

Association of Professional Landscape Designers

# INTERNATIONAL LANDSCAPE DESIGN CONFERENCE

November 9 - 13, 2023 | Tucson, Arizona

*Photo Credit: Fletcher and Co.*

# BIENVENIDOS A TUCSON!

The Arizona Chapter is thrilled to welcome the APLD community to Tucson, Arizona, for the 2023 APLD International Landscape Design Conference. We are excited to showcase our dynamic landscape, talented designers and our world-famous food! Tucson lies in the heart of the Sonoran Desert, an area rich in history, culture and architecture, and we've composed a design timeline weekend to highlight it all.

Our narrative begins thousands of years ago with ancient Indigenous peoples who first settled this land along the Santa Cruz River over 12,000 years ago, making the Tucson region the oldest continuously inhabited area in the United States. Together with these native roots are the Spanish Colonial, Mexican, and Anglo influences that have shaped this Wild West region's culture and design aesthetic. Arizona was part of Mexico for longer than it has been part of the U.S., so the influences of Mexican culture are distinctly felt in every corner of the city. From the art and music to the architecture and delicious food, Mexico's spirit is part of Tucson's soul. And in time, our design culture and practices have evolved and taken a life of their own, making Tucson incredibly unique and special. Through our ancient agricultural history and lasting cultural influences from Europe and Mexico, Tucson was the first city in the U.S. to be designated as a UNESCO Creative City of Gastronomy.

The design culture evolution in Tucson has been exciting and continually getting better. From historic preservations to booming college stadiums and modern architecture, they now live together in harmony, all using smart design and sustainable efforts to minimize urban heat and recharge our groundwater table. With nearly 340 days of sunshine and endless outdoor spaces, Tucson thrives on outdoor living. Our designers need to know how to design sustainably in the desert. We harvest our natural resources, create ecosystems, and preserve and honor our unique landscape.

Arizona's APLD community consists of designers, business owners, growers, and contractors who care deeply for their environment and community. We are proud of the opportunity to showcase our beloved Arizona. From visiting ancient gardens and learning their growing techniques to being introduced to the local wildlife and ecosystems we design around to highlighting our most talented and forward-thinking designers, the APLD International Landscape Design Conference aims to be unforgettable and inspirational.

*Photo Credit: Fletcher and Co.*



# MEET APLD's 2023 KEYNOTE SPEAKER!



## Steve Martino, FASLA

Landscape Architect,  
Steve Martino & Associates

For the last 50 years, Landscape Architect Steve Martino, FASLA, has been celebrating and showcasing the unique beauty of the Sonoran Desert plants. A recurring theme is the juxtaposition between his refined man-made elements and the rugged beauty of native plants. This deliberate interplay gives rise to an unmistakable desert aesthetic that Martino calls “Weeds & Walls,” symbolizing a harmonious coexistence of nature (“weeds”) and human craftsmanship (“walls”).

During his session, “Weeds & Walls: Creating a Sense of Place,” Martino will address where his ideas and inspiration come from. He will discuss his design process and showcase examples of his work to illustrate the process and share the “secret design weapon” that he utilizes on most of his projects.

## REGISTER TODAY

Join us November 9 – 13, 2023 in Tucson, Arizona for education, inspiration and networking. Visit captivating landscapes, meet renowned designers, and soak in the unique culture and history of the region. This is a conference you won't want to miss!

[Click Here to Register](#)



*Photo Credit:  
Fletcher and Co.*

# CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

## Thursday, November 9, 2023

### Pre-Conference Tour – Desert Museum & Los Milics Vineyard (Space Limited to 50)

Join us for a day of western adventures. The morning will be spent at the Arizona Sonoran Desert Museum, one of the top 10 zoological parks in the world and the #1 Tucson attraction! The Desert Museum is an extremely unique zoo, botanical garden, art gallery, natural history museum and aquarium that showcases the beautiful Sonoran Desert. Landscape Designer and Sculpturer Greg Corman will give us an informative tour. A delicious box lunch will be provided by the Desert Museum's Ocotillo Café.

The afternoon will include a ride through the breathtaking beauty of the southern Arizona high desert. The 5,000-foot elevation, cooler climate and soil are ideal for winemaking. Our destination will be Los Milics Vineyard where we will be greeted by the large-scale art installation, visit the tasting room and patio for wine tastings and enjoy chef-prepared shared plates.

We'll return to our host hotel for the Conference Opening Reception where we will enjoy networking, visiting with old and new friends, making new connections, heavy hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar.



Photo Credit: Los Milics Vineyard

# Friday, November 10, 2023

## Education

7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

### **Registration**

8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

### **Breakfast and Keynote**

#### **Weeds & Walls: Creating a Sense of Place**

*Steve Martino, FASLA, Landscape Architect, Steve Martino & Associates*

For the last 50 years, Landscape Architect Steve Martino, FASLA, has been celebrating and showcasing the unique beauty of the Sonoran Desert plants. A recurring theme is the juxtaposition between his refined man-made elements and the rugged beauty of native plants. This deliberate interplay gives rise to an unmistakable desert aesthetic that Martino calls “Weeds & Walls,” symbolizing a harmonious coexistence of nature (“weeds”) and human craftsmanship (“walls”). Martino is often asked where his ideas and inspiration come from. He will address these questions while discussing his design process during this session. Examples of his work will illustrate the process and share the “secret design weapon” that he utilizes on most of his projects.

10:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

### **Break**

10:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

### **Creating Unique Spaces With Planting & Design**

*Charlie Ray, Principal and Director of Design, The Green Room*

*Matt Thomas, PLA, MLA, Principal and Director of Studio Operations, The Green Room*

This session features an overview of the creative design process at The Green Room Landscape Architecture studio that allows the team to continuously produce award winning projects across a variety of project types. This discussion explores the process of creating unique designs and planting arrangements while combining the constraints of the site, the architectural intent of the site and the desires of the client into a space that creates an inspiring outdoor experience.

11:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

### **Break**

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

### **Architecture: Making Connections Between People, Place and Purpose**

*Luis Ibarra, Design Principal and Owner, Ibarra Rosano Design Architects*

This presentation will delve into the profound impact of architectural space on fostering connections that transcend physical structures. It will explore an approach to projects that resonate with the environment and its inhabitants. Ibarra will illustrate this through anecdotes from various projects. His design philosophy prioritizes cultivating spaces that encourage interaction, engagement, and a sense of belonging. Inspiration is drawn from natural surroundings, cultural contexts, and community aspirations. Ibarra will lead a discussion emphasizing conscious efforts to craft spaces aligned with these factors, establishing harmony, purpose, and connectivity. Through showcased projects, this approach transcends mere functionality, focusing on emotional and social resonance among people, place and purpose. The result is architecture of interconnected spaces that inspire, unite and enhance the human experience.

1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

**Lunch, Business Meeting, State of the Association Address and Town Hall with the APLD Board of Directors**

3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

**Integrated Local Harvests: Simple and Effective Ways to Enhance the Natural Abundance of Your Home and Community**

*Brad Lancaster, Author of "Rainwater Harvesting for Drylands and Beyond,"  
Co-founder of NeighborhoodForesters.org*

This dynamic presentation will share patterns and strategies to harvest, integrate, and enliven free local resources — such as rainwater, greywater, and stormwaters; sun, wind, and shade; along with soil fertility, wild foods, and community fun — in a way that generates far more potential than the sum of their parts. Scarcity is re-envisioned into abundance simply through creative cycling and utilization of what is already at hand. Costly and consuming habits and infrastructure, disconnected from their surroundings, are reoriented, and reconnected to maximize enriching opportunities.

Attendees will see many examples of transformation, including how once-dying wetlands and creek flows are being regenerated with simple hand-built structures made of on-site materials. The presentation will also explore how ancient sun- and shade-harvesting sites are informing passively heated, cooled, and powered modern homes and retrofits. Additionally, attendees will discover how once-blighted, overheated neighborhood streets are being rejuvenated into thriving greenbelts of water, people, wildlife, art, food, and celebration by planting once-drained stormwater, seed, and yard prunings.

This talk will serve as an invitation for you to engage and partner with your natural surroundings and community, and a treasure map showing you the way — by planting the rain, dancing with the sun, growing fertile shade, and more — to live as one of your community's inspirational sparks!

4:30 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.

**Break**

5:15 p.m. – 6:15 p.m.

**Elevate Your Landscape: The Art of Finishing Touches**

*Elizabeth Przygoda, CEO, Boxhill & Co.  
Dani Williams, Creative Director, Artesana Tile  
Natasha Winnik*

Our panel of esteemed speakers will delve into the crucial role that finishing touches play in landscape design. Learn from their years of experience as they discuss the latest trends, innovative materials, and design techniques. Discover how the right choice of tiles can transform your outdoor space into a work of art to elevate your landscape's aesthetics. Explore the beauty of incorporating a vast array of natural and sustainable materials into your landscape projects that blend seamlessly with nature, while enhancing your overall design. See how high-quality modern outdoor furniture helps to connect people with their outdoor environments creating comfortable and inviting outdoor spaces that harmonize with personal styles and nature.

7:15 p.m.

**Dine-Arounds/Evening on Your Own**



## Saturday & Sunday, November 11 – 12, 2023 Garden Tours

*Breakfast on your own and lunch provided each day.*

Discover the enchanting world of garden tours in Tucson, Arizona, where the arid beauty of the desert meets the creativity and vision of landscape architects and designers. These tours offer a unique opportunity to explore a diverse array of gardens, each a masterpiece that celebrates the harmony between human ingenuity and nature's bounty.

In Tucson's garden tours, the rich tapestry of garden styles unfolds against a backdrop of rugged landscapes and endless skies. From the elegance of formal gardens to the free-spirited informality of desert oases, every garden offers a glimpse into the heart of Tucson's design identity. Modern marvels coexist with cherished traditional designs, reflecting the city's unique architectural heritage.

The challenges of the desert climate are deftly embraced in these gardens, as they defy the odds to thrive amidst the extremes. From the cool refuge of shaded corners to the resilient plants that endure the blazing sun, each garden showcases the delicate balance between artistry and nature's forces. These tours unveil the secrets of selecting plants that not only survive but flourish in Tucson's distinctive environment.

As you journey through the gardens, you'll also discover how Tucson's commitment to conservation and sustainability takes root in every corner. Local codes that govern water usage, stormwater management, and ecological preservation shape the gardens, reflecting the city's dedication to preserving its natural resources. Guided by experts in the field, you'll explore gardens that encapsulate the essence of Tucson's landscape architecture. These tours include visits to both private and public gardens, showcasing the creativity of renowned landscape architects and designers. You'll witness firsthand how innovative design solutions transform challenging spaces into breathtaking havens of beauty and tranquility.

After the Saturday garden tour, we'll enjoy a **Cocktail Reception and Awards Exhibition** at our host hotel. The Sunday garden tour will conclude with a **Farewell Reception** at Tohono Chul.

# Monday, November 13, 2023

## Post Conference Tour, Scottsdale, Arizona (Space Limited)

We will travel from Tucson to Frank Lloyd Wright's beloved winter home and desert laboratory, Taliesin West, in desert foothills of the McDowell Mountains in Scottsdale, Arizona. We will explore this national historic landmark with a passionate, knowledgeable guide who will dive deep into the tenets of organic architecture, the collections, and the history of this UNESCO World Heritage Site. Established in 1937 and diligently handcrafted over many years, the site is deeply connected to the desert from which it was forged and possesses an almost prehistoric grandeur. It was built and maintained almost entirely by Wright and his apprentices, making it among the most personal of the architect's creations. Don't miss the opportunity to be inspired by this iconic destination.

From Taliesin West, we will continue the day by touring several of Kirk Bianchi's projects in the Scottsdale area. Bianchi brings together the three disciplines – landscape, pool, and exterior architecture – for the ultimate fusion of total outdoor lifestyle design. Using the pool as a mirror, Bianchi is known for orchestrating outdoor living spaces that celebrate the landscape as an art form, to be enjoyed both by day and night. His projects exemplify the best of the southwest living lifestyle, where exterior spaces are a seamless extension of the home's interior, integrating and expanding his client's sense of home to become one with their own private outdoor oasis.

*Lunch is included.*

*The schedule is subject to change due to traffic delays or other unforeseeable circumstances.*



# Hotel Information

## El Conquistador Tucson (Pre-Conference and Main Conference)

10000 N Oracle Rd.  
Tucson, AZ 85704  
520-544-5000

APLD has secured a block of rooms at a discounted rate. Rooms can be reserved from November 7-13, 2023, based on availability until the room block is sold out or until the reservation deadline is reached. All rooms in our block are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Reservations made after October 15 or after the room block has been filled may not be available or may be subject to higher rates. We encourage you to make your reservations quickly for the best price and availability.

**Room Rate:** \$200 plus taxes and fees for single or double occupancy, Resort fee is \$10 per room, per day. *An additional charge of \$25.00 per person will apply for the third and fourth person per guest room.*

**The reservation deadline is Sunday, October 15, 2023.**



[Click Here to Make Your Reservation](#)

## Joining Us for Post Conference? Reserve Your Hotel Room in Scottsdale!

***Monday, November 13, 2023 in Scottsdale, Arizona***

### Courtyard Scottsdale Old Town (Post Conference)

3311 North Scottsdale Road  
Scottsdale, AZ 85251  
480-429-7785

**Room Rate:** \$199 plus taxes and fees (King)

**The reservation deadline is Thursday, October 12, 2023.**

[Click Here to Make Your Reservation](#)



# 2023 APLD International Landscape Design Conference Registration Form

November 9-13, 2023, Tucson, Arizona

**A separate form must be completed for each conference attendee.**

Remit payment and form to: APLD, 2207 Forest Hills Drive, Harrisburg, PA 17112, fax this form with credit card payment to: (717) 238-9985 or register online at [www.apld.org](http://www.apld.org).

Attendee Name (as it should appear on badge): \_\_\_\_\_  
*Include CPLD or FAPLD if you are certified or a certified fellow.*

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Is this your first APLD Conference?  Yes  No

**Dietary Requirement:**

Gluten Free  Pescatarian  Vegan  Vegetarian  I do not have a dietary requirement.

**Emergency Contact Information:**

Please provide the information of a person who is NOT attending the conference that should be contacted in case an emergency should arise.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact APLD Headquarters if you have any additional dietary needs or require specific accommodations in order to fully participate in the conference. Call (717) 238-9780 by October 30 to discuss your specific needs.

Members of organizations affiliated with APLD (America in Bloom, AOLP, AILD, CNLA, ELA, GBC, GBCI, GRHC, Holden Arboretum, NALP, PCS, PPA and SGD) may register to attend the conference at the member rate. Please list the affiliated organization you are a member of:

\_\_\_\_\_

**Payment Information:**

Total Due: \_\_\_\_\_

Check (made payable to APLD)  Visa  MasterCard  Discover  AmEx  Wire Transfer

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address (if different from above): \_\_\_\_\_

*Cancellations must be made in writing by **October 30** to receive a refund, less a \$25 administrative service fee plus any processing fees. After this time, there will be no refunds.*

**Non-Members** – If you join APLD today, you will receive the member rate for the conference, which is a \$700 discount off of the non-member main conference registration fee.



# 2023 APLD International Landscape Design Conference Registration Form

November 9-13, 2023, Tucson, Arizona

Attendee Name (as it should appear on badge): \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

## Registration Options:

**Main Conference** includes the opening reception on the evening of Thursday, November 9; breakfast, lunch and all sessions on Friday, November 10; lunch, garden tours and awards reception on Saturday, November 11; lunch, garden tours and farewell reception on Sunday, November 12.

**Pre-Conference Tour on Thursday, November 9** includes a tour of the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, lunch and wine tasting at Los Milics Vineyards.

**Post-Conference on Monday, November 13** includes lunch, guided tour of Taliesin West and garden tours.

**Please review carefully what is included in each registration option before making your selection.**

If you have any questions, please contact [events@apl.org](mailto:events@apl.org).

### Certified/Fellow Member Rates

Main Conference	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1,250
Pre-Conference - Thursday, November 9	<input type="checkbox"/> \$275
Post-Conference - Monday, November 13	<input type="checkbox"/> \$350

### Member Rates

*Qualified Professional, Professional, Emerging Professional, Allied & Retired Members*

Main Conference	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1,350
Pre-Conference - Thursday, November 9	<input type="checkbox"/> \$275
Post-Conference - Monday, November 13	<input type="checkbox"/> \$350

### Student/Educator Member Rates

Main Conference	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1,100
Pre-Conference - Thursday, November 9	<input type="checkbox"/> \$275
Post-Conference - Monday, November 13	<input type="checkbox"/> \$350

### Non-Member Rates

Main Conference	<input type="checkbox"/> \$2,050
Pre-Conference - Thursday, November 9	<input type="checkbox"/> \$375
Post-Conference - Monday, November 13	<input type="checkbox"/> \$450

### Spouse/Companion Rates

*The spouse/companion rate applies only to those who are not in the industry.*

Main Conference	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1,350
Pre-Conference - Thursday, November 9	<input type="checkbox"/> \$275
Post-Conference - Monday, November 13	<input type="checkbox"/> \$350