



SLATE OF BOARD CANDIDATES FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023

51st Annual Meeting
June 28, 2022
12:00 p.m.
Via Zoom
([Register here](#))

Presented for a vote to Landmarks Illinois members in good standing at the time of the Annual Meeting. Board members are elected to serve for two-year terms. They may serve three consecutive terms before being required to leave the board for at least one year before running for election again.

THIRD TWO-YEAR BOARD TERM

Erika Block

Erika serves as Landmarks Illinois board Secretary. She worked as Planner I for the City of Wilmette for over 10 years. Her expertise encompasses urban planning, local government and zoning. She has been an active member of Landmarks Illinois emerging professionals' group, the Skyline Council, which she chaired from 2014-2016. She also chaired Skyline Council's Fundraising Subcommittee, with responsibility for securing sponsorships for the Skyline Social and other events. Erika serves on Landmarks Illinois' Executive and Finance Committees and has also chaired its Legendary Landmarks Celebration and Preservation FORWARD events. Erika holds a bachelor's degree in political science and business administration from the University of Iowa.

Kathleen Swien

Kathleen serves as Landmarks Illinois' General Counsel. She is a member of Pederson and Houpt's Real Estate Practice Group where she focuses her practice on a broad range of commercial real estate matters, including representing real estate investment managers in connection with portfolio acquisitions and sales transactions for hotel, retail and general corporate properties. With an international background in commercial and corporate real estate, Kathleen counsels real estate owners, developers, financial institutions and investors in complex deals involving commercial property assets. She holds a B.A. from University of Michigan and J.D. from University of Detroit Mercy School of Law. Kathleen serves on Landmarks Illinois' Executive and Reinvestment Committees.



Christy Webber

Christy is Founder and President of Christy Webber Landscapes, a full-service landscape provider offering design, construction and maintenance programs to residential, commercial and municipal clients throughout Chicago. Her firm maintains the landscape of over 340 single family homes in Chicago, and provides landscaping services on some of the city's most iconic properties including the Museum Campus, Millennium Park, Water Tower and Soldier Field. Based in Chicago for over 20 years and with more than 425 employees, her company's full team includes Christy Webber Farm and Garden Center, Kinsella Landscaping, RR Landscape Supply, Greenworks and RR Resourceful Recycling. She attributes her success to a love of the outdoors and entrepreneurial spirit she inherited from her father. Christy believes that beautiful landscaping influences our lives and promotes health and wellbeing.

SECOND TWO-YEAR BOARD TERM

Robert Eschbach

Bob Eschbach is an attorney in Ottawa, Illinois, practicing in various areas of law. He served as Mayor of the City of Ottawa from 1999 until May 2019, and previously served eight years as chairman of the Ottawa Plan Commission. Eschbach attracted the Ottawa Historical and Scouting Heritage Museum, which focuses on scouting history (boy scouts, girl scouts, campfire scouts) and local history. He also fostered industrial and educational development, as well as activities along the area fronting the Illinois River. His investment in education landed Ottawa with a new campus of Illinois Valley Community College and a new Central Intermediate School. He's also forwarded disaster preparedness for his community by gaining recognition of Ottawa's floodplain by FEMA.

Mike Jackson, FAIA

Mike is preservation architect in Springfield. He was the Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) in Illinois from 2009 to 2013 and the Chief Architect for the Illinois SHPO from 1983-2013, where he was actively involved in the review of thousands of Illinois historic properties undergoing renovation. He is an active member of the Assoc. for Preservation Technology (APT) and Co-Chair of the Codes and Standards Technical Committee. He also directs the APT Building Technology Heritage Library — a free online archive of pre-1964 architectural trade catalogs, builder's guides, technical manuals, house plan catalogs and building codes — and is active in Upstairs Downtown. He holds a Bachelor of Architecture from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and a Master's in Historic Preservation from Columbia University in New York. Mike serves on Landmarks Illinois' Executive Committee.



Emilio Padilla, AIA

Emilio is a project director at JGMA (Juan Gabriel Moreno Architects). Emilio studied architecture at the University of Illinois at Chicago and also lived and studied in Merida, Mexico, and Barcelona, Spain, during his academic career. At JGMA, Emilio oversees and manages multiple projects through the design and construction phases. Through his work experience and influence, Emilio's portfolio includes a wide range of local and international project types; public and private sector, hospitality, commercial and nonprofit organizations. Emilio has served as President of Arquitectos Inc., where his mission-driven leadership has expanded the organization's services offered to students, emerging professionals and licensed professionals seeking further professional development. Emilio is also a member of AIA Chicago and serves on the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion roundtable. He is very active in his community, and has served as a commissioner for the historic preservation commission and lives in a historic bungalow in Berwyn. Emilio served on Landmarks Illinois 50th Anniversary Task Force and currently serves on its DEI Collaborative.

Terri Salas

Terri serves as Landmarks Illinois' Treasurer and is an Executive and Finance Committee member. She is an Associate with Plante & Moran in its Housing and Community Development Solutions Group where she brings more than 25 years of experience in real estate and accounting to assisting clients with structuring and monetizing federal and state historic and New Markets Tax Credits. Terri also serves as a technical resource for Low Income Housing Tax Credits and is known for providing exceptional client service. Terri frequently speaks at internal and external workshops on the topic of tax credit incentives. Prior to joining Plante & Moran, Terri worked extensively in the Low Income Housing Tax Credit industry for both a real estate developer and a regional tax credit syndicator. Terri graduated from the University of Michigan-Dearborn with a Bachelor's of Business Administration.

Steve Schneider

Steve is Senior Vice President of Wintrust Commercial Banking. Prior to being recruited out of retirement to work for Wintrust by Ed Wehmer, Steve worked for the accounting firm of Plante Moran for two years. He joined the accounting firm of Blackman Kallick in 1981 and was elected Managing Partner in 2008. Prior to joining Blackman Kallick in 1981, Schneider was a manager in the banking practice at Peat, Marwick, Mitchell & Co. (now KPMG). A native of the Chicago area, Schneider received his Bachelor of Science in accountancy from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Steve serves on Landmarks Illinois' Board Development Committee.

Allison Toonen-Talamo

Allison serves as Landmarks Illinois' Vice Chair and is a member of the Executive Committee, as well as serving as Board Development Committee Chair. She is an



Associate at Klein and Hoffman supporting the architectural and building enclosure team. She applies her knowledge to investigative procedures, historical review and research, development of technical specifications/construction documents, condition assessments and construction administration services of existing structures including historic landmarks, residential, commercial and municipal buildings. Allison has a Bachelor of Architecture and Master of Structural Engineering from Illinois Institute of Technology and serves the following board and organizations: prior Chair of the Landmarks Illinois' Skyline Council, is currently part of the Landmarks Illinois' Resource Development Committee and the Landmarks Illinois' Board Development Committee, is a member of the Association for Preservation and Technology (APT) (Western Great Lakes Chapter), serves on the Preservation Engineering Technical Committee for APTI, serves on the Board of Directors for Evanston Community Lakehouse and Gardens, serves on the National Trust for Historic Preservation – Where Women Made History Campaign and is a member of the Structural Engineers Association of Illinois. She recently received the 2020 American Aspire Award presented by the National Trust and has been listed as one of 2021 Landmarks Illinois 50Forward Influencers.

Alex Wolking

Alex serves on Landmarks Illinois' Executive Committee and its DEI Collaborative. He is a realtor licensed in Illinois and Iowa with and works with Keller Williams Chicago-Lincoln Park. Alex, who grew up in the Quad Cities, has assisted in closing more than \$20 million worth of transactions, partnered with industry professionals on community and organizational projects, and shared his tech-savvy with dozens of agents in growing and streamlining their businesses. Alex was named Quad City Area REALTOR® Association's 2012 "Rookie of the Year" Award and received the 2013 HGTV Doory Award for "Best DIY Dream Home." He was named a 2021 "30 Under 30" by National Association of REALTOR Magazine. Alex was the first and only real estate professional in the Quad Cities to become a member of the Institute for Luxury Home Marketing. Alex is an active member of the Skyline Council of Landmarks Illinois and leads architectural tours in his neighborhood with his community group, the Buena Park Neighbors.

FIRST TWO-YEAR BOARD TERM

Gary Anderson, AIA

Gary is the Principal Architect at Studio GWA, a Rockford-based architecture firm working across Illinois and the Midwest Region. Gary has served on the Landmarks Illinois Board of Directors several times with his most recent term being from 2016-2021 and in the Vice Chair role from 2019-2021 before sunseting from the board for one year. He participated on Landmarks Illinois' 50th Anniversary Task Force and currently co-chairs its DEI Collaborative. Gary envisioned a career in which he could combine his passion for architecture with community activism and revitalization. His interest in historic preservation, sustainability, reinvention, and renovating historic



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structures has shaped and defined the firm's quality of work as well as its reputation. He founded what is today Studio GWA in 1982 and continues to maintain and service many of those decades-long client relationships – a testament to his philosophy of caring, understanding, and commitment. Gary shares his knowledge, love of local history, and passion for the community in which he born and raised by leading summer walking and biking architecture tours of downtown Rockford. Gary was awarded the 2021 Excalibur Award by the Rockford Register-Star.