

ASLA DIVERSITY SUPERSUMMIT SUMMARY



The shifting demographics of our nation is not reflected in the field of landscape architecture. In 2013, ASLA convened its first Diversity Summit with the goal of developing a deeper understanding of why landscape architecture is failing to attract a more diverse profession. Each summit has brought together a group of established and emerging landscape architecture professionals who identify as African American or Latinx. On June 9-11, 2017, ASLA hosted the Diversity SuperSummit at the ASLA Center for Landscape Architecture in Washington, D.C. All past summit participants were invited back along with six new emerging professionals. Participants discussed diversity issues and prioritized action items for the organization to carry through as a part of its commitment to fostering diversity in the field. The following is a summary of those conversations.

TAKEAWAYS

1 | Use digital content and hands-on tools for exploration

2 | Rethink how to market landscape architecture

3 | Show diversity in context

4 | Teach students about diversity within profession



K-12 Chapter Presentations + Toolkits

Create engaging digital content to teach kids about landscape architecture. Piggyback on existing social platforms, like Snapchat, to extend learning beyond the classroom.



After School + Summer Camp Curriculum

Introduce landscape architecture to under-represented schools through youth employment and entrepreneurship as an economically viable career.



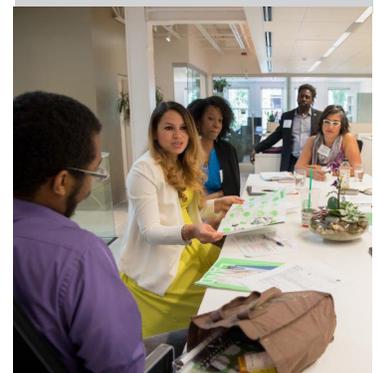
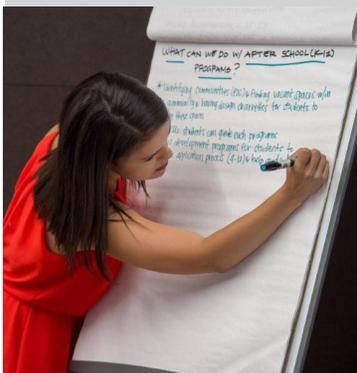
Diversity on ASLA.org

All content on ASLA.org should reflect a diverse representation of the society. The website should be a reference about the field and diversity should be engrained in its content.



University Recruitment + Curriculum Development

ASLA should inspire future landscape architects by showcasing diverse paths to success and broadening the definition of design excellence.

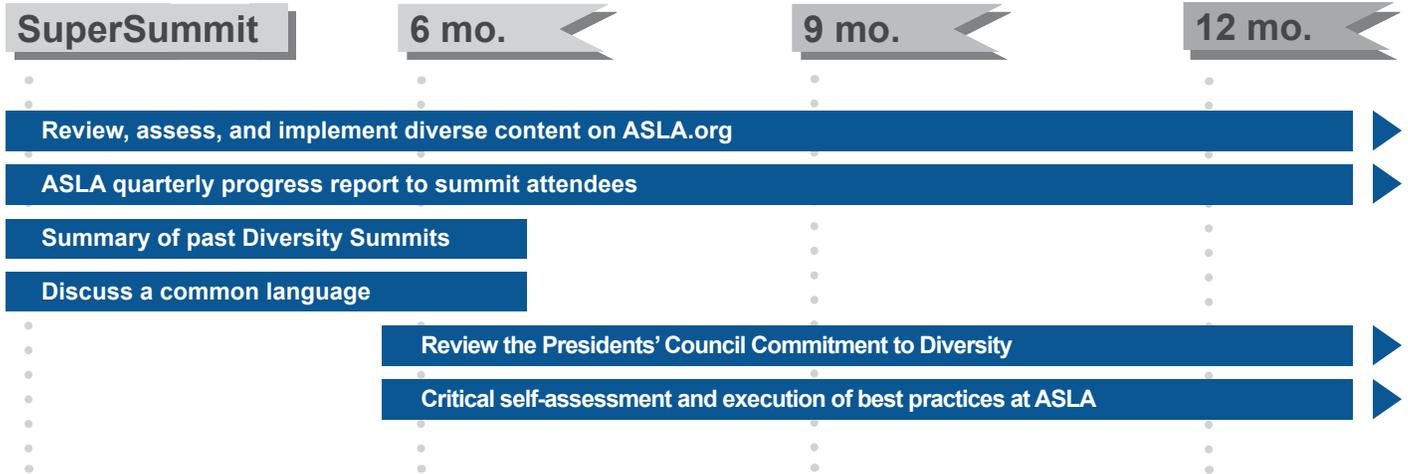


PRIORITY AGENDA ITEMS

After the summit, participants were surveyed to prioritize agenda items to give ASLA direction on which diversity-focused initiatives and activities will be considered and developed over the next year. Below are the results of ASLA's action timeline and five-year goals.

ASLA Action Timeline

Participants created benchmarks for the next six, nine, and 12 months for ASLA to deliver on the initiatives and action items discussed throughout the summit. Below is framework and timeline for ASLA's diversity-focused work plan.



For more information and to view the full SuperSummit report visit:

asla.org/DiversitySummit



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Image credit: EPNAC.com