



ST. LOUIS  
CHAPTER

AMERICAN  
SOCIETY OF  
LANDSCAPE  
ARCHITECTS

P.O. BOX 11594

CLAYTON

MISSOURI

63105

Honorary ASLA Membership Nomination  
c/o Carolyn Mitchell  
American Society of Landscape Architects  
636 Eye Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20001-3736

## **Nomination for Walter Metcalfe for Honorary ASLA Membership**

Dear ASLA Board of Trustees,

The St. Louis Chapter of ASLA is proud to nominate Walter Metcalfe for an Honorary ASLA membership.

As Senior Counsel at Bryan Cave LLP, Mr. Metcalfe has been instrumental in St. Louis civic affairs. He was the key civic leader who noticed the great disconnect between downtown St. Louis and the Gateway Arch. He became a catalyst that led to the creation of the CityArchRiver 2015 Foundation which sponsored an international design competition in 2010 that selected a team lead by landscape architect Michael Van Valkenburgh, FASLA to revitalize the Arch Grounds. The resulting \$367 million dollar project, one of the largest urban and landscape architecture projects in the country, will transform the Gateway Arch and the St. Louis Region.

The on-going work, which will honor the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Arch in October 2015, has elevated the level of discussion and knowledge of landscape architecture in St. Louis and the state of Missouri. The Arch Grounds, first with Dan Kiley's original vision and now with Michael Van Valkenburgh's revitalization, has truly raised awareness of the role landscape architects play in creation of great public places.

In addition to the Arch Grounds, Mr. Metcalfe has been a dynamic champion for improving the quality of life in the St. Louis region through his visionary leadership.

- He helped to organize Grand Center, Inc which is the St. Louis region's premier entertainment district housing the Fox Theatre, St. Louis Symphony, among others.
- He represented the Missouri Botanical Garden, Monsanto Company, the University of Missouri and Washington University in the organization and financing of the Donald Danforth Plant Science Center (one of the world's leaders in plant science).

Michael Van Valkenburgh, FASLA notes in his support letter, "Walter is not a landscape architect, but he is important to our profession as someone who has enthusiastically dedicated his professional skills to the service of improving St. Louis' public realm."

Mr. Metcalfe has given countless presentations to business leaders, legislators, organizations and the public about the CityArchRiver project. In fact, he was the Keynote speaker for the Central States ASLA Conference held in St. Louis in 2013. In his presentations he not only discusses aspects of the project but also eloquently discusses the design features and the important contributions of landscape architects in the massive project. ***As a very well respected leader in the St. Louis community Mr. Metcalfe has educated countless individuals about landscape architecture through his discussions.***

As a champion for the CityArchRiver project, the St. Louis Region and landscape architecture, the St. Louis Chapter of ASLA proudly recommends that Walter Metcalfe be recognized as an Honorary Member of ASLA.

Sincerely,



Scott Emmelkamp, ASLA, PLA, LEED AP  
President, St. Louis Chapter of ASLA



Stephen Ibendahl, ASLA  
Trustee, St. Louis Chapter of ASLA

Letters of Support:

Mayor Francis Slay, City of St. Louis

Michael Van Valkenburgh, FASLA

Ed Hilhouse, Executive Director of the East-West Gateway Council of Governments

Susan Trautman, Executive Director of the Great Rivers Greenway District

Doug Woodruff, President and CEO of DowntownSTL, Inc

Nominee: Walter Metcalfe Jr.

Address:

Bryan Cave LLP

One Metropolitan Square

211 North Broadway, Suite 3600

St. Louis, MO 63102

Phone: 314-259-2475

Nominator: St. Louis Chapter of ASLA



**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
CITY OF ST. LOUIS  
MISSOURI**

**FRANCIS G. SLAY  
MAYOR**

**CITY HALL - ROOM 200  
1200 MARKET STREET  
SAINT LOUIS, MISSOURI 63103-2877  
(314) 622-3201  
FAX: (314) 622-4061**

Honorary ASLA Nominations  
c/o Carolyn Mitchell  
American Society of Landscape Architects  
636 Eye Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20001-3736

**Re: Nomination for Walter Metcalfe for Honorary ASLA Membership**

Dear ASLA Board of Trustees:

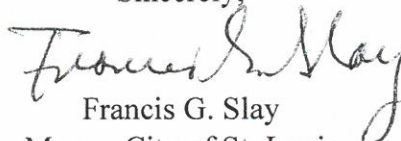
I am writing to enthusiastically nominate Walter Metcalfe for an Honorary ASLA membership.

While serving as Senior Counsel at Bryan Cave LLP, Walter has been instrumental in successfully addressing several civic issues in St. Louis. Notably, Walter has been a champion of the effort to better connect downtown St. Louis and the Gateway Arch. He became a catalyst that led to the creation of the CityArchRiver 2015 Foundation, which sponsored an international design competition in 2010 that selected landscape architect Michael Van Valkenburgh to lead the revitalization of the Arch Grounds. The resulting \$367 million dollar project, one of the largest urban and landscape architecture projects in the country, will transform the Gateway Arch and the St. Louis Region.

The on-going work, to be completed by the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Arch in October 2015, has elevated the level of discussion and knowledge of landscape architecture design and principles throughout the St. Louis region. The Arch Grounds, first with Dan Kiley's original landscape design vision and now with Michael Van Valkenburgh's revitalization, has effectively raised awareness of the role landscape architects can play in the creation of great public places.

I would like to recommend that Walter Metcalfe be recognized as an Honorary Member of ASLA for his many contributions to the field of landscape architecture in the St. Louis region.

Sincerely,

  
Francis G. Slay  
Mayor, City of St. Louis

FGS: clw

MICHAEL  
VAN  
VALKENBURGH  
ASSOCIATES  
INC

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c/o Carolyn Mitchell  
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636 Eye Street, NW  
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**Re: Nomination for Walter Metcalfe for Honorary ASLA Membership**

Dear ASLA Board of Trustees,

I am writing to give my strongest possible support to the nomination of Walter Metcalfe for an Honorary ASLA membership. If you do not know him already, Walter is the dynamic, persistent, inspiring force behind the rejuvenation of one of our nation's most iconic landscapes and I feel that he deserves to be recognized by our profession.

As Senior Counsel at Bryan Cave LLP, Walter is not a landscape architect, but he is important to our profession as someone who has enthusiastically dedicated his professional skills to the service of improving St. Louis' public realm. On noticing the great disconnect between downtown St. Louis, the grounds of the Jefferson National Expansion Monument (The Arch), and the Mississippi Riverfront, he understood intuitively that solving this issue was essential to the city's success in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. He became a catalyzing force behind the creation of the CityArchRiver 2015 Foundation, helped shape its guiding Design Goals, and has consistently been its most effective spokesperson. Under Walter's leadership, CAR 2015 sponsored an international design competition to revitalize the city of St Louis and the Arch Grounds, which was won by a multidisciplinary team led by my firm, Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates, in 2010. The resulting \$380 million dollar project, which unites issues related to city, state, and federal jurisdictions is one of the largest urban and landscape architecture projects currently underway in the country. As it unfolds in phases, the CityArchRiver project will dramatically improve the relationship between downtown St. Louis, the Gateway Arch Grounds, and the Mississippi River.

In addition to successfully planning for, locating funding for, and implementing components of the project to be ready for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Arch in October 2015, Walter's leadership of CAR2015 has elevated the level of discussion and knowledge of the importance of landscape architecture in St. Louis and the state of Missouri. The Arch Grounds, first with Dan Kiley's original vision and now with my firm's work, continues to be a demonstration ground for the leadership role that landscape architects can play in the creation of great public places and livable, sustainable, 21<sup>st</sup>- century cities.

On a personal level, over the years of knowing Walter, I have come to deeply respect and value his integrity, his direct and open relationship with me, and the moments that we have shared as mutual supporters of each other's efforts. I am deeply impressed by his civic activism and his tremendous optimism about finding ways to harness the rich heritage of St. Louis as the catalyst for a boundless future. His visionary efforts in the service of the city reminds me of St. Louis' legendary civic leaders, such as Luther Ely Smith, who first conceived of the Arch as a memorial to a growth, expansion, and exploration. I have encountered many other inspiring civic leaders in my career and, among these, Walter stands out for his single-minded devotion to a project and his demonstrated ability to make sure that worthwhile things are accomplished.

A project such as CityArchRiver, would remain a blue-sky dream without a close and sometimes challenging collaboration between groups such as various Departments of Transportation, the National Park Service, City Parks, Districts, Conservancies, and business interests, not to mention community groups and individual residents. Bringing this disparate range of interests together to advance a common goal is something that Walter does so effortlessly that you can easily forget how difficult a task this is. I can't imagine anybody else in St. Louis who could have led this effort so effectively, if at all. Walter is a champion for the future of his city, the Arch Grounds and great public spaces in the St. Louis region, and I can't imagine a person more deserving of being an Honorary ASLA Member.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Van Valkenburgh". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized loop at the end of the last name.

Michael Van Valkenburgh  
President and CEO



## EAST-WEST GATEWAY Council of Governments

Creating Solutions Across Jurisdictional Boundaries

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Chairman, St. Clair County Board

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Jefferson County

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Steve Stenger  
County Executive  
St. Louis County

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### Executive Director

Ed Hillhouse

### Assistant Executive Director

James M. Wild

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The on-going work, to be completed in celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Arch, has elevated the level of discussion and knowledge of landscape architecture in St. Louis and the state of Missouri. The Arch Grounds, first with Dan Kiley's original vision and now with Michael Van Valkenburgh's revitalization, has truly raised awareness of the role landscape architects play in creation of great public places.

As a champion for the Arch Grounds and great public spaces in the St. Louis region, I wholeheartedly encourage the ASLA to recognize Walter Metcalfe as an Honorary Member of ASLA.

Sincerely,

Edward Hillhouse  
Executive Director

Gateway Tower  
One Memorial Drive, Suite 1600  
St. Louis, MO 63102-2451

314-421-4220  
618-274-2750  
Fax 314-231-6120

webmaster@ewgateway.org  
www.ewgateway.org





For a clean, green, connected St. Louis region

[www.grgstl.org](http://www.grgstl.org)

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The on-going work, in celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the topping of the Gateway Arch in October 2015, has elevated the level of discussion and knowledge of landscape architecture in St. Louis and the state of Missouri. The Arch Grounds, first with Dan Kiley's original vision and now with Michael Van Valkenburgh's revitalization, has truly raised awareness of the role landscape architects play in creation of great public places.

As a champion for the Arch Grounds and great public spaces in the St. Louis region, I whole heartedly recommend that Walter Metcalfe be recognized as an Honorary Member of ASLA.

Sincerely,

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Susan Trautman  
Executive Director

# Downtown STL, Inc.

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Doug Woodruff  
President & CEO



