146 Founding Donors to LAF’s Ignite and Fuel Campaign, raising $2.5 million to support the launch of the new Ignite program for BIPOC students.

$25,000 awarded through the LAF Research Grant in Honor of Deb Mitchell to test tools for visualizing thermal disparities and develop a toolkit to inform equitable heat mitigation efforts.

$505,000 invested in landscape architects through LAF research, scholarships, and leadership programs.

Randy Hester received the 2023 LAF Medal, and the Founders’ Award went to the San Francisco Bay Area Planning and Urban Research Association (SPUR).

$160,000 in scholarships awarded to 27 deserving students to reward superior performance, support access and diversity, and assist with financial need.

LAF awarded free CEUs to hundreds of individuals through webinars and trainings.

Launched in 2008, the LAF Olmsted Scholars Program has recognized 1,069 student leaders to date.

88 exceptional student leaders recognized as 2023 LAF Olmsted Scholars with $64,000 awarded to 2 national winners and 6 finalists.

4 LAF Ignite scholars formed the inaugural cohort of this new, multi-year scholarship, internship, and mentorship program for BIPOC landscape architecture students.

270k pageviews

Landscape Performance.org got expanded searchability and a new mobile interface.

$160,000 in scholarships awarded to 27 deserving students to reward superior performance, support access and diversity, and assist with financial need.

LAF awarded free CEUs to hundreds of individuals through webinars and trainings.

6 LAF Fellows presented their work on carbon accounting, AI, mega-eco projects landscapes of incarceration, and more at LAF’s Symposium for Innovation + Leadership in June.

10 new case studies of exemplary landscapes with quantified benefits

LAF was one of 9 founding partners for Olmsted200, with April 26 marking the end of two years of activities and conversations to honor the bicentennial of the birth of Frederick Law Olmsted.

2,437 registrants for LAF’s popular webinar on AI and the future of landscape architecture.

Over 500 supporters celebrated with LAF at our 38th Annual Benefit in Minneapolis.

1,500+ Professional Development Hours

270k pageviews

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A Message from LAF CEO Barbara Deutsch

2023 was a big year for LAF as we brought to fruition several initiatives we’ve been working on for many years. This strategic growth increased our annual direct investment in landscape architects to over $500,000!

LAF Ignite officially launched at the start of 2023. This multi-year program for BIPOC students provides an annual $10,000 scholarship, paid summer internships, and three types of mentorship to overcome barriers to stay in school, graduate, and enter practice. The four inaugural Ignite scholars shared how the program is giving them a support network, room to breathe financially, and confirmation that there is a place and a need for Black designers in landscape architecture.

This transformative program was made possible thanks to generous pledges from 72 companies and 74 individuals as part of LAF’s Ignite and Fuel Campaign, which concluded on June 30, raising $2.5 million for Ignite and $1.4 million to support LAF’s existing research, scholarship, and leadership programs. LAF donors are amazing! In addition to financial contributions, LAF Ignite saw strong support with 45 firms and organizations applying to be internship providers and 58 individuals applying to be mentors to the students.

Our “Reframing Landscape Architecture” initiative culminated this year with trainings for spokespeople and the profession at-large. ASLA, CLARB, LAAB, CELA, and LAF engaged the FrameWorks Institute in a three-phase research process to uncover the most effective ways of communicating to the general public about landscape architecture. The recommendations are available for all to use. Please integrate these strategies into your conversations and communications. Consistent and collective use will change public understanding over time, creating opportunities for the discipline from recruitment to licensure to fees and influence.

LAF’s ongoing work on equity and inclusion, climate change, biodiversity, and integrating research into practice continued. LAF Fellows past and present led conversations and climate action from communities to COP 28. LAF-funded research was highlighted on CNN. More firms are integrating research into their practice to create value and expand knowledge.

Your continued support makes all this possible. LAF remains committed to investing in landscape architects to support the environment. Thank you for being part of the LAF community and legacy!

Special thanks to these major donors for their substantial total investment in LAF in 2023, including program and event sponsorships
LAF’s Leadership Circle recognizes contributions to its Annual Fund. These investments complement event and program sponsorships, providing core financial support for LAF research, scholarships, and leadership initiatives.

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