



ASLA
CONNECTICUT

2026 ASLA CONNECTICUT PROFESSIONAL AWARDS

CALL FOR ENTRIES (also at www.ctasla.org/awards)

Connecticut Chapter • American Society of Landscape Architects

Recognizing excellence in landscape architectural design, planning and analysis, communications, and research.

The Connecticut Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects invites submission of professional works to be reviewed for the 2026 Professional Awards. These distinguished awards identify, recognize, and publicize outstanding works of Connecticut landscape architecture or works in other locations by Connecticut-based practitioners.

Eligibility

1. Entrant(s) must be a Full or Associate member of the American Society of Landscape Architects or eligible to join ASLA in one of those categories.
2. The submitted project, communications document, analysis, or research must satisfy one of the following criteria:
 - Be located within Connecticut.
 - If not located in Connecticut, be completed by a Connecticut-based firm or practitioner whose primary mailing address is located in the state.

ASLA Connecticut members whose primary address is outside of Connecticut may submit any project, communications document, analysis, or research related to their work in Connecticut. Projects or works located in other jurisdictions completed by these practitioners should be entered in the corresponding chapter's professional awards instead.

Out-of-state firms with a Connecticut branch office are encouraged to enter projects that are representative of work completed by their Connecticut-based staff. Projects or works principally completed by out-of-state personnel should be entered in the corresponding chapter's professional awards instead.

The non-member entry fee includes a one-year membership in ASLA and the Connecticut Chapter. Non-members will be required to submit an ASLA membership application and payment of the membership fee with their entry. Non-members entering multiple projects shall pay the non-member fee for the first entry and the member fee for any additional entries. For information on membership qualifications and application form, please visit www.asla.org/join.aspx or call 1-888-999-ASLA.

Entry Categories

Projects may be entered in one of the following categories:

- **Landscape Architectural Design – Built Works** (*subcategories include Residential, Municipal/Public Spaces, and Corporate/Institutional*): Recognizes constructed, site-specific work of landscape architectural design.
- **Landscape Planning and Analysis**: Recognizes the wide variety of professional activity that leads to, guides, or evaluates landscape architecture, including development plans; government policies, programs and legislation; environmental analysis; and various landscape analysis. Typical entries include urban, suburban, rural, or regional planning efforts and development guidelines; transportation, town or campus



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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 and historic preservation planning.

- **Landscape Architectural Communication:** Examines achievements in communicating landscape architectural information, technology, theory, or practice to those within and/or outside the profession.
- **Landscape Architectural Research:** Recognizes outstanding works of rigorous research that examines a problem related to landscape architecture and arrives at original findings or solutions of value to the profession.
- **The Landmark Legacy:** A distinguished landscape architecture project completed between 15 and 50 years ago that retains its original design integrity and contributes significantly to the public realm of the community.
Note: Once a project receives an award from ASLA Connecticut, it is only eligible for future Professional Awards in this category.
- **Community Service:** Recognizes the value of pro bono work performed by landscape architects as it relates to public appreciation and understanding of the profession. Entries in this category may encompass any aspect of planning, design, or implementation of landscape architectural work that has been volunteered by a practitioner or firm. No entry fee required.

General Submission Requirements

The following shall be included with each entry (see 'Specific Entry Requirements for Each Category' for any additional submission materials):

1. **The Entry Form with entry fee.** (Entry form to be filled out and fee to be paid at www.ctasla.org/award-submissions)
2. **The following information, submitted to awards@ctasla.org as a download link** (no password-required file transfer platforms please):
 - A. **The PDF of your Jury Presentation** — Using the supplied PowerPoint (or InDesign) template, complete a digital presentation including a project summary, a project description, a statement of significance and between 8-15 additional slides of graphics, photographs or other images. **(This PDF must not include any individual or company name. If the jury is unblinded though the accidental inclusion of individual or company name, the project will be removed from the jury's consideration for this year).**
 - B. **Microsoft Word** file containing your project summary, project description and statement of significance. To be used for the promotion of winning projects on ASLA Connecticut social media platforms and/or publications.
 - C. **Individual high-resolution photographs or graphic images** (JPG or TIF, not PDF) used in the preparation of the Jury Presentation. Include 8 to 15 images with at least one plan view if appropriate. Each image should be given a title such (i.e., "Plan View" or "Northeast Perspective"). These images should be at



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least 300 DPI, between 1 MB and 25 MB and saved in RGB mode. Note that submitted photos must be suitable for publishing by ASLA Connecticut without copyright or restriction.

D. Microsoft Word file of captions for all individual photographs or graphic images. Captions may be the same as used on jury presentation, or can be longer, up to 25 words per caption. Captions and images to be used for ASLA Connecticut social media platforms and/or publications. Please clearly mark captions with image name to avoid confusion.

NOTE: The jury process is "blind" as to the identity of the entrants. All content in the Jury Presentation PDF must have INDIVIDUAL AND/OR COMPANY NAMES REMOVED FROM ALL TEXT AND GRAPHICS. References to the identity of the entrant must be deleted from photographs, renderings, plans, captions, descriptions, and other information. The official entry form is the only instance in which individual or company names should appear.

Specific Entry Requirements for Each Category

- **Landscape Architectural Design – Built Works** (*subcategories include Residential, Municipal/Public Spaces, and Corporate/Institutional*):
 - See 'General Submission Requirements'
 - Additional Requirements: None
- **Landscape Planning and Analysis:**
 - See 'General Submission Requirements'
 - Additional Requirements: One DIGITAL copy of the planning / analysis document or a link to a website or app (application software), if applicable
- **Landscape Architectural Communication:**
 - See 'General Submission Requirements'
 - Additional Requirements: One digital copy of the communication document and/or a link to a website or app (application software), if applicable
- **Landscape Architectural Research:**
 - See 'General Submission Requirements'
 - Additional Requirements: One digital copy (in PDF format) of report or summary of research OR a link to a website or app (application software)
- **Community Service:**



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- See 'General Submission Requirements' (No fee required for Community Service submissions)
- Additional Requirements: None
- **Landmark Legacy:**
 - See 'General Submission Requirements'
 - Plan and photographs should include past references when available and **current photographs and graphics** to demonstrate design integrity and longevity.

Submission Due Date and Instructions

Entry form, fee and materials must be received by 5pm, FRIDAY, October 31st, 2025. Entry form and fee payment to be completed online at www.ctasla.org/award-submissions. Materials (Jury Presentation PDF, Word documents and JPG/TIF images) must be submitted via online transfer (no password-required file transfers please); mailed in copies will not be accepted.

Awards

The following awards may be presented by the jury:

- **Jury's Award of Excellence**
Only one Award of Excellence may be awarded if merited by the judges. This award is for an outstanding advancement of the landscape architectural profession.
- **Honor Award**
Only one Honor Award may be awarded for the most outstanding project in a category, if merited. If there are more than five entries in a category, more than one Honor Award may be given at the discretion of the jury.
- **Merit Award**
Any number of this award may be given in each category at the discretion of the jury to recognize superior professional accomplishment.
- **Catalyst Award**
At the discretion of the jury, one Catalyst Award may be awarded to a project that demonstrates the power of landscape architecture as a catalyst for equity and justice.
- **Landmark Legacy Award**
Only one Landmark Legacy Award may be awarded for the most outstanding project in this category. If there are more than five entries in a category, more than one Landmark Legacy Award may be given at the discretion of the jury.

Criteria for Judging

The criteria to be used for judging shall include the following:



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- **Landscape Architectural Design – Built Works (any subcategory):**
 - Description of goals and objectives of the project
 - Quality of design solution
 - Choice and appropriateness of building materials and plants
 - Execution and appearance of installed work
 - Planning for long-term maintenance
 - Context or relationship to its surroundings
 - Overall significance to the profession and the environment
 - Quality of design solution within budgetary constraints
- **Landscape Planning and Analysis:**
 - Quality of design solution within budgetary constraints
 - Represents excellence or leading edge of landscape architectural practice
 - Exhibits new technology, a pioneering use of previously created methodology, a uniquely effective means of combining, presenting and programming landscape architectural techniques
 - Represents an outstanding way of ensuring that landscape architecture has a significant opportunity to impact the environment or environmental decision-making
 - Quality of the analysis and planning effort; context; environmental sensitivity and sustainability; likelihood of successful implementation; and value to the client, the public and other designers
 - Note: This category should not include unbuilt works of Landscape Architectural Design
- **Landscape Architectural Communication:**
 - Quality of content and presentation
 - Usefulness to the intended reader or viewer
 - Overall significance to the profession, the public and/or the environment
- **Landscape Architectural Research:**
 - Importance of issue being addressed
 - Strength and clarity of research methodology
 - Quality of content and presentation
 - Usefulness to the intended audience
 - Relevance to the profession
- **Community Service:**
 - Represents a significant or meaningful way to communicate the value of landscape architecture to the general public
 - Effectiveness of the advocacy message or impact
 - Quality of the built work in relation to the available budget
 - Value to the client, the public, and other designers



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- Advocacy efforts should relate to general themes of protection of public health, safety, and welfare or advancement of healthy, beautiful, and resilient places for all

- **Landmark Legacy:**

- Project completed between 15 and 50 years ago
- Relevance of design integrity over time
- Quality of presentation
- Usefulness to the intended audience

Jury

The jury will be composed of out-of-state professionals unaffiliated with ASLA Connecticut. Upon receiving all submissions, it will also be confirmed by ASLA Connecticut and the jury, that no jury member is an employee of a multi-state firm that has submitted for an award in Connecticut this year.

Announcement of Winners

Award winners will be announced at the January 2026 ASLA Connecticut Awards Ceremony & Annual Meeting.

Consent and Publicity

All submittals become the property of the Connecticut Chapter of ASLA, to be used for promotion of the profession of landscape architecture through displays, in chapter publications, in local and national media, and on the ASLA Connecticut website and other online outlets, with credit to the submitting firm.

By entering this competition, you grant permission to ASLA Connecticut to reproduce the submitted images. Entrants are solely responsible for securing authorization for ASLA Connecticut's usage from the client and photographers allowing the entry to be submitted, judged, and promoted through displays, online, in chapter publications, and in other media outlets, with credit to the submitting firm. Do not send authorizations or photo releases with your entry; keep for your records. Your signature on the submitted entry form authorizes ASLA Connecticut to use all submitted images for promotion of the profession of landscape architecture as described above. ASLA Connecticut will assume no responsibility for failure to obtain photo releases.

Questions?

Email the Awards Committee at awards@ctasla.org