



For Immediate Release

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## 2019 Central States Conference April 3 – 5th, 2019

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI - The Fourteenth Annual Central States Conference will be hosted by the St. Louis chapter at the Chase Park Plaza Hotel on April 3 – 5th 2019. Save the date to learn and connect with your colleagues in St. Louis.

The theme for the conference is CONNECT: Past + Present + Future.

The conference will be held at the beautiful Chase Park Plaza Hotel in the heart of the Central West End (CWE). The regal building is home to a celebrated history dating back to 1922. The Central West End is on the eastern edge of Forest Park and named by the American Planning Association as one of American's Top 10 Neighborhoods, features an exciting mix of St. Louis' best dining, entertainment, shopping, and nightlife. Conveniently located in the heart of the city, the CWE has something for everyone. Venture to Forest Park, right outside your door, and enjoy the parks 1,300 plus acres; making it roughly 500 acres larger than New York City's Central Park. The park, which hosted the 1904 World's Fair, is home to five of the region's major cultural institutions: the Missouri History Museum, the Municipal Theater (The Muny), the Saint Louis Art Museum, the Saint Louis Science Center, and the Saint Louis Zoo.

A highlight of the conference will be a visit to the Gateway Arch National Park. The St. Louis icon recently underwent a \$380 million renovation; the largest public-private partnership in the National Park Service history. The renovation provides an improved visitor experience by connecting the City from Kiener Plaza to the Riverfront with an inviting new visitor center which provides a direct and physical connection to Downtown St. Louis. The 91 acre urban national park received over 3,415 new trees and 5.4 miles of new pathways.

A half century after Eero Saarinen's Gateway Arch was inaugurated in 1968, it has been reconnected to the city of St. Louis, with a sleek underground entrance facing the city, an expanded and redesigned visitor center and museum, a cleaner landscape and an elevated and more elegant waterfront along the Mississippi River." – The Washington Post

Exhibitor and sponsorship information will be available soon. On behalf of the St. Louis Chapter, we hope to see you in April!

The Central States is comprised of six individual chapters of the American Society of Landscape Architects. These chapters come together once a year for camaraderie, learning, advancing the profession and to celebrate their best work. The six ASLA Central States chapters are Arkansas, Great Plains, Iowa, Oklahoma, Prairie Gateway and St. Louis. Please contact Central States Conference Coordinator, Sarah Woody Bibens at info@aslacentralstates.org with any questions.