

February 12, 2024

ASLA Medal Nominations
c/o Honors and Awards Committee
636 Eye Street NW
Washington, DC 20001-3736

ASLA Medal Nomination of Perry Howard, FASLA

Dear ASLA Executive Committee and Board of Trustees:


Perry Howard's impact on the profession of landscape architecture is profound. Throughout his career, Perry broke barriers to diversify our profession and created opportunities for others to see themselves succeeding as landscape architects. Perry is our first Black national ASLA President. He has educated generations of students at the prestigious North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University (NC A&T), the only undergraduate landscape architecture program at an Historically Black College and University (HBCU) in the United States. Many of his students were the first in their family to attend college. He nurtured emerging professionals by reaching back to help others find meaning and purpose in the profession of landscape architecture through his lifelong mentorship beyond the classroom. Perry's leadership in forming the coalition that became the Black Landscape Architects Network and his vision in establishing the ASLA diversity summit initiative created connections and openings for minority landscape architects to share experiences, shape policy, and gain leadership skills. The strength of his soft-spoken and thoughtful demeanor, accompanied by his joy and passion for our profession and dedication to nurturing students and young leaders is central to his significant legacy.

During his over forty-year career, Perry has always been a catalyst for excellence. Starting as a young designer with EDSA in Florida in the 1970s, he became their youngest partner ever and tackled high profile national and international projects for many years. The true calling of his work life, however, was taking the fledgling undergraduate landscape architecture program within the Department of Natural Resources & Environmental Design at NC A&T and developing it into the first accredited undergraduate program at an HBCU. This stellar achievement opened opportunities and created a space for Black students to thrive under Perry's guidance. Over the past thirty years, the program Perry built has taught and mentored hundreds of Black landscape architecture students.


Perry's leadership and service with ASLA and other affiliated organizations was a constant in his career. His philosophy as ASLA President was "Each one, reach one," which was meant to challenge members to accept our role in growing the profession. He repeatedly made himself available, understanding that his visibility and willingness to engage others opened landscape architecture to scores of new students, many representing underrepresented populations. He played an important role in outreach to the Chinese landscape architecture profession and his desire to serve and promote excellence in the profession can be seen in his academic outreach in Ghana and collaboration with the International Federation of Landscape Architects (IFLA).

Perry served tirelessly to promote the practice of landscape architecture, whether through guiding student projects in the community, grading LARE exams, or serving on the North Carolina Board of Landscape Architecture. His devotion to the profession led him to serve on the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture Board, the ASLA's Education Committee, and as North Carolina Chapter Trustee.

Perry Howard clearly has achieved a lifetime of positive and meaningful impact on the profession and occupies a unique place in our community of landscape architects as a practitioner, professor, and mentor to several generations of students. We, as fellow Past Presidents, are among the legion of folks who worked with and have learned from Perry Howard, and we are honored to have him as a colleague and friend. It is with great enthusiasm that we strongly support the ASLA Medal nomination of Perry Howard.


Wendy Miller, FASLA
ASLA President 2019-2020


Gary Scott, FASLA
ASLA President 2009-2010


Rodney Swink, FASLA
ASLA President 2001-2002

ASLA Medal Nomination for Perry Howard, FASLA

Professional Practice and Teaching

Perry Howard is a trailblazer in the profession of landscape architecture with a multitude of noteworthy achievements in his years of practice and his decades of teaching and leading the landscape architecture program at North Carolina Agriculture and Technical State University (NCA&T). Perry, a native of New Orleans, was a standout LSU student when he joined EDSA, a large, diverse firm practicing in Florida, as an Associate in 1977. Recognizing his talents and vision for community engaged design, EDSA encouraged Perry to pursue his graduate degree at Harvard. Returning to EDSA with strong connections to landscape architecture research and leadership, he rose to serve as Vice President when he left the firm in 1989. Always active in his community, Perry introduced landscape architecture to civic leaders by serving on the Buena Vista Neighborhood Association, the Miami Heritage Conservation Board, and as a participant in the Fort Lauderdale Sistrunk Neighborhood charrette. His work in the firm gave him exposure to international practice with hotel and resort planning in St Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands, Saudi Arabia, and Venezuela, South America, as well as Perry's work designing large parks, new communities, and significant municipal projects such as the Miami International Airport site improvements and the West Palm Beach downtown district revitalization project. The wide range of work was critical as Perry transitioned his career from private practice to academia.

Perry's teaching is where he has had the most profound impact. The importance of the Landscape Architecture program at NCA&T and Perry Howard's direct service to the profession is most evident when looking at the Black student enrollment in university landscape architecture programs across the nation. The number of Black students is well below the national student demographic averages and the number of full-time Black professors in more than ninety accredited educational programs is shockingly low. Knowing the statistics and challenges for recruitment of Black students, Perry was the vanguard who instituted change under the mentorship of Dr. Charles Fountain, the first program chair at NC A&T.

In the 1980's, Dr. Fountain tracked the professional development of African Americans with graduate degrees in landscape architecture with the goal of identifying potential teachers and, more importantly, future Program heads. For the latter, his primary criteria included: professional practice with a diversified multidisciplinary firm with extensive national and international practice, extensive contacts with governmental and private practitioners, interest in bringing the benefits of landscape architecture to African American communities, increasing the number of African Americans in the profession and their full participation in mainstream practice, exploratory practice, graduate studies and, research. Dr. Fountain's efforts were richly rewarded in the selection of Perry Howard to continue his work at NCA&T. Perry brought new energy and commitment to promoting the profession of landscape architecture to Black high school students. Many times over the years, Perry would recruit students much like a coach, sitting in the living room of prospective students and discussing the benefits of a career in landscape architecture with their parents.

And North Carolina benefited as well. With his professional skills and broad contacts, his clear focus, and his commitment to the challenge, Perry Howard was able to guide the NC A&T landscape architecture program to accreditation, the first such program at a historically Black college or

university. Perry's energy and involvement made the NCA&T program a model for others, and he was generous in sharing his experiences with the faculty at numerous other colleges who are exploring this profession for their campuses. In 1993, Perry hosted a meeting of Black landscape architects at NC A&T and in 1994, held the first African American Landscape Symposium to celebrate NC A&T's initial accreditation. Perry brought new attention to NCA&T, to the state, and to our profession and he grew a program that attracted both young North Carolinians as well as students from across the country.

Perry also continued his commitment to showcasing landscape architecture through community engagement and research. Perry participated in many NCASLA and NC Main Street Program charrettes, efforts that helped advance the community's agenda while bringing exposure to NCA&T as an important educational resource. He never declined an opportunity to help and to provide his students with real world experience in community engagement.

Furthering his goals of encouraging research and exploration of multidisciplinary design during his time at NC A&T, Perry secured research and architecture grants from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) for student collaboration and engagement with federal research programs and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) for the Enhancing Recruitment, Retention and Graduation Rates in a National Accredited Landscape Architecture Program. The NASA Goddard Research Fellowship is part of the Earth Observing Systems (EOS) program which enables an improved understanding of the Earth as an integrated system and expands access to remote sensing data for the students.

Perry's influence on increasing diversity and international practice and education was profound. Beyond the scope of academics and with his extensive background in hotels and resorts planning and design, Perry Howard was an immediate choice to serve on the Kakum National Park Charette in Ghana. And, in his position as a professor of Landscape Architecture at an historically Black University, Perry was invaluable in giving ongoing assistance to the new landscape architecture program in Kumasi, Ghana. Through his affiliation with the International Federation of Landscape Architects (IFLA), Perry was invited to serve as a keynote speaker at Peking University's international conference on landscape architecture in Beijing, China and in 2007 as jury chair for a design competition in Shenzhen, China. In 2008, Perry spoke at the first IFLA Middle East/Africa conference in Dubai, UAE. His contribution as both a practicing professional and academic is truly international and cross cultural.

Although Perry retired his position as Professor and Chair at NC A&T in 2014, he continues to be a touchstone for the program's faculty and students through mentorship and research collaborations. In 2019, Perry returned from retirement to teach and to invigorate and manage the program while conducting a search to hire a new program chair.

Service to ASLA and the Profession

Despite the demands on his time of running NC A&T's undergraduate program, Perry served in numerous roles with the Florida and North Carolina ASLA Chapters over his career. He was active in the Broward Section and served as Florida ASLA Secretary. His roles in the North Carolina Chapter ranged from serving on long range and strategic planning committees to becoming NCASLA Trustee

to serving in 2006 as Chapter President. Perry faithfully participated in Chapter events state-wide, lectured at annual conferences, and provided expertise for community charrettes.

His involvement in allied organizations was extensive. Perry served CLARB through his volunteer work as a member of the Subject Matter Expert Committee for the new Landscape Architecture Registration Examination (L.A.R.E.) and as a member of the Examination Writing Committee. As Regional Director of the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture (CELA), and working with ASLA and its chapters, the ASLA Board of Trustees, and the ASLA Education Committee, Perry was passionate about moving forward together to improve curriculum and educational standards. His expansive view of the profession was important in his work with the ASLA Council on Education where through his leadership, ASLA Trustees became reengaged in discussions about the importance of education and STEM designation to our profession as well as the mutual responsibilities we have for developing the future of landscape architecture.

In 1994, Governor Hunt appointed Perry to a four-year term on the North Carolina Board of Landscape Architects where he oversaw licensure duties and approvals of Continuing Education Credit criteria and coursework. On these and other committees and boards, Perry brought a wider view and new understanding to these organizations of the challenges faced by underrepresented populations. In 2003, he was elected secretary to the Council of Fellows for the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) and worked to develop scholarship opportunities for disadvantaged students.

In 2008, Perry was elected ASLA President and is the first African American to have served in this position. He gave generously of his time and energy to move forward licensure initiatives for all 50 states as well as famously encouraging ASLA members to expand their influence and networks through the motto “Each one reach one.” As a profession, it was clear to Perry that we needed to address the African American membership in ASLA to reflect the population and the communities we serve. Perry has been a part of the outreach over the past several years through the annual Diversity Summit held in Washington, DC at the Center for Landscape Architecture to engage with minority emerging professionals. In 2019, ASLA convened a Diversity Super Summit with the goal of developing a deeper understanding of why landscape architecture is failing to attract a more diverse membership profile. Each summit has brought together a group of experienced and emerging landscape architects who identify as African American or Latinx to design strategies to address issues of diversity, equity and inclusion in the field. At the Super Summit, previous attendees were brought back and Perry served as Summit Facilitator sharing a wealth of knowledge and displaying his expert leadership in helping to guide a strategic plan for supporting minority students in academic programs.

Always prepared to serve ASLA, Perry’s most recent role was as a member of the 2021 Professional Awards Jury.

Leadership and Mentorship

Perry is an ardent advocate for expanding landscape architecture opportunities and his leadership is based upon a genuine belief in the importance of landscape architecture and its relevance to our communities. His work with EDSA, NC A&T, and through many leadership roles at allied

organizations, has sowed the seeds for expanding the professional opportunities of his students and Black emerging professionals.

In the 1970s, Perry was convening informal gatherings of Black landscape architects to provide networking opportunities and mentorship. In September of 1990, Perry was featured in a profile of six Black landscape architecture educators in Landscape Architecture Magazine. The groundbreaking article titled, "Academic Assemblage" was a long overdue representation of Black landscape architecture educators that resonated with students and practitioners. And, by hosting the 1995 African-American Symposium NCA&T with Dr. Maya Angelou as keynote speaker, Perry introduced his students and the public to the wider cultural contributions and influences of Black artists and designers. At NCA&T, he hosted numerous events to bring Black practitioners together to build their own network and to reinforce the importance of their work. Those efforts over the years to continue supporting colleagues and young professionals have borne fruit with the establishment of the Black Landscape Architects Network (BlackLAN). BlackLAN is now a non-profit organization that provides webinars, resources, research and an annual gathering at the ASLA conference. The foundation Perry helped build is now the base that new and emerging Black professionals stand upon as they seek to continue to advance landscape architecture.

Landscape Architects without Borders (LWOB) was a project launched by Perry when he was the ASLA delegate to the International Federation of Landscape Architects (IFLA) which led to a workshop held at the IFLA World Council meeting in 2010. The workshop participants were asked to consider the cases of natural disaster such as earthquakes and tsunamis and the possible role of landscape architects in the recovery efforts. The improvement of awareness of the capacities of landscape architects and how aid agencies and decisionmakers would use their skills was explored as well as assistance with special projects within developing countries or disadvantaged communities. Based on Perry's workshop, IFLA recommended forming a task force to further investigate need, resources, modes of delivery, promotion, partnering, financial considerations and liability concerns.

Perry's quiet and unswerving work over the past forty years has brought about the change he envisioned.

Selected Honors and Recognition

Perry has been the recipient of many awards and honors over his career in recognition of his teaching and service to the profession.

ASLA Presidents Medal in 2012

Recognized and interviewed for the oral history project - The History Makers in 2012

School of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences Teacher of the Year Award from North Carolina A&T in 2003

Harvard Graduate School of Design's Top 100 Distinguished Alumni in 2000.

ASLA North Carolina Chapter President's Award in 1998.

Elevated to the ASLA Council of Fellows in 1995



February 4, 2024

ASLA Medal Nominations
c/o Honors and Awards
636 Eye Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001-3736

Dear Executive Committee and Board of Trustees:

On behalf of EDSA, it is my honor to submit this letter of endorsement for Perry Howard, FASLA to receive the ASLA Medal. His contributions to our profession are numerous and exemplary. Perry's legacy continues to have a profound impact on the profession especially for People of Color. As one of the most talented African American Landscape Architects, Perry has always been quietly inspirational to the profession and the world. He is not the type of person to boast or show off his achievements. It is this personal character trait that allows him to be approachable and genuine. Perry transcends race or color as a person who truly cares for humanity and the environment by promoting positive change with humility. We fully support Perry's nomination due to his ability to demonstrate that solid ethics, hard work and perseverance result in meaningful transformations in design and lasting friendships.

I originally met Perry when he was invited to join Edward D. Stone, Jr. & Associates (EDSA) as an intern in 1973 from Louisiana State University (LSU). Perry was included in our Design Studio and over the next several years we worked side-by-side on numerous projects. He had completed his studies in Landscape Architecture with Dr. Robert S. Reich, one of Ed Stone's friends. Dr. Reich, also simply known as "Doc," was incredibly supportive of the LSU students and active in helping them secure employment with reputable firms. In the early 1970's, the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) highlighted the need for more African American Landscape Architects in the profession. Only about 8 professionals existed at that time. LSU hosted an ASLA Committee with a mission to expose African American students to the discipline including Doc, Ed Stone and Dr. Charles Allen Fountain, founding member of North Carolina A&T's Landscape Architecture program. It was discovered that one of the issues was funding, so they began promoting scholarships for African American students. The program introduced Perry to amazing landscape environments around the country and he met prominent Landscape Architects like Peter Walker, Thomas Church and Lawrence Halprin during the LSU West Coast trip.

Perry made a strong impression during his internship at EDSA because in 1975, Doc tapped him on his shoulder and told him he was hired permanently in EDSA's Fort Lauderdale, Florida office. After eighteen months, he was promoted to associate working on projects across the globe. Perry enjoyed the challenge and thrived in the setting. Perry always knew he wanted to expand upon his knowledge so when he decided to attend graduate school, Ed Stone introduced him to the department chair at Harvard University. The EDSA partners believed in Perry and established the EDSA Minority Scholarship to support his growth. Over the years the effort evolved into the EDSA Diversity Scholarship, an endowed scholarship that continues today under the stewardship of the EDSA partnership managed by the Landscape Architecture Foundation. Perry worked closely with Ed Stone, Joe Lalli and Bob Behling, sharing many lessons learned from these pioneers in the industry with young aspiring landscape architects. Even in retirement, he continues to "pay it forward" as they say.

Perry completed his graduate degree in 1982, returned to EDSA from 1983 to 1989 where he rose to the ranks of vice president culminating in his position to become program coordinator and chair of the landscape architecture program at North Carolina A&T (NC A&T) in Greensboro, NC in 1989. This is one of only two programs in Landscape Architecture at a Historically Black College and University (HBCU). Perry saw the ongoing need to improve opportunities for African

Americans to enter the profession and realized the best place to affect change was in academia. According to Perry, the HBCU had a decent undergraduate program in Landscape Architecture with room for improvement. At NC A&T, Perry transformed the program securing research and architecture grants, helping to gain the initial accreditation for NC A&T's landscape architecture program and introducing the profession to the program through visiting lectures and panels. He has won several academic awards and served multiple times as a keynote speaker. Perry was one of the Harvard University Graduate School of Design's Top 100 Distinguished Alumni in 2000 and he also received the NC A&T Teacher of the Year award in 2003.

Perry spent over 25 years at NC A&T developing young designers into Landscape Architects. Today, EDSA has expanded its relationship with the program through the Diversity in Design Partnership. The effort was created as an opportunity for firms to engage students with mentorships, internships, and scholarships. This is just one example of the foundation Perry established at NC A&T that is being fostered through the current program chair, W. Chris Harrison, and the Advisory Board.

Over the 50 years I have known Perry, it has been clear to me he is doing something right. Perry quickly became a mentor and advocate. Over our 25-year relationship, Perry has exemplified the essence of true leadership in the profession. Perry has received multiple awards from the State of North Carolina including the State ASLA Chapter President's Award in 1998. Also, he was appointed to the North Carolina Board of Landscape Architects. Perry served as a Member of the North Carolina Board of Landscape Architects from 1994-1998, Member of the Subject Matter Expert Committee for CLARB (Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards) from 1990-1991, Regional Director for CELA (Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture) from 1990-1992 and Research Fellow for the NASA Goddard Earth Observing Systems, (EOS) Program in 1990. Regarding ASLA National, Perry was elevated to Fellow of the Society in 1995 and served as ASLA President in 2008. Also, he has contributed to many ASLA juries and committees as well. All these accomplishments and yet he is consistently humble and graceful.

It is amazing to see Perry's influence within the profession and beyond since his introduction to practice 50 years ago at EDSA. This is Perry's legacy. He has contributed to something greater than himself including exposure to the profession for people who have been underserved for decades.

Perry is an amazing designer, teacher, listener, guide, and confidante. I consider Perry a colleague and a friend. He is also a committed leader in the profession. Perry Howard is most deserving of this honor as he exemplifies the purpose of the award to recognize lifetime achievements and contributions to the profession. His unique and lasting impact on the welfare of the public and the environment is clear. We are extremely fortunate that Perry chose Landscape Architecture as a profession. Bestowing this honor upon Perry will demonstrate the professions' commitment to excellence from a perspective of diversity towards design, learning and leadership.

Best regards,



J. Robert Behling, FASLA, PLA
Principal

February 2, 2024

To: ASLA Medal Nomination
 c/o Honors and Awards
 636 Eye Street, NW
 Washington, DC 20001-3736

Re: ASLA Medal Nominee: Perry Howard, FASLA

Dear Committee,

I strongly recommend Perry Howard for the 2024 ASLA Medal. His accomplishments in the Landscape Architecture profession extends over more than forty years, a testament to his passion as an educator and practitioner. Perry's evolution, impact and leadership within ASLA and the national stage is an important one. When ASLA has called upon him to participate he has always answered the call. He received the President's Award of the ASLA North Carolina Chapter 1998, on the way to becoming the first African American President of ASLA in 2008. He was later elected secretary to the Council of Fellows for the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA).

As a graduate of the program at North Carolina A&T State University, the first landscape program at an HBCU, I can attest to the rigor, leadership and vision it took for the program's founder Dr. Charles Fountain and later Perry Howard to run the program. Perry came to the rescue of a failing program in the late 1990's, and guided the ship to its current day status. With very little support like other national programs, Perry was able to utilize his academic and professional connections, along with new grant opportunities and resources to make the program viable, visible and sustainable. I value the hard work it took to keep the program afloat during some tough years, but Perry prevailed.

It is easy today for many to support Historically Black Colleges and Universities, creating internships, and embracing social justice issues. But without Perry and a few others, if the work was not put in back then, there would not be a population of Black landscape architects and designers today! The world is finally catching up. This is where Perry has had the greatest impact of the field. At a time when there was little focus on diversity and social justice issues in the field of Landscape Architecture, Perry was educating the next generation of black designers and thinkers. Perry made sure that the program was accredited for the first time, and created a context for young designers whose ambitions were to confront and take on social justice issues.

One of my graduate assistants at UC Berkeley, who worked with me on my early Oakland work, was hired and mentored by Perry Howard at NC A&T, in the late 1990's. Her thesis dealt with issues of gun violence and memorials in Black communities, and Perry saw the opportunity to bring these issues to the pedagogy of the program. She excelled as an instructor and researcher under Perry's tutelage and today she is the Head of the School and Dean of Architecture and the Built Environment, University of New Castle. I point out this story to illustrate Perry Howard's impact not only on his students but also on his faculty.

I strongly support Perry Howard for the 2024 ASLA Medal. His contributions to the profession and the society epitomizes the medal's purpose and I believe is long overdue for someone of his stature.

Sincerely
Walter Hood
David K Woo Chair
Department of Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning

February 2, 2024

RE: Letter of Endorsement for Perry Howard, FASLA

Dear Committee;

It is my honor to offer this letter of endorsement for the nomination of Perry Howard, FASLA for the ASLA Medal. Perry's highly impactful lifetime of leadership, service, and community building to promote and expand the profession of landscape architecture into diverse territories is unique and worthy of professional recognition. His achievements have produced lasting impacts, reshaped institutions, and inspired generations of landscape architecture practitioners and educators alike.

Perry was a star student at LSU and Harvard, and an influential designer at EDSA before arriving at his most well-known leadership context; NC A&T University in Greensboro, North Carolina. While there, he worked with and extended the efforts of Dr. Charles Fountain and transformed a growing landscape architecture program into the first accredited program at an Historically Black College and University (HBCU). This landmark recognition was celebrated with a national symposium that featured future visionary designers and educators including K. Ian Grandison and Walter Hood. Perry knew the sea change that achieving accreditation meant and as with many of his achievements, he used that celebration to bring generations of designers together and build community beyond his own department and college. On a personal note, attending that symposium as a graduate student was my first visit to North Carolina. It left a profound impact on me and helped me better understand the possibilities presented by the profession.

Perry was the first Black president of the American Society of Landscape Architects serving in that role in 2008. His interest in increasing the diversity of the profession extended beyond his leadership tenure and throughout the activity of ASLA's Diversity Summits and other initiatives. Throughout, he modeled as a professional and an academic an inclusive and collaborative approach to leadership, influence and advocacy.

I've shared the more well-known and documented highlights with which our profession has associated Perry Howard over the years. What may not be as well known are his countless and often thankless efforts to establish relationships with families, identify future landscape architecture students, and advocate for organizational transformation over generations. Not unlike a coach who recruits star players, Perry established relationships with high school students and their families early and often. The rise and sustainability of the NCAT landscape architecture program was in part due to Perry's charismatic networking with hundreds of people and families for whom landscape architecture was an unknown profession. Perry has answered countless calls, emails,

and met with generations of landscape architects, especially Black landscape architects. The breadth and depth of his experience afforded a unique perspective that remains sought after a decade after holding any official leadership position.

Perry has directly contributed to the awareness, development and growth of countless landscape architects, many of whom did not know that the profession existed when they encountered him. Perry was central to formalizing and adding to the academic experiences of HBCUs, a group of institutions historically excluded from landscape architecture education. Perry "paid it forward" and instinctively reached out to others whenever he earned accolades. He has made a lasting contribution to how we imagine, teach, and advocate for landscape architecture. For all of these reasons I fully support his nomination for the ASLA Award.

I am happy to answer any questions about the contents of this letter.

Thank you,



Kofi Boone, FASLA

Joseph D. Moore Distinguished Professor and University Faculty Scholar

Department of Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning

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January 15, 2024

ASLA Medal Nominations
c/o Honors and Awards
636 Eye Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001-3736

To: The ASLA Honors and Awards Committee:

I have had the pleasure of knowing Perry Howard for fifty-three years. A classmate in the undergraduate program at LSU in a class of large personalities, Perry was a rock. Quiet, thoughtful, and amiable, with a wickedly dry sense of humor, he was and is beloved by his classmates. Perry was one of two Black landscape architecture students at that time. Although LSU had limited black enrollment dating back to the 1950s, serious efforts to integrate the student body only date from about 1970. Perry was then, as he has been throughout his career, a pioneer.

Although Perry is best known for his academic accomplishments and ASLA leadership, Perry found immediate success during his time at EDSA, an experience that established his foundation in the profession and provided the knowledge of practice important to his academic career. He is an accomplished practitioner. It is no surprise to me that Ed Stone's face would light up with a big smile whenever I mentioned his name. Ed adored Perry. His strength of personality and character make him a trusted leader and mentor and have enabled his success in encouraging others to a greater purpose.

For several years, I served on the Advisory Board at North Carolina A and T, where Perry was department chair. I have had the pleasure of hiring a number of his graduates. Leading a landscape architecture program at an HBCU is a mission from God. Facilities are often aged and in poor repair, funding is extremely limited, and the students, though bright and curious, often do not have the personal finances and life experiences of students from more privileged backgrounds. Yet despite these limitations, Perry persevered. His actions have been instrumental in diversifying our profession and demonstrating the benefits of landscape architecture to all our society. His impact will be felt for generations.

An extremely modest man, Perry is an exemplary servant leader – focused on the success and well-being of those in his charge. For a lifetime of exceptional practice, teaching, and outstanding leadership for our profession, I heartily endorse Perry Howard for the ASLA Medal.

Sincerely,



Kurt Culbertson
Principal/Chairman Emeritus



February 9, 2024

ASLA Medal Selection Committee
American Society of Landscape Architects
636 Eye Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001-3736

Subject: Letter of Recommendation for Perry Howard, FASLA

Dear Selection Committee Members:

As a colleague and friend of Perry's for over thirty years, I am honored to offer this letter in support of his nomination for the 2024 ASLA Medal. Over the years I have come to admire not only Perry's dedication to the professional practice of landscape architecture, but also his commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion within the academy. His continued service to ASLA over the years in countless capacities is unparalleled.

In addition to serving as the first African American President of ASLA, Perry has been the longest serving Chair of a landscape architecture program at a Historically Black College and University (HBCU), North Carolina A&T University. He took over the helm of leadership after the retirement of his colleague and mentor Dr. Charles Fountain. As one of only two landscape architecture programs at an HBCU, Perry has been a force in mentoring and leading the way for a new generation of Black landscape architecture professionals. Given the less than 2% of Black landscape architects, his efforts and vision in this regard are unprecedented.

I served as the Chair of the landscape architecture department at Morgan State University (HBCU) in Baltimore, Maryland during Perry's term as ASLA President. His positive response to my request that he visit Morgan State during our annual Landscape Architecture Month Symposium is another testament to his professional dedication. He joined the symposium program as a keynote speaker in the middle of an intensive international travel schedule as ASLA President. The students were excited and thankful to have a Black ASLA President visit and speak at the symposium.

In 2010, I organized a Black Landscape Architects Meeting, which was held at the Architecture School at Howard University (HBCU). Again, it only took a phone call to

gain Perry's full support, financially and professionally, for this event. Because of Perry's active participation on numerous ASLA committees, it was crucial to have his support to provide event credibility. The event was a success with over 25 Black landscape architecture students and professionals in attendance. He has also been a continued supporter of the Black Landscape Architects Network (BlackLAN) as it has graduated from a social media network to a nonprofit organization (www.blacklanetwork.org).

Long before the establishment of the BlackLAN, Perry was working within ASLA to help diversify the profession. He was active on the first ASLA Committee on Blacks in Landscape Architecture in the mid-1970's along with Stephen Carter, FASLA, Everett Fly, FASLA, and others. The BlackLAN organization stands on the shoulders of Perry and those who charted the way forward towards diversity, equity, and inclusion within ASLA. In addition to Perry's focused support of landscape architecture diversity and creative academic stewardship, he has built upon his years in professional practice and design leadership at EDSA to foster a strong image for ASLA as a necessary design profession. His work with allied professional organizations and nonprofit groups has demonstratively advanced the image of ASLA and landscape architects internationally.

Again, I am honored to support Perry Howard's nomination for this prestigious ASLA Medal. I highly recommend Perry for his career of accomplishments, both personally, professionally, nationally, and internationally, on behalf of the ASLA National organization and the landscape architecture profession in general.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Glenn LaRue Smith". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Glenn" being the most prominent.

Glenn LaRue Smith, FSLA, LF'97
Founding Principal
PUSH studio, LLC



Perry Howard sworn in as the first Black ASLA President in 2008



Perry Howard with Kona Gray and Torey Carter-Conneen at the BlackLAN gathering in Minneapolis at the 2023 ASLA Conference



Perry Howard served as ASLA Diversity Summit chair in 2019



Perry Howard and the ASLA Executive Committee he served with have continued to meet and be involved with ASLA over the years



Perry Howard provided the keynote lecture at the Peking University International Landscape Architecture conference in Beijing, China and met with students and faculty.



Perry Howard interviewed for The History Makers in 2012



Perry Howard attending the ASLA Presidents Dinner in Philadelphia

ASLA Medal Nomination for Perry Howard, FASLA

Contact Information

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