Fifteen exceptional projects for public places around Vermont have won Public Place Awards. The Public Places Awards program is co-sponsored by the Vermont Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects, the Vermont Community and Urban Forestry Council and the Vermont Planners Association.

The purpose of the Public Places Awards is to recognize special public spaces, the corridors that connect them, or networks of public spaces which have been defined or enriched by planning or design, as well as regulations that promote positive, public uses and benefits. The awards were presented at a public reception in the Cedar Creek Room of the Vermont State House on February 14, 2017.

Congratulations to all winners!

**HONOR AWARDS:**

**Dumont Park Planning & Design** - South Burlington
LandWorks
With: Northwoods Ecological Consulting, Engineering Ventures, Jackie Brookner, and the City of South Burlington

**Eagle Mountain Natural Area Signs Project** - Milton
Milton Conservation Commission
With: Town of Milton, Vermont Land Trust

**Hartford High School Makeover** - White River Junction
Creative Improvement Council
With: Hartford High School

**Hinesburg Town Forest National Register Nomination** - Hinesburg
Vermont State Division of Historic Preservation
With: Sarah Graulty, Robert McCullough, the Town of Hinesburg

**Lamoille Valley Railtrail Trailheads and Wayfinding** - Lamoille County
Lamoille County Planning Commission
With: Vermont Agency of Transportation, Vermont Association of Snow Travelers, Friends of LVRT, Smuggler’s Notch Resort, Smuggler’s Notch Area Chamber of Commerce, Towns of Cambridge, Hyde Park, and Wolcott

**Oakledge Park Master Plan** - Burlington
Wagner Hodgson Landscape Architecture
With: Watershed Consulting Associates, City of Burlington

**Spruce Peak Village Center** - Stowe
SE Group
With: BSA Architects, Spruce Peak Realty

**Stone Valley Bikeway Development Plan** - Rutland and Bennington Counties
Broadreach Planning & Design
With: RSG, Heritage Landscapes, UVM Archaeological Consulting Program, Towns of Hubbardton, Castleton, Poultney, Wells, Rupert, Pawlet, Dorset, and Manchester, Rutland Regional Planning Commission, Bennington County Regional Commission

**Veterans Memorial** - Shelburne
Submitted by T. J. Boyle Associates
With: Church Hill Landscapes, Charlotte, Shelburne, and Hinesburg Rotary Club, Town of Shelburne

---Continued on Page 2---
2017 PUBLIC PLACES AWARDS
(CONTINUED)

MERIT AWARDS:

- **The Burlington Bike Path Rehabilitation** - Burlington Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission
  With: Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, EIV Technical Services, S.D. Ireland, the City of Burlington

- **The Center for Communication and Creative Media at Champlain College** - Burlington
  SE Group
  With: Colin D. Lindburg Architect, Engineering Ventures, LN Consulting, H.P. Cummings, Champlain College

- **Lake Champlain Bikeway Bike Rest Areas** - Grand Isle and Chittenden Counties
  Broadreach Planning & Design
  With: Local Motion, Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission, Landworks, Timberhomes, Town of Alburgh, Shelburne Vineyard, Grande Isle Art Works, Snow Farm Winery, Goodsell Ridge Fossil Reserve, Island Ice House, Alburgh Golf Links, Airport Park, the Lake Champlain Bikeway and Byway

- **Main Street Middle School Site Renovation** - Montpelier
  Cynthia Knauf Landscape Design
  With: Gossens Bachman Architects, Forcier Aldrich & Associates, Montpelier Main Street Middle School

- **Memorial Park Master Plan** - Stowe
  Broadreach Planning & Design
  With: Heritage Landscapes, Ambler Design, Town of Stowe

- **Manchester Town Green** - Manchester
  Lee Krohn, AICP & Manchester Conservation Commission
  With: Town of Manchester

CONGRATULATIONS AGAIN TO ALL WINNERS!

2017 ADVOCACY DAY
WASHINGTON D.C.

As a World Landscape Architecture Month main event, Chapter Executive Board members Michael McCormick, Ann Milovsoroff, and Jim Donovan represented the Vermont Chapter at the 2017 ASLA Advocacy Day on April 27th in Washington, DC.

Representatives from 47 chapters attended Legislative meetings with senators, representatives, and congressional staff on Capitol Hill to advocate for issues important to landscape architects, and to educate policy makers on how the profession is leading community infrastructure design and development in neighborhoods across the country. From upgrading to a multimodal transportation network, to fixing our nation’s water management systems, to recognizing public lands and parks as critical infrastructure, work that landscape architects do is improving the quality of life for all people.

Michael, Ann, and Jim met with staff from the congressional offices of Senator Patrick Leahy, Senator Bernie Sanders, and Representative Peter Welch to discuss policies at the state level that impact landscape architects. This year, our advocacy focused on maintaining support for the State Revolving Funds for Clean Water and Drinking Water, authorization of the Transportation Investments Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program, and protection and preservation of the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). Specific to Vermont, improvements to the Western Rail Corridor are dependent upon TIGER funding, and there are countless other examples of projects statewide that can be tied to the LWCF and State Revolving Funds. We are fortunate that Rep. Peter Welch is a co-sponsor of H.R. 502, which proposes to permanently reauthorize the LWCF. Senators Leahy and Sanders have historically been avid supporters of efforts to protect and preserve the environment, which is in turn a positive for landscape architecture in Vermont.
MEMBER PROFILE
Annie S. White, PhD, ASLA

What brought you to Landscape Architecture?
I'm a rare case of someone whose childhood dream was to become a landscape architect. I'm the fourth generation in a long line of horticultural professionals, and from a young age (as proven by the ambition section of my junior high yearbook) I recognized that landscape architecture was a way for me to combine my passion for plants with art and ecology. Growing up in the tiny rural town of Maidstone, Vermont, I had little at my disposal (and frankly, little else to do) except the ability to grow and plant almost anything I wanted. In the potting barn of my family's ornamental greenhouse business, my dad helped me build my first drafting table when I was 12. I did greenhouse chores to earn spending money to buy design books. When I wasn't tending to my elaborate herb gardens, I was practicing my lettering and landscape graphics in my little studio in the barn between the old pots and my pet rabbit, Olmsted.

When I turned 18, my life goals were a bit simpler: get as far away from sleepy Maidstone, Vermont, as possible. This endeavor brought me first to Colorado College and then to the University of Hawaii at Hilo where I studied conservation biology and ecology. My continued interest in landscape architecture—albeit now with more of an ecological focus—led me to the landscape architecture program at The University of Wisconsin-Madison.

How long have you lived/practiced in Vermont?
I spent the first 18 years of my life “practicing” to be a landscape architect here in Vermont, then split the next 13 years between Colorado, Hawaii, Wisconsin, Italy, and Indiana. The experiences that shaped me the most while away from Vermont included interning with the Hawaii County Planning Department, restoring ecological landscapes in the University of Wisconsin's Arboretum, doing historic landscape restoration work on an Agriturismo in Tuscany, Italy, and 6 years spent working as an ecological designer and project manager for Earth Source, Inc., a landscape architecture and environmental consulting firm in Indiana.

I returned to Vermont in 2011 just as eagerly as I had left in 1998. I began a PhD program in The University of Vermont’s Plant & Soil Science Department with the goal of trying to answer a question that weighed heavy on me as a professional designer: Are native plant cultivars ecologically equivalent substitutes for native species, particularly for pollinator habitat restoration? Five years, a baby, and a PhD later, I answered a few of my questions and raised a hundred more.

Eager to get back into design work, I founded Nectar Landscape Design Studio, LLC, in 2016, but continue to teach landscape design and research native plants and pollinators.

Was there someone who has influenced you the most professionally?
My landscape architect idol is the late Jens Jensen, who was one of the first and most influential designers to popularize native plant gardens. I was able to experience many of his prairie style designs during my time in Wisconsin. Native plants, local materials, and natural systems inspired Jensen—an approach I've adopted in my own design work. Jensen once said, “Every plant has fitness and must be placed in it proper surrounds so as to bring out its full beauty. Therein lies the art of landscaping.” I couldn't agree more.

What is your favorite tool at your job?
I studied landscape architecture just as digital design tools became significantly more prevalent. I'm thankful to have been exposed to both hand-drawing and computer-aided design, but there's still nothing that I love more than letting the creative juices flow from my hand onto paper—especially a fresh sign pen on an endless roll of trace.

Favorite plant material?
Native plants, of course. I enjoy both the challenge and the reward of using native plants to meet various ecological and aesthetic design goals. While flowering perennials are my expertise, I'm perhaps most enamored by our native grasses and sedges.

Favorite mode of transportation?
One of my more unusual hobbies is also my favorite mode of transportation: Inline skating! As long as there's good pavement, it's a fast and minimalist way to get around and a fun way to get some exercise. Unfortunately, Vermont isn't as inline friendly as the upper Midwest, where I've trained for and raced many inline marathons, but you still might catch me speed skating along the waterfront from time to time and advocating for improved trail systems in Vermont.
In case you missed it, World Landscape Architecture Month was observed in April. Building upon the successes of previous years, ASLA PR and Communication Coordinator J.R. Taylor facilitated an “Instagram Takeover” that occurred daily from April 1 - May 19. This fluid event gave all 49 ASLA chapters an opportunity to manage the national ASLA Instagram account (@landscapearch) for one day. Vermont ASLA (@vermontasla) took over the account on May 10th, and it was a huge success! Follow this link for a March 2017 article in Associations Now about the ASLA Instagram Takeover: http://associationsnow.com/2017/03/landscape-associations-latest-social-media-trick-instagram-takeovers-local-chapters/

Throughout the month of April, the Vermont Chapter also participated in an initiative led by the Ohio Chapter that encouraged us to post social media content daily. Using the hashtag #wlam2017, Vermont ASLA posted images celebrating different aspects of our profession, including #greenroof, #landscapeandtechnology, #urbanlandscape and #residential. For anyone unfamiliar with social media slang, a hashtag is a word or phrase preceded by the # symbol that classifies or categorizes the accompanying text. Hashtags allow social media users to search for similar posts and content online, and help connect like-minded individuals and ideas.

Here are some statistics from the Instagram accounts:

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1 The number of unique accounts who saw the content
2 The total number of times the content was seen

Social media has become a powerful tool for us to share information, and we encourage all of our members to participate. To put things into perspective, the audience who viewed our Instagram content during April 2017 was over 50% larger than the audience who visited our website during the past 12 months!
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