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Riverside Resident Elected to Profession's Prestigious Council

Susan Cohen of Riverside named a Fellow in the American Society of Landscape Architects

Two Connecticut landscape architects have been named to the Council of Fellows of the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA), one of the highest honors the society confers on a member.

Susan Cohen, ASLA, a Connecticut landscape architect known for her award-winning residential designs, is being honored for her leadership in creating two programs that enhance understanding of her profession: The New York Botanical Garden's *Landscape Design Portfolio Series* and the *Landscape Studies Program* at Smith College.

The annual *Landscape Design Portfolio Series*, which she continues to organize, is now in its 13th year as the only ongoing program in New York in which distinguished landscape professionals present their work to the public. Beginning in 1998, the series has attracted an enthusiastic audience from the tri-state area to hear speakers from throughout the United States and abroad. This year's program includes landscape architects from Scotland, The Netherlands, Philadelphia and New York City.

At her alma mater, Smith College, Susan Cohen is responsible for initiating the reinstatement of landscape architecture to the college's curriculum after a lapse of almost 50 years. Smith's *Landscape Studies Program*, created by a dedicated faculty that shaped its interdisciplinary curriculum, is the first of its kind in the country. During the formative stages of this program, Mrs. Cohen helped organize and promote five symposia on landscape topics, organized an exhibition of alumnae landscape work, planned and helped lead a student study tour to Japan and co-founded a Friends group for the Smith College Botanic Garden.

Mrs. Cohen is currently Coordinator of the Landscape Design Program at The New York Botanical Garden, where she has taught for over 25 years. She is also an adjunct professor in the MLA program of the City College of New York.

Jane Didona, President of the Connecticut Chapter of ASLA and owner of Danbury, CT-based Didona Associates Landscape Architects, states, “CTASLA is truly honored by our long-time member Susan Cohen being named a 2010 fellow. By any measure, she has had an exceptional record over a long period of time in enhancing the knowledge of landscape architecture at both local and regional levels.”

Old Lyme, CT resident **Whitney A. Talcott, ASLA**, who has served the profession of landscape architecture for over 20 years through advancement of educational programs, activism on sustainable building and professional practice, was also named a Fellow.

Cohen and Talcott were two of 41 landscape architects elected to the ASLA Council of Fellows this year. Profiles of this year’s ASLA Fellows class are located at <http://asla.org/ContentDetail.aspx?id=28110>. The new Fellows will be formally inducted during ASLA’s annual meeting in Washington, D.C. on September 10-13.

Founded in 1899, ASLA is the national professional association for landscape architects, representing more than 17,000 members in 48 professional chapters and 68 student chapters. Landscape architecture is a comprehensive discipline of land analysis, planning, design, management, preservation and rehabilitation.

Echoing the mission of the national organization, the Connecticut Chapter — with nearly 275 members across the state — aims to lead, educate and participate in the careful stewardship, wise planning and artful design of our cultural and natural environments. CTASLA strives to advance the profession of landscape architecture in Connecticut by providing educational programs, publications, information and resources to members and to those seeking to benefit from landscape architectural services.

Learn more about landscape architecture online at www.asla.org. For more information on activities of the Connecticut Chapter, please see our website at www.ctasla.org.

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[Photo: Susan Cohen, ASLA]