Natural Design as Landscape Art: Innovation with Roots in the Past

While Natural Design requires an understanding of the plants and processes of our native landscape, it need not exclude the artistic accomplishments of other design styles. In this conference we will explore, through a series of in-depth lectures, case studies and panel discussions, ways to combine ecology and design to create gardens that relate to our indigenous landscape and attain a high level of artistic accomplishment.

Developed by: New Directions in the American Landscape

Co-sponsors/Locations/Dates
The Nichols Arboretum of the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI — Wednesday, February 14, 1996
The Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden, Cincinnati, OH — Saturday, February 17, 1996
The Holden Arboretum, Kirtland, OH — Thursday, February 22, 1996
The Morton Arboretum, Lisle, IL — Saturday, March 2, 1996
Natural Design as Landscape Art
INNOVATION WITH ROOTS IN THE PAST

Jens Jensen and Beyond

Robert E. Grese (University of Michigan and Cincinnati Zoo only)
Stephen McCarthy (Morton and Holden Arboretum only)

An examination of the work and continuing influence of the founder of Natural Design.

Art and Nature in The Residential Landscape

Larry Weaner

This presentation will explore an inclusive design approach incorporating the visual and ecological qualities of the native American landscape with relevant artistic elements of such diverse landscape styles as the Japanese Garden and the English Perennial Border.

Followed by a Panel Discussion including all lecturers

Sears Prairie Stone: Restoration, Design and Transition

Jim Patchett

Mr. Patchett, who served as a lead architect on this innovative landscape, will offer a detailed look at the techniques employed to incorporate nature into a designed framework on this and other projects, including landscapes at AT&T and Tellabs.

Followed by a Panel Discussion including all lecturers

Not Born Yesterday: Mature Native Landscapes

A representative from each location will present a vintage native landscape yielding valuable insight into how the passage of time can affect your work.

David B. Ehrlinger (Cincinnati Zoo only)
The Native Garden at the Passenger Pigeon Memorial
Craig Johnson (Morton Arboretum only)
The Schulenberg Prairie
Brian Parsons (Holden Arboretum only)
The Myrtle S. Holden Wildflower Garden
Dr. Harrison L. Morton (Nichols Arboretum only)
The Nichols Arboretum Design of O.C. Simonds

Marketing Natural Design

Larry Weaner and Jim Patchett

This presentation will explore ways to expand your client base by complementing artful native design with an effective marketing and client communication strategy.

Speaker Profiles

David B. Ehrlinger is Director of Horticulture at the Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden where he directs the design and maintenance of its diverse, naturalistic landscape. He is also author of The Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden: From Past to Present.

Robert E. Grese is an associate professor of Landscape Architecture at the School of Natural Resources at the University of Michigan. He is also the author of Jens Jensen: Maker of Natural Parks and Gardens.

Craig Johnson is the Director of Education at the Morton Arboretum in Lisle, IL, where he has been heavily involved in the management of the Schulenberg Prairie.

Stephen McCarthy is the Development and Natural Resource Manager of the Lake County Forest Preserve District, Libertyville, IL, where many of the design techniques of Jens Jensen have been put into affect.

Dr. Harrison L. Morton is the Associate Dean of the School of Natural Resources and Environment at the University of Michigan and the Director of the Nichols Arboretum in Ann Arbor, MI.

Brian Parsons is the Natural Areas Coordinator at the Holden Arboretum, Kirtland, OH, where he manages over 2,500 acres of natural areas. He also designed and manages the Myrtle S. Holden Wildflower Garden.

Jim Patchett is a landscape architect and Principal of Conservation Design Forum, Inc., Naperville, IL. During his association with the firm of Johnson, Johnson and Roy (JJR), he served as a lead architect for numerous corporate and institutional landscapes including those for Sears and Rosbuck Co., AT&T, and Tellabs.

Larry Weaner is principal of Larry Weaner Landscape Design, Erdenheim, PA, a residential design/build firm. He is also an instructor at the Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania and chairs the Environmental Committee of the Association of Professional Landscape Designers.

FEE PER PERSON: $119.00, includes breakfast, presentations, lunch and informational handouts
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