

BLACK LAN

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS NETWORK

COORDINATE, PROMOTE AND ENGAGE **STRONG ROOTS**

GATHERINGS

- 2020 Zoom Discussion
- 2019 ASLA National Conference
- 2019 BlackLAN Networking Event
- 2018 BlackLAN Networking Event



LUNCHEON ATTENDEES



- | | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| 01 Kona Gray | 12 Handy Johnson, Jr. | 23 Lindsey D. Smith | 34 Tyron N. Alford |
| 02 Roxanne Blackwell | 13 Ayana Belk | 24 | 35 Janelle Johnson |
| 03 Glenn LaRue Smith | 14 Neo Lehoko | 25 Kene Okigbo | 36 Chi Talley |
| 04 Cynthia Jacobs | 15 Marc Miller | 26 Darneka Waters | 37 Evan Eden |
| 05 Whitney Barr | 16 Cacena Campbell | 27 Simone Heath | 38 Ujiji Davis |
| 06 Diane Jones Allen | 17 Adriana Hall | 28 William C. Harrison | 39 |
| 07 Selah Grant | 18 Austin Allen | 29 Rikerrious Geter | 40 |
| 08 Andrew Sargeant | 19 Aaron Ruffin | 30 Zara Brown | 41 Charles Cross |
| 09 Gayandrial Henderson | 20 Vincent Agoe | 31 Stephanie Onwenu | |
| 10 Alex Harris | 21 Azzurra Cox | 32 Breeze Outlaw | |
| 11 Karen Phillips | 22 Samantha Solano | 33 Monique Bassey | |

BlackLAN Networking

November 17, 2019

San Diego National ASLA Conference on Landscape Architecture

The 2019 ASLA Conference on Landscape Architecture marks the first collaboration between ASLA National and the BlackLAN. ASLA provided space within the conference venue for the luncheon activities and the BlackLAN Sponsors paid for the luncheon. The Luncheon was attended by 49 black students and professionals.

Luncheon Sponsors



Perry Howard, FASLA

Individual Sponsors:

Stephen Carter, FASLA

2019 BlackLAN LUNCHEON August 15, 2019

Hosted by: American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) National Headquarters, Washington, DC

Lisa Jennings, Manager-Career Discovery and Diversity/ASLA suggested and promoted this event to bring together black landscape architects from the Potomac, Virginia and Maryland area Chapters. Glenn LaRue Smith, ASLA, Founder/Administrator of the BlackLAN, collaborated with ASLA to coordinate the BlackLAN participation. The event drew a group of young black students and professionals. The participants were welcomed by Roxanne Blackwell, Hon. ASLA and Co-Interim Executive Director/CEO. The event was attended by 35 black landscape architecture students and professionals.



Glenn LaRue Smith,
BlackLAN Administrator
Lisa Jennings,
ASLA National, Manager Career
Discovery and Diversity

AWARDS



2019 ASLA Fellow Distinction at The National Conference

Diane Allen

In San Diego in last November, Allen was nominated and elevated under the 'Service' fellowship category for her tireless work in community engagement and design. Diane is currently, Director of Landscape Architecture - College of Architecture, Planning and Public Affairs, University of Texas - Arlington. She is also Founding Principal of the landscape architecture firm Design Jones. Way to go Diane, thanks for leading us and teaching future generations.



United States Artists: 2020 USA Fellow

Sara Zewde

USA Fellowships are annual \$50,000 unrestricted awards recognizing the most compelling artists working and living in the United States, in all disciplines, at every stage of their career. Sara Zewde is a landscape architect, urbanist, and public artist. She is founding principal of Studio Zewde, a design firm devoted to creating enduring places where people belong. The studio's work explores the "aesthetics of being," syncing site interpretation and narrative with a dedication to the craft of construction. In parallel with practice, Zewde regularly writes, teaches, and exhibits work. Congratulations Sara, keep inspiring us.

Source: The Architect's Newspaper, January 22, 2020



Mentor Professional Panel

BlackLAN Open Session November 17, 2019
San Diego National ASLA Conference on Landscape Architecture

The BlackLAN Luncheon was followed by a two-hour Session that was open to all Conference attendees. The two panels included “Mentor Professionals” who discussed the history of the BlackLAN and insights into the experiences of black landscape architects to date. The second panel, “Emerging Professionals,” included a dialogue about professional opportunities, challenges and opportunities as black landscape architects.

Mentor Professional Panel

Austin Allen, ASLA, Moderator	Professor of Practice, University of Texas Arlington, School of Architecture (CAPPA)
Charles Cross, ASLA	Director of LA at the Detroit Collaborative Design Center and Adjunct Professor, Detroit, MI
Karen Phillips, FASLA	Vice President – Director of Sustainability at New York State Homes and Community Renewal, New York, NY
Glenn LaRue Smith, ASLA	Founder and Principal, PUSH studio, LLC, Washington, DC and Administrator, Black Landscape Architects Network (BlackLAN)

Emerging Professionals Panel

Andrew Sargeant, ASLA	LA Designer, Lion Heart Places, Austin, TX
Whitney Barr, SASLA	Graduate Landscape Architecture Student, University of Georgia, Athens, GA
Monique Bassey, ASLA	LA Designer, SmithGroup, San Francisco, CA
Kene Okigbo, ASLA	LA Designer, RDG Planning & Design, Omaha, NE
Breeze Outlaw, ASLA	LA Designer, Sasaki Associates, Watertown, MA



Emerging Professionals Panel

2018 BlackLAN Luncheon

September 23, 2018

Philadelphia National ASLA Conference on Landscape Architecture

BlackLAN Administrator Glenn LaRue Smith organized this luncheon in 2018 as the first formally organized activity of the network. Although the function was housed off site from the conference, the luncheon was attended by 30 black landscape architects. After introductions of all attendees, the luncheon included lively dialogue and networking by students and professionals.



Top: Stacy Martines, Elizabeth Kennedy and Brieanna Robles;
 Bottom BlackLAN Members getting to know each other



Zoom Happy Hour

April 30, 2020

BlackLAN Discussion

The Black Landscape Architects Network held its first Zoom Happy Hour in response to the Covid-19 crisis in the United States. Moderated by Marc Miller and Glenn LaRue Smith, the ninety minute session centered around how black landscape architects were responding to and affected by the Covid-19 crisis. Hosted virtually by ASLA National, forty members of BlackLAN participated in the session. This was the first in a series of Zoom Discussions and Webinars planned for the future.



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|----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 01 Andrew Sargeant | 16 Glenn Smith | 31 Samantha Solano |
| 02 Anjelyque Easley | 17 Ivy Henderson | 32 Samira Damiscar |
| 03 Anthony Jefferson | 18 Juwan McIntyre | 33 Stephanie Onwenu |
| 04 Austin Allen | 19 Karen Phillips | 34 Stephen Carter |
| 05 Ayana Belk | 20 Katina Wright | 35 Taylor Davis |
| 06 Breeze Outlaw | 21 Kendra Hyson | 36 Ujijji Davis |
| 07 Cacena Campbell | 22 Kene Okigbo | 37 Vincent Agoe |
| 08 Charles Cross | 23 Kevin Jeffery | 38 Ujijji Davis |
| 09 CL Bohannon | 24 Kofi Boone | 39 Whitney Barr |
| 10 Cynthia Jacobs | 25 Kene Okigbo, ASLA | 40 Zara Brown |
| 11 Darneka Waters | 26 Kristopher Pritchard | |
| 12 Diane Allen | 27 Maisie Hughes | |
| 13 Drew Yelverton | 28 Marc Miller | |
| 14 Elizabeth Kennedy | 29 Nola Talmage | |
| 15 Gathoni Waigwa | 30 Ramon Murray | |



Coordinate

Nature Walk Workshop

Reach out to network members & plan something great

On October 21st 2018, in coordination between an University of Texas - Austin landscape design studio run by Sara Zewde held an in the field workshop with community members and Design Jones landscape architecture firm in New Orleans, Austin Allen and Diane Jones Allen - Principals . In the studio, students used the concepts of Monuments, Movements, and the Mississippi River to prescribe a system of intervention that hosts new commemorative landscapes with new narratives, as well as for addressing the embedded historical legacies in the city that manifest themselves in the contemporary city Ecologies of Memory in the City of New Orleans.

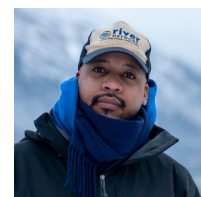


Newsletter Production Team -



Co-Guest Editor: Glenn LaRue Smith, ASLA

Founder and Principal of PUSH studio, LLC in Washington, DC, Glenn has a forty year career in landscape architecture and urban design. He established the Black Landscape Architects Network in 2012. He is the first Guest Editor of the BlackLAN Newsletter and Administrator of the BlackLAN LinkedIn site.



Co-Guest Editor: Kevin Jeffery

A Texas native, he obtained a marketing bachelor's degree in 2008 from University of Texas at Arlington. After living in Washington, DC and working for 7 years on environmental water management, he received a MLA from the University of Texas, Austin in 2019. Kevin is now an urban designer and landscape designer with MRV Architects in Juneau, AK. Kevin is the designer of the BlackLAN Newsletter and its first Co-Editor.

About us -

Black Landscape Architecture professionals and students from around the world networking to promote opportunities, highlight accomplishments, and mentor students. The Group is open to International professionals and students of African ancestry who are educated and work in areas of the landscape architecture profession. The BlackLAN was established as a LinkedIn communication platform in 2012.

How to Join: If you meet the criteria above:

- Establish a LinkedIn account
- Connect with Glenn LaRue Smith or Kofi Boone to join
- An Invite will be sent to you after connecting

