



Board of Trustees
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS
636 Eye Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Board Members,

It is a pleasure and a privilege to nominate the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center in Austin, Texas for the 2008 Olmsted Medal.

The Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center (The Center), with the American Society of Landscape Architects and the U.S. Botanical Garden, has taken an environmental leadership position by its bold move to develop sustainable standards for landscapes nationwide. This pioneering effort, *The Sustainable Sites Initiative*, will play a significant role in advancing the profession of Landscape Architecture to a commanding position at the forefront of the environmental movement.

At a time in our history when there does not seem to be a place on Earth that has not been impacted by globalization and human development, one of the most pressing issues that confronts us is the loss and disruption of natural habitats due to the introduction of invasive species. The Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center has shown vision by its commitment to increasing the sustainable use and conservation of native wildflowers, plants and landscapes. This commitment has been manifested throughout the years by the Center's educational programs that exalt the value of native ecosystems, and its demonstration gardens that display the native flora of the Central Texas Hill Country.

The Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center has an important role in the conservation and land stewardship world. At the time that the Center was created by Lady Bird Johnson, its purpose was to preserve the diversity and splendor of native landscapes and the flora of North America. Today the Center is recognized for its Land Restoration Programs which are based on solid science and field research. The Center's ongoing research work includes land management methods, fire ecology, native green roofs, and stewardship programs. The Center's research activities complement the education and stewardship initiatives that The Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center is undertaking to preserve the richness and beauty of native landscapes.

I unreservedly recommend The Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center for the Olmsted Medal, and hope that the Board will give full consideration to this nomination.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "José M. Almiñana".

José M. Almiñana, ASLA, RLA
Principal, Andropogon Associates, Ltd.