

ASLA Colorado

Candidate Biographies for 2017-2018 Terms

Maren McBride for President Elect

Maren is an Associate at Livable Cities Studio, Inc. and brings both design and project management skills to a variety of urban design and landscape architecture projects focused on the planning and design of large-scale infrastructure, major redevelopments, streetscapes, parks and open space. Dedicated to creating vibrant, functional and meaningful public spaces at every scale, Maren has a passion for place-based design and tackles design challenges with a collaborative and pragmatic approach, recognizing the capacity of place to influence people and the power of integrated design as a catalyst for social change, community building, and an increased connection between the natural and urban environments. Since joining the profession, Maren has taken on a variety of roles in industry organizations and has served as President of the UC Davis ASLA Student Chapter, as an ASLA Advocacy Day Representative in D.C. and as Senior Associate Representative (Emerging Professionals) on Council with the Ontario Association of Landscape Architects. Moving to Denver last year from Toronto, she has taken every opportunity to be involved with ASLACO and has served on the ASLA Minnesota Awards Jury, CSU Student Awards Jury and stepped into the role of ASLACO Social Media Director, increasing the chapter's outreach locally and beyond. In addition, Maren serves on the Women in Design Denver Board of Directors and on the Advisory Committee for Radian Inc. She is excited about the opportunity to serve as President-Elect and looks forward to strengthening the visibility of landscape architecture in Colorado and furthering ASLACO's role in fostering professional and social relationships both within the chapter and with allied organizations in the industry.

Chris Loftus for Treasurer

Chris Loftus, PLA, ASLA, is a licensed landscape architect with over thirteen years of experience working in the western United States. He is currently Senior Landscape Architect at Great Ecology in Denver. Chris collaborates with ecologists, engineers, planners, and other designers to provide strategic ecological design solutions for a variety of public and private clients. Prior to joining Great Ecology, Chris worked in multi-disciplinary and landscape architecture firms in Colorado and Washington State. Chris holds degrees from the University of Oregon and Colorado State University. He is a CLARB Certified Landscape Architect, EPA Green Infrastructure competition juror, contributor to ASLA's blog *The Field*, past contributor to the *Colorado Design Journal*, and he serves on the ASLA Ecology + Restoration PPN leadership team. Chris is currently serving his third year as ASLA Colorado's Vice President of Programs.

Erica Herrin for Secretary

Erica Herrin is the current ASLA Co Secretary and a designer at Dig Studio where she works on projects ranging from corporate campuses to public parks, to urban design work. Previously, Erica worked at a non-profit community development corporation outside San Diego, California. Working alongside planners and architects on various community projects she witnessed the positive impacts of design in the public realm and chose to refocus her career on Landscape Architecture. Outside of the office she regularly seeks out new environments and experiences, finding that travel serves as a powerful source of design inspiration and creative problem-solving. Erica holds an MLA from the University of California, Berkeley.

Ann Nguyen for Vice President Public Relations

As an associate at OTAK, Ann understands that design instigates positive change when it is deeply rooted in the stories of people and place. With a degree in landscape architecture and a background in historic preservation, international community development and disaster management, Ann is passionate about the power of design to uplift communities. Her public-interest based work in South Africa, Vietnam, Bosnia, Croatia, and around the United States have cultivated successful designs through creative collaborations. In addition to serving on the ASLA Colorado board as the VP of Public Relations, she is currently engaged with local community outreach efforts with Denver Architectural Foundation, RiNo Art District, Santa Fe Art District, Walk Denver, Parks People, and leading this year's largest PARK(ing) Day installation in Denver.

David Sprunt for VP Government Affairs and Advocacy

David Sprunt, ASLA, has been a member of the Chapter's Government Affairs Committee since completing his MLA and MUD degrees at CU Denver in 2009, and VP of Government Affairs and Advocacy since 2013. In 2016-17, he led the licensure sunset review effort in the state legislature, resulting in the continuation of LA licensure and board oversight of the profession in Colorado through 2028. In recognition of these efforts, he was awarded ASLA's 2017 Advocacy Leadership Award. In 2015, he completed a grant-based study that created an evaluation tool to measure and communicate the public welfare benefits of LA projects. As a result of his work on the licensure effort and public welfare study, he now serves as Senior Licensure Defense Consultant with CLARB, the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards, helping the association identify risks to licensure across the country and develop ways for state licensure boards and ASLA chapters to work better together.

In addition to his CLARB and ASLA work, David works as a contract residential landscape designer in Littleton. Prior to moving to Colorado with his family in 2004, he was a project manager in the creative studio of America Online, and before that was an officer in the Coast Guard, travelling widely and serving as a rescue helicopter pilot, public affairs officer, and equal opportunity consultant, among other duties.

Tom Ellenwood for Vice President Programs

Tom is a talented landscape designer and land planner with a strong interest in sustainable integrated urban infrastructure, green roofs, urban agriculture, and park/open space design. In his free time, he does freelance digital photography for portraits and architectural spaces. Tom's goal with every project is to create beautiful, lasting spaces that stimulate users both mentally and physically while promoting natural processes for a cleaner, safer environment. Tom is currently the chair of the Annual Event Planning Committee, previously led the coordination of the ALSA Spring Social, and is excited to expand his role with the chapter.