



Remarks Upon Receiving the ASLA Firm Award

This is a very special event. I am thrilled to be at this podium, as it means the professional works of the Heritage Landscapes team, our alumnus, talented colleagues, and great clients have combined, to gain this singular peer recognition. We offer deepest appreciation to our past and present team and collaborators, particularly thanking those who have joined us for this celebration. *Please stand to be recognized. (Staff and Alumni Peter Viteretto, Greg De Vries, Heidi Hohmann, Laurie Matthews, Glenn Stach, Collaborators George Skarmeas, Dominique Hawkins, Marion Pressley, Jay Patrick Graham, Susan Rademacher, Richard Newton, Jose Alminana, Colleagues Gail Henderson King, Tom Tavella, Lisa Kunst)*

When we began, in 1987, buildings and monuments dominated historic preservation with landscape heritage rarely recognized. In our early years we sought clients who understood the historic significance of the landscapes they stewarded, particularly finding collaborators in city park departments and conservancies. Over multiple years HL's notable contributions have revitalized public parks in Louisville, Baltimore, Buffalo, Rochester, Fort Wayne, Pittsburgh, Seattle, Chicago and the civic landscapes of San Antonio, Richmond, Washington DC. Projects types broadened to address historic public landscapes from urban to rural, ancient to modern, places of joy and sites of commemoration and conscience. Today our work is fully informed by a plethora of national and international cultural landscape regulations and guidance, much of which we helped develop. Working often with non-profits, we remain small, lean and agile. We may be the smallest firm to receive the ASLA Firm Award!

This award recognizes the 32 years of Heritage Landscapes distinguished work, with, as Laurie Olin noted in our nomination letter, *"a litany of successful projects addressing landscapes of great historic significance across our country and abroad."* Daily efforts aid cultural landscapes, the combined works of humanity and nature, toward a more resilient future.

As an important companion to projects, our leadership in professional organizations, ICOMOS, IFLA, UNESCO Culture, World Heritage, focuses on inclusive sharing and co-learning to expand expertise on every continent. The honor of this prestigious ASLA Firm Award also honors global colleagues who work in the cultural landscapes realm, bringing greater recognition and enhanced understanding of the importance of landscape heritage assets to communities everywhere. Through our work and volunteer leadership, we are grateful that Heritage Landscapes has had a transformative and beneficial impact on the fields of landscape architecture and historic preservation.

At this critical juncture, when the earth's needs are complex, intertwined and pervasive, our professional focus offers effective solutions. The team at Heritage Landscapes has and continues to strive to uplift public landscape cultural heritage, to support the varied life forms and resources of our fragile planet, helping achieve the UN 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, the New Urban Agenda, and Climate Change responses toward Drawdown.

We are thrilled to receive this professional recognition. It reinforces our motivation, to tackle the challenges and opportunities of the today and tomorrow, bringing greater resilience and a brighter future to valued places.

On behalf of all who have contributed, with immense gratitude to ASLA, we accept the 2019 ASLA Firm Award tonight. Thank you 18 Nov 2019 Patricia M. O'Donnell, Founder