The future of botanic garden design through landscape architecture

M. Barnes

Landscape Architecture Foundation, Washington, District of Colombia, United States of America

Corresponding author email: mbarnes@lafoundation.org

Keywords: design, landscape performance, benefits

Exemplary design of botanic garden facilities and garden spaces provides essential frameworks for realizing botanic gardens' missions and supporting the varied communities they serve. From climate and sustainability goals to new directions focused on experience and accessibility, the challenges facing modern botanic gardens can be confronted through high-performance landscapes that provide tangible value for people and the environment. Landscape architects have led the way in recent years with widely recognized projects like Singapore's Gardens by the Bay and Jewel Changi Airport, which capture public imagination and, in the case of Jewel Changi, introduce a pseudo-botanic garden in an unexpected setting. Projects like these highlight the existing and potential role of landscape architecture at botanic gardens globally. Using case studies from the United States and local projects in Singapore, this presentation highlights the quantified environmental, social, and economic benefits that designed landscapes can offer and showcases the possibilities that are unlocked with effective collaboration between landscape architects and botanic gardens. Landscape performance-focused research and resources from the Landscape Performance Series (www.landscapeperformance.org) are available for attendees to reference. By embracing innovative, high-performance design and understanding its benefits, botanic gardens can work with landscape architects to evolve and move forward into an uncertain future.