

**SUN-A07:**

**Positive Changes in the Landscape: A Discussion on Female Leadership and Courage**

Sunday, October 21, 2018

11:00 AM – 12:30 PM

Room: 118

Recent movements on equality and harassment has shined a light on the significant challenges women face in the workforce. Though the world of landscape is no safe haven, increasingly women have presence at our profession’s helm. This panel features four women who broke away from traditional firms to lead new practices.

**Learning Objectives**

- Learn about the challenges and opportunities facing women and what the panelists have done to overcome adversity.
- Gain insight to the panelists career, leadership, and distinct qualities of their practice.
- Discover new opportunities for the profession and roles of leadership in our profession and in our communities.
- Understand how diversity in leadership will continue to nurture relevance in our profession and lead to design excellence.

**Part I**

**Introduction & Overview**

Steven Spears will begin with an introduction to the context, challenges and trends associated with female leadership and courage. He will provide content and precedents of influential women in our profession. In addition, a contemporary view of women in leadership roles will be discussed. The conclusion will help to set the stage for the panelist to define why establishing a voice matters.

Spears will then provide a brief introduction of the four panelists and their profound positive impact to our profession.

**PART I NOTES:**

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**Part II**

**Topic One: Challenges facing women and overcoming adversity**

A series of questions for the panelists to answer will be provided on this specific topic. Audience will be encouraged to send additional questions to the moderator during the session based on this topic.

PART II TOPIC ONE NOTES:

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**Topic Two: Personal growth, initiative, opportunities and how that has distinguished your practice.**

A series of questions for the panelists to answer will be provided on this specific topic. Audience will be encouraged to send additional questions to the moderator during the session based on this topic.

PART II TOPIC TWO NOTES:

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**Topic Three: New opportunities that are emerging in the profession and leadership roles in our communities**

A series of questions for the panelists to answer will be provided on this specific topic. Audience will be encouraged to send additional questions to the moderator during the session based on this topic.

PART II TOPIC THREE NOTES:

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**Topic Four: Building relevance in our profession and the advice from the panelists for moving forward.**

A series of questions for the panelists to answer will be provided on this specific topic. Audience will be encouraged to send additional questions to the moderator during the session based on this topic.

PART II TOPIC FOUR NOTES:

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## **Part III**

### **Moderated Discussion with questions from the audience**

PART III NOTES:

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## **PRESENTERS**

### **MODERATOR: Steven Spears, FASLA, PLA, AICP**

#### **GroundWork Development Company**

Steven Spears is an independent design consultant and a Principal with GroundWork Development Company. Spears holds a BLA degree with honors from Ball State University and earned his MFA in Design from The University of Texas at Austin. Through leadership, design, development, and research, Spears methodically integrates the local values of economy, sustainability, culture, and human sensory. Spears' private and public-sector planning, design and development efforts have been recognized at the state and national level. Spears is a member of ASLA, ULI, and APA. He was inducted into the ASLA Council of Fellows in 2015.

### **PANELIST: Gina Ford, FASLA**

#### **Agency Landscape + Planning**

Gina Ford is a landscape architect, and co-founder of Agency Landscape+Planning. Underpinning her two decades of practice are a commitment to the design and planning of public places and the perpetuation of the value of landscape architecture via thought leadership, teaching, writing and lecturing. Her work has received awards from the American Society of Landscape Architects, the American Planning Association and the American Institute of Architects, among others. She is on the board of directors for the Cultural Landscape Foundation and was the recipient of the Harvard Graduate School of Design's Charles Eliot Traveling Fellowship and Wellesley College's Shaw Fellowship.

### **PANELIST: Rebecca Leonard, FAICP, PLA, LEED AP**

#### **Lionheart Places**

Rebecca Leonard is the founder and CEO of Lionheart Places LLC and President of Hypernet Holding Company. Ms. Leonard offers over two decades of experience in community planning, urban design, engagement and facilitation and landscape architecture. She has created countless plans and has worked closely with her private development and public agency clients to ensure that they are implemented. It is her acute awareness of the challenges bridging from visioning into implementation that drove her to create and lead Lionheart Places LLC and Hypernet Holding Company.

**PANELIST: Cinda Gilliland, ASLA, LEED AP**

**Reed Gilliland**

After 20+ years at SWA Group Cinda Gilliland left to open an independent landscape architectural practice. As a principal at SWA she led teams designing a range of award-winning projects in the United States, China, and India. Project types include campuses, mixed-use projects, community parks, and urban plazas. Over the years she has evolved a belief in the power of nature, design, and the infectious energy of human creativity to catalyze social change and community cohesiveness. She founded several in-house studio innovation initiatives at SWA including the Women's Forum and the Culture Club, and the firm-wide Social Impact Design Initiative.

**PANELIST: Jamie Maslyn-Larson, ASLA**

**Wagner Hodgson Landscape Architecture**

Jamie Maslyn Larson's 20-year career in landscape architecture has focused on projects that embody transformation and design excellence. Her portfolio of award-winning projects demonstrates her dedication to the important role of the public realm in shaping cities and her deep commitment to design quality at every scale and stage of the process. Jamie lectures and presents at national conferences and universities and has been published in Landscape Journal.

**SOURCES**

- Estes', Clarissa Pinkola. (1996). *Women who Run with the Wolves: Myths and Stories of the Wild Woman Archetype*
- Harvard Business Review (2013). *Women Rising: The Unseen Barriers*. Ibarra, Ely and Kolb. <https://hbr.org/2013/09/women-rising-the-unseen-barriers>
- Solnit, Rebecca. (2015). *Men Explain Things to Me*.

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