights movement to create change through advocacy and lawsuits. Over time, the definition of environmental justice has expanded to not only address the presence of health hazards, but also lack of access to resources, such as to public transportation, parks, and fresh food.

In addition to environmental burdens and lack of access, marginalized groups have not historically had a voice in urban planning and policy-making, and therefore have not been able to advocate for urban design changes that would benefit their health and well-being. Design for environmental justice invites everyone to the table to consider policy and design decisions using participatory and inclusive tools. This process is highly localized, contextual, and grounded in the circumstances of each community, its problems, and visions for the future.
A breakdown on how to search for virtual CEU opportunities:

In lieu of local conferences and workshops in the coming weeks, there are many webinar and other “remote” learning opportunities available within the Landscape Architecture Continuing Education System (LA CES) for those seeking continuing education opportunities. Go to laces.asla.org and select the check box for “Search for Distance Education courses only”; you will likely also want to check the “Search for Health, Safety, and Welfare (HSW) courses only” box if you are seeking credits toward your licensure requirements. Also select a “Subject Area” if you are interested in a particular topic; use the date fields, too, if that’s relevant to your needs. Then press SEARCH at the bottom and browse your results for learning opportunities of interest.

LA CES establishes, maintains, and enforces standards for evaluating professional development and continuing education programs for landscape architects. Continuing education has never been more important for professionals; it is needed to stay up to date in the profession, to develop new areas of expertise, and is mandated for maintaining licensure in many jurisdictions. LA CES guides professionals in identifying courses that are appropriate for landscape architects and are offered by legitimate organizations that have controls and processes in place to monitor quality and track attendance.

The mission of the LA CES program is to assure landscape architects and licensing boards that courses provided by LA CES approved providers are of sufficient quality. Only providers that have met LA CES requirements may register courses with LA CES. Registered courses cover a broad range of subject matter and providers are required to identify those courses that meet the LA CES standard of health, safety, and welfare subject matter.

For more information, visit laces.asla.org

Virtual Continuing Education Credits

The Landscape Architecture Continuing Education System (LA CES) is a collaboration of the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA), Canadian Society of Landscape Architects (CSLA), Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture (CELA), Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB), Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB), and Landscape Architecture Foundation (LAF).
IN METRO ATLANTA, PARKING LOTS AND BUILDINGS MAKE SCHOOLYARDS HOTTER

MOLLY SAMUEL • SEP 4, 2020

Places with lots of buildings and pavement are hotter than areas that are more green. It’s called the urban heat island effect. Basically, all those surfaces absorb lots of heat from the sun, and there aren’t enough plants around to help cool things off.

One advocacy group is calling attention to how hot schoolyards can get, as many metro Atlanta students return to in-person learning, and some schools are trying outdoor classes to help reduce the risk of spreading the coronavirus.

The environmental group Trust for Public Land found that more than a third of public school students around the country go to schools that are in a heat island — that’s millions of children.

“In my view, I mean, one kid is too many kids,” said Linda Hwang, director of strategy and innovation at the Trust For Public Land.

According to her research, in metro Atlanta more than 250,000 public school students attend schools in heat islands. Fulton County has the highest proportion, with 35% of students. Cobb is runner-up, with about 16%.

Hwang said in Atlanta, it’s not actually the schools in the most urban areas that are most affected; it’s actually the big, more suburban schools, which have lots of parking lots.

“Some of the schools are gigantic, and they have a lot of surfaces that are absorbing a lot of heat too,” she said.

The Trust for Public Land has a program to work with schools to reduce those effects, partially by planting more trees and plants.

One advocacy group is calling attention to how hot schoolyards can get, as many metro Atlanta students return to in-person learning, and some schools are trying outdoor classes to help reduce the risk of spreading the coronavirus.

CREDIT PIXABAY

CLICK HERE TO VIEW THE ARTICLE ONLINE AT WABE