

# DESIGNING WITH INTENTIONALITY

The Charles F. Gillette Forum  
on Landscape Design

**9:30 am – 3:30 pm, Friday, November 2**

Speakers address intentional design through three lenses

8:30 am *Doors open*

9 am *Registration and continental breakfast*

9:30 am *Welcome & introductions*

9:35 am *The Nature of Cities: Towards a Biophilic Urbanism*  
*Timothy Beatley*

As the planet continues to rapidly urbanize there is a growing sense that a new model is needed: one that overcomes the physical (and mental) disconnect between nature and cities. Beatley believes that contact with nature is not something optional but is absolutely essential for a happy, healthy and meaningful life. Beatley will review the many ways in which cities are already profoundly nature-ful and biodiverse and he will describe the emerging concept of Biophilic Urbanism as alternative global vision for how cities might grow and develop. He will discuss the newly formed global Biophilic Cities Network and will provide examples of innovative design and planning in cities in the Network. While there are significant obstacles to be overcome, the vision of Biophilic Cities is a hopeful and optimistic one that at once understands the need for daily contact with the natural world and the need to take steps through urban design and planning to ensure that cities are and will be a positive force for global conservation.

10:45 am *Constructing Urban Ecosystem as a Middle Ground through Ecological Science and Landscape Architecture*  
*Alexander Felson*

Dr. Felson explores his work to integrate applied ecology with landscape architecture and urban design focusing on climate adaptation, green infrastructure and resilient ecosystems. He reviews his work directing the NYC Reforestation Plan informing the MillionTreesNYC and leveraged a publicly funded design project to build the country's largest constructed urban forestry experiment. He also examines the bioretention gardens he

built, designed as experiments for research as well as public gardens for an underserved neighborhood in Bridgeport CT which now serves as a test bed for public involvement and adaptive management.

- 11:45 am     **Lunch**
- 12:15 pm     ***Designing with Intentionality: Evolving the Lewis Ginter Master Plan for Future Generations***  
*Jay Hugo, Principal, 3north*
- 1:15 pm     ***Working Landscapes***  
*Julie Bargmann*  
Landscapes of labor - past and present - bestow extraordinary circumstances of complexity and beauty. With respect for site histories of working landscapes, D.I.R.T. studio has carefully offered regenerative layers that engage the cyclical nature of urban and industrial sites and the systems to which they belong. The socioecological health of degraded places and their marginalized communities is at stake. D.I.R.T. studio has deployed physical design as one approach, operational design strategies as another. The imperative, always: the landscape must work.
- 2:15 pm     **Break**
- 2:30 pm     ***From the Macro to the Micro: How Intention Shapes All Factors***  
***Q & A and final discussion with speakers***  
*Moderator: Meghan Z. Gough, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Urban and Regional Studies and Planning, Virginia Commonwealth University*  
*L. Douglas Wilder School*
- 3:30 pm     **Adjourn**

\* All schedules subject to change

5 contact hours: LACES, HSW (pending), VSLD, CVNLA

### ***Why we address “intentionality”***

In this year’s Gillette Forum, we gather to discuss our growing and altered understanding of how to shape cities and land to rehabilitate natural processes, and to create meaningful places that support humans and the biological world. We act with intentionality to embrace and explore solutions to contemporary ecological and social issues.

We are intensely aware that we are part of the biological world and human actions are profoundly impacting the planet. This demands deeply considered actions on the land.

Landscape architects and designers are exploring inventive patterns of land development, social engagement and political expression to influence human actions, lifestyles and behaviors while embracing natural processes. The contemporary act of design gathers the multiple threads of diversity and applies process and creativity to make meaningful places.