Undoubtedly, the onset of the global COVID-19 pandemic has transformed our perceived definition of “normal” for better and for worse. In what felt like an instant, our friends, locales, and occupations were suddenly out of reach. Access to technology, and other necessities were vested with an elevated sense of importance as was access to our immediate natural environment, new and renewed creative outlets, and feelings of social connection.

Weighed down by the pressures of mandatory confinement, our perspectives and relationships were reduced to a hyperlocal scale. What were once thought of as “single-use” spaces were reimagined and repurposed to accommodate new activities. Our homes became offices, our streets became plazas, our parks became gyms, and our neighborhoods became an oasis for adventure and social interaction.

By late July, as economies shifted to reopen, communities began to return to their sense of normal with many asking the question:

“does our sense of normal need to be re:(defined/mapped/designed/purposed)?”
call for speakers + field sessions

2021 TEXAS ASLA ANNUAL CONFERENCE
Galveston Island Convention Center
5600 Seawall Blvd, Galveston, TX 77554
April 28 - 30, 2021

The Texas ASLA Conference Speaker Committee is seeking proposals for speakers and field sessions for the Texas ASLA Annual Conference to be held April 28-30, 2021 in Galveston, TX.

Texas ASLA is looking for speakers to challenge the perception of “normal” within the profession and how landscape architects can best reply to recent events on the professional, natural, and virtual landscape. This year, suggested tracts include (but are not limited to):

PROFESSIONAL LANDSCAPE
Remote Work, Protocol, Resources, Finances, Business Development, Marketing

VIRTUAL LANDSCAPE
New/Renewed Technology, Collaboration, Communication, Production

NATURAL LANDSCAPE
Access/Equity, Design Adaptations, Lure, Purpose, Use, Inspiration

The Texas ASLA Conference Planning Committee is offering ASLA members and other professionals the opportunity to submit a written proposal for an oral presentation with graphics and field sessions. Proposals will be selected for continuing education session presentations with the goal of educating fellow professionals on topics such as health, safety, and/or welfare, information critical or inspiring to the profession, and topics relevant to L.A. licensure requirements.

There is the potential for a limited number of field sessions to occur outside of the convention center in the form of historical walking tours, outdoor lectures, or visits to local sites. The committee will consider the feasibility of proposed field sessions within the time limits of the conference.

DEADLINE:
Speaker and Field Session Applications must be received by September 25, 2020 to be considered by the speaker committee.

DETAILS:
Proposals shall be accepted for 50-minute presentations (oral with graphics) and field sessions for the Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday educational sessions. Based upon subjects received, speakers may also be asked to participate in a panel discussion. Presentations should be geared toward obtaining Texas Landscape Architectural Continuing Education Units for attendees, but it is not required to be considered. Selected speakers must send a biography and professional photo by: November 1, 2020.

SUBMISSIONS:
All speaker and field session applications for the 2021 Texas ASLA annual conference shall be submitted via the online application.

QUESTIONS:
SARAH DELCAMBRE
CONFERENCE CO-CHAIR
sdelcambre@designworkshop.com

PETER CALDWELL,
CONFERENCE CO-CHAIR
peter@asakurarobinson.com

MORE INFORMATION ON FOLLOWING PAGE
BENEFITS:
Speakers who are active members of the Texas ASLA chapter will receive a 50% discount on registration and one ticket to the annual awards recognition session if requested. Additionally, as necessary, reimbursement of reasonable expenses would be considered up to $300.00. Hotel accommodations will be offered by the conference committee to selected presenters traveling from out-of-town. Speakers traveling within a 90 mile radius will not be eligible for hotel reimbursement. Qualifying speakers are required to make their own hotel accommodations at the conference hotel.

There is the potential for a limited number of field sessions to occur outside of the convention center in the form of historical walking tours, outdoor lectures, or visits to local sites.

CONSIDERATIONS:
Presentations may be selected for a webinar to be presented in 2021 if not selected for the April conference.

DEADLINE:
Speaker and Field Session Applications must be received by September 25, 2020 to be considered by the speaker committee.

SUBMISSIONS:
All speaker and field session applications for the 2021 Texas ASLA annual conference shall be submitted via the online application form.