

Women in Landscape Architecture Walk Guide

BACKGROUND

The first WILA Walk took place during the 2009 ASLA Conference on Landscape Architecture in Chicago, when Angela Dye, FASLA, was ASLA President. The walk started at Lurie Garden in Millennium Park, right across the street from the headquarters hotel, a location where a good segment of the meeting population could walk to. The WILA Walk begins and concludes at the convention center to provide an accessible starting point and ensure a good turnout.

ASLA TEAM ROLES

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Ali will connect the WILA Walk Co-Chairs with the WILA Professional Practice Network (PPN) leadership team to provide additional insight into the logistics and planning efforts of past years.

PLANNING TIPS

Tips from Kristina Snyder, ASLA, WILA PPN officer, past co-chair, and dedicated WILA Walk attendee:

- Expect 50-75 participants in the WILA Walk.
- We recommend walking the route at what you consider a slow pace. Track the travel time between each site/stop. Consider doubling the travel time estimate due to the large group size. The walkers are going to be chatting among themselves while they travel and this slows them down, along with additional time for crossing streets as a large group.
- Allow approximately 10 minutes at each site for two to three sites. Plan for the most prominent site first as 25-30% will drop off to get to the education session that morning.
- Keep in mind that waiting for the whole group to catch up can take a few minutes - 10 minutes if the group is 35 or more and/or you're crossing many roads.
- ASLA staff will provide a portable speaker to WILA Walk leaders the morning of the walk.
- We recommend having a designated leader who walks at the end of the group, so the leaders at the front know when everyone is gathered, and can gently encourage the slower walkers
- WILA Walk Co-Chairs are expected to create a digital map of the walking route. Additional handouts are encouraged so participants can read about each site in advance or during the walk. These digital materials will be included in the conference mobile app. WILA Walk Co-Chairs may print the maps, but this is not required.
- Highlight coffee shops or other places they might want to stop/explore on their own on the handout/map.
- Let participants know the time they will need to allow for walking back to the convention center after the walk is over.

INFORMATION FOR REGISTRATION INSERT

This WILA Walk description is included in the conference registration insert and the conference website. The description is needed from the local chapter by early March, due to the ASLA marketing team. We recommend being as detailed as possible and highlight some proposed stops along with images of some of the proposed stops. The digital map is highly desirable, but not required.

EXAMPLE OF PAST EVENTS

2021: Nashville

Women in Landscape Architecture Walk

Monday , November 22, 2021

7:00 am – 8:30 am

Free. Meet at the Host Chapter booth in the Convention Center. Join the ASLA Tennessee Chapter for a morning walk to explore the diversity of landscape architecture in Nashville designed by and featuring women. The event is free and open to all registered conference attendees. There will be two meeting locations for the walk this year: meet at the Tennessee Host Chapter booth in the Convention Center at 6:30 am OR at the first stop, Noble Park in the Gulch, at 7:00 am.

WILA Walk planned stops:

1. Noble Park
2. Capitol View
3. Frankie Pierce Park
4. War Memorial Plaza
5. Anne Dallas Dudley Boulevard
6. Deaderick Street
7. Nashville Public Square Park
8. 2nd Ave N & Commerce St NB
9. Fort Nashboro
10. Riverfront Park & Ascend Amphitheater

Review the full description/images at

<https://www.aslaconference.com/special-events/women-in-landscape-architecture-walk/>

2021 WILA Walk Organizers:

Sarah Newton, ASLA

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2019: San Diego

Kathleen Brand, ASLA, Senior Planner / Landscape Architect at Civic San Diego, created a digital story map of the WILA Walk in 2019.

2017: Los Angeles

Monday, October 23, 2017

7:00 am – 8:30 am

Free. Meet at the Southern California Host-Chapter booth in the Los Angeles Convention Center. Southern California Chapter ASLA will lead a Downtown Los Angeles walk through gardens, parks, and plazas designed by contemporary and legendary landscape architects. Starting at Biddy Mason Memorial Park, we will stop by the new U.S. Courthouse Gardens, then traverse Grand Park between City Hall and the Music Center. We'll walk down Grand Avenue to Disney Hall and the neighboring Broad Museum, then continue down Lawrence Halprin's Bunker Hill Steps to the Los Angeles Central Library's Maguire Gardens. We will conclude our walk down Figueroa Street, home to some of LA's newest and tallest skyscrapers.

There will be two starting locations for participants to join the Walk this year:

The Southern California Host-Chapter booth in the Los Angeles Convention Center at 6:30 am
OR Biddy Mason Memorial Park at 7:00 am.

→ 2017 WILA Walk Photos

→ [Pre-conference promotional blog post for the WILA Walk](#)

→ [Post-conference summary of the WILA Walk](#)

2017 WILA Walk Organizer:

Stephanie Psomas, ASLA