

August 26, 2004

Ms. Susan Jacobson, FASLA
American Society of Landscape Architects
636 Eye Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001

Re: Nomination of Barbara A King, President, Landscape Structures Inc. for Honorary Member

Dear Ms. Jacobson,

On behalf of the Minnesota Chapter, I proudly nominate Barbara King, president of Landscape Structures, as an Honorary Member of the American Society of Landscape Architects.

Barbara King is the co-founder with her husband, Steven G. King, FASLA, of Landscape Structures Inc, headquartered in Delano, Minnesota. She is the president and is responsible for its financial, sales and marketing and general operations. Landscape Structures, founded in 1971, is one of the leading play equipment manufacturers in the world, employing more than 350 people who produce the company's products within 350,000-plus square feet of manufacturing and distribution space. A network of more than 45 independent representative organizations around the world markets the company's playground equipment. The company developed the continuous play concept, now an industry standard, in the late 1960's and has continued its leadership in innovation, introducing many original products every year.

Ms. King's work as a businesswoman has garnered numerous awards. In 1992, Ernst & Young, *Inc. Magazine*, and the law firm of Gray Plant Mooty named Ms. King Minnesota's Entrepreneur of the Year and she was also recognized with a national honorable mention in the manufacturing category. As a result of this award, Ms. King was inducted into the National Institute of Entrepreneurs. Also, that year she earned the Athena Award for the outstanding businesswoman of the year from the Delano Chamber of Commerce and General Motors. The next year she was selected by the Small Business Administration as the *Small Business Person of the Year* for the Midwest region and, in 2000, was selected as *Business Owner of the Year* for the Minnesota chapter of the National Association of Women Business Owners.

She's currently a trustee on the board of directors for the Northwestern Mutual Life Company and in the past served in a variety of board capacities with other organizations: the National Association of Women Business Owners, the Delano Chamber of Commerce, the Delano Economic Development Commission, the Minneapolis Community College, the Minnesota Safety Council, the Minnesota 100 Mentoring Program for Women in Business and the Volunteers of America--Minnesota.

Always an advocate for landscape architects, she says they are "the salt of the earth and unsung heroes; they literally change the way we look at the world." She has a great understanding for and appreciation of the profession of landscape architecture. Ms. King uses this knowledge and enhances the value of the company and its products to landscape architects as evidenced by superb reputation the company has in the profession.

As president of Landscape Structures, Ms. King advocates a strong presence in ASLA, ensuring the company remains visible to the profession through its participation with ASLA. The company advertises in *Landscape Architecture Magazine* and has participated in the EXPO for more than 25 years. This year, Ms. King and her husband are presenters of an educational session at the 2004 annual meeting. Landscape Structures also participates with the profession beyond its involvement with ASLA. One of the initiatives Landscape Structures has sponsored is a playground design competition for landscape architects. As a 1968 graduate of Iowa State

University, Ms. King personally sponsors a yearly scholarship there for a landscape architect student showing initiative as an entrepreneur.

Ms. King has been a member of the Landscape Architecture Foundation for the past several years and currently serves as a member of its executive committee. She is a strong supporter personally of the Foundation, donating her time and talents through committee work and other activities. Landscape Structures has financially supported the Landscape Architecture Foundation for several years and this year contributed at the patron level for The American Landscape Fund.

All of Ms. King's work on behalf of landscape architecture, ASLA, and LAF certainly qualify her as a recipient of this honor.

Sincerely,

Jim Hagstrom, ASLA
Trustee, Minnesota Chapter



LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE FOUNDATION

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August 27, 2004

ASLA Board of Trustees
c/o ASLA
636 Eye Street NW
Washington, DC 20001

RE: Letter of Support for the Nomination of Barbara King for ASLA Honorary Member

Dear ASLA Officers and Trustees:

I am writing on behalf of the board of directors of the Landscape Architecture Foundation to express our wholehearted support for the nomination of Barbara King to Honorary Membership in the American Society of Landscape Architects.

In 1971, Chairman Steve King, FASLA, and President Barbara King co-founded Landscape Structures, Inc., a Delano, Minnesota manufacturer of playground equipment which has since grown to 300 employees and sales approaching \$100 million.

Steve King is the originator of the "continuous play" concept, which involves combining traditional playground equipment, such as slides, ladders and climbing equipment, into an endless stream of activities that stimulate a child's physical, social and intellectual capabilities. Under Steve and Barbara's leadership, Landscape Structures has continued to develop the continuous play concept, now an industry standard. It has also continued its leadership in innovation, introducing many original products every year, including the recently introduced SkateWave, a modular skate-park system of ramps and rails for skateboarders.

One of the leading playground equipment manufacturers in the world, the company has designed, manufactured and installed more than 50,000 playgrounds worldwide. While its original equipment was manufactured of wood, Landscape Structures has also developed products using recycled or reclaimed industrial and post-consumer waste, such as recycled milk jugs, aluminum cans and tires.

In her role as president of Landscape Structures, Barbara has been responsible for financial, sales, marketing, operations and administrative management. In that role, she has been an active force in making Landscape Structures one of the market leaders that it is today, complementing the company's signature innovation with business and management acumen. This is attested by the numerous awards recognizing Barbara's business skills and entrepreneurship. Examples include her selection as the Small Business Administration's "Small Business Person of the Year" in 1994 for the six-state Midwest region and her presence on many regional boards.

In addition to providing the profession with valuable products and design innovation, Landscape Structures has supported the profession through sponsorships and philanthropy. The company has been one of the largest exhibitors at the ASLA annual meeting for many years, and this year has become the largest single sponsor in ASLA's recent history.

Landscape Structures will be a sponsor of the October 2004 LAF 19th Annual Benefit Dinner, the *Stargazer Gala*, as they were for last year's *Moonlight Masquerade*.

Landscape Structures is also supporting the profession through LAF with an annual leadership gift at the Patron level this year. This follows five year's of support to the *Second Century Endowment* at the Second Century level (\$100,000). One of only nine firms/companies to offer such a significant level of support, the company was also one of the first to pledge to the *Second Century Campaign*, giving it a considerable boost at a critical point in its launch.

Barbara has served on the LAF board of directors since 2002, and is currently the vice president of communication on the LAF executive committee, charged with helping to shape a fledging communication program into a more comprehensive outreach effort.

According to Steve and Barbara, "Our support for LAF is our way of thanking the profession and an opportunity for us to play a leadership role in the industry."

Both Steve and Barbara have demonstrated a lifelong commitment to the profession and industry. On behalf of the board of directors of LAF, it is a pleasure to be given the opportunity to support the nomination of Barbara King for Honorary Member of ASLA.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Susan Everett", followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

Susan Everett, FASLA,
Executive Director



M E M O R A N D U M

ASLA Board of Trustees
636 Eye Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001

Re: Letter of Support for Barbara King

I am writing to support the nomination of Barbara King as an honorary member of ASLA. I have known Barbara for fifteen years, first as a supplier of manufactured play equipment, then as a Landscape Architecture Foundation (LAF) contributor, board member and friend. Her work through her company, Landscape Structures, has supported the field of landscape architecture through excellent product design and manufacturing, educational seminars and publications, professional design support for playground layout, design awards for excellence in playground design, as well as generous financial support to the LAF.

In addition to her continued contribution through Landscape Structures, Barbara is personally committed to environmental restoration, conservation and education. This is demonstrated by her provision of scholarships to the program at the University of Iowa, as well as the restoration of an extensive Wisconsin prairie landscape from farmland at her home.

Barbara has the heart of a landscape architect and runs a successful business that has supported our work for many years. It is with this in mind, that I support her nomination as an honorary member of the ASLA.

Susan Goltsman, FASLA
President

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August 27, 2004

ASLA Honorary Member Selection Committee
American Society of Landscape Architects
636 Eye Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001

ASLA Honorary Member Selection Committee:

I am pleased to nominate Barbara King as an honorary member of the American Society of Landscape Architects. Ms. King is both an innovator and an entrepreneur. With husband Steven King she has fashioned and directed one of the most successful children's play equipment companies in the world. She has a passion for education and a commitment to supporting innovation and entrepreneurship. We – as landscape architects – enhance our ranks with the inclusion of Barbara King through honorary membership.

From the early days as a “basement operation” undertaken by two individuals with vision and guile, Landscape Structures has grown into a corporation of immense importance in the world of recreation. Although educated in home economics, not landscape architecture like her husband, Steve, Ms. King has been keenly aware of the importance of the discipline and profession of landscape architecture in American Society. The King's leadership of children's play area safety is internationally recognized. While Steve is known for his design and engineering talents, Barbara is known for her business acumen. Today, Ms. King is also recognized for her mentorship of women in business and entrepreneurial activities.

Several years ago Ms. King endowed an amazing scholarship in our department to support innovation and entrepreneurship. While there is preference for women, four scholarships are available annually to support upper level undergraduate and graduate students who undertake their “dream project.” Barbara's desire was to challenge students to be “free and creative” and the students have accepted the challenge. One student developed a web site to assist contractors in the green industry. She has since sold her company and now works for another computer company that provides software to landscape architects. Another student studied and designed underwater trails; he hopes to start a design firm that specializes in underwater design. Other student projects have focused on minority designers, local food systems, aerial photography using model airplanes and the collaboration of European landscape architects, engineers and artists.

Barbara King is a talented businesswoman, who is an advocate for landscape architecture and innovation in design and entrepreneurial enterprises. She will be a proud honorary member of the American Society of Landscape Architects and we will be proud to have a person of her stature in our ranks.

Sincerely yours,



J. Timothy Keller, FASLA
Professor and Chair

**SANDERS
WACKER
BERGLY,
INC.**



**LANDSCAPE
ARCHITECTS
AND
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August 19, 2004

ASLA Board of Trustees
636 Eye Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001

To Whom it May Concern:

It is a great pleasure for me to write this letter in support of the nomination of Barbara King as an honorary member of the American Society of Landscape Architects.

Barbara King has been a strong supporter of the profession of Landscape Architecture for all of the more than thirty years that I have known her. Her advocacy for good design in children's play areas, parks and other public spaces has had an impact on the quality of life for people throughout the world.

Barbara's support for the profession through the American Society of Landscape Architects – ASLA, and the Landscape Architecture Foundation – LAF, strengthen our organization and benefit our membership. Her commitment to landscape architectural education has made it possible for many highly skilled students to enter our profession.

Congratulations to Barbara King for her outstanding achievements!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William D. Sanders". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

William D. Sanders FASLA
President

