The American Planning Association’s New York Metro Chapter (APA-NYM) supports our members, local communities, schools, and practicing professionals through advocating for good planning practice, hosting diverse events and facilitating professional development opportunities in the New York Metro Area.

www.nyplanning.org
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President’s Message

Maxwell L. Sokol, AICP

It has been and continues to be a privilege to represent and guide our Chapter forward as your President, in close collaboration with the entire leadership team. Building upon our programs and initiatives from last year, we have much to report about our collective accomplishments over the course of 2018.

Many highlights from the year represent a continuation of well-established best practices, which is a testament to the strong foundation provided by former Chapter leaders. For instance, we proudly embrace the future of the planning profession by proactively engaging students and emerging professionals through initiatives such as the Chapter’s annual Student Studio Showcase, Mentorship Program, AICP “What to Expect” sessions, youth planning education, and the Arthur Kunz Memorial Scholarships to attend the National Planning Conference. We also remain intently focused on providing a wide range and format of professional development and networking opportunities throughout the region, including day-long conferences, evening panel discussions, walking tours, bike tours, informal happy hours, and committee meetings.

In addition to our Annual Conference, we continue to increase the number and type of premier events for our members. Our joint conference with the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) and American Institute of Architects (AIA) New York Chapters is rewarding in its emphasis on breaking down disciplinary silos, and the Diversity Committee’s Hindsight Conference is unique in that it focuses on “diversity and social equity not solely as a topic at a conference, but as a lens through which all planning and community development should be implemented.” Our Chapter’s other subject matter Committees, as well as the geographic Sections, similarly continue to expand programmatic offerings to serve our members.

We also maintain our strong support for APA as a national organization. Many Chapter members play active roles in advancing national initiatives, and I am currently serving as Vice Chair of the Presidents Leadership Committee on the Chapter Presidents Council, a position that enables me to share our success stories and learn from Chapters around the country. As a Chapter, we demonstrated support for the APA Foundation—the only foundation exclusively dedicated to the planning profession—not only through our contribution on the first-ever APA Giving Day, but also when we partnered with the New Jersey and New York Upstate Chapters to host a reception at the 2018 National Planning Conference (NPC18) that encouraged donations to the APA Foundation. Overall, we—as individuals and as a collective Chapter—derive significant benefits from our membership in APA, and the following page offers an update on some of the key areas of focus at the national level.

The subsequent pages of this Annual Report detail our local work as a Chapter over the course of the year, made possible by invaluable volunteerism from dozens of members, and I continue to be inspired by the dedication and achievements of our members. In addition to our annual Chapter Award winners, a few of the many examples that come to mind are as follows:

>> At NPC18, I watched with admiration as Chapter members Maxine Griffith, FAICP and Jan Degenshein, FAICP were inducted into the prestigious College of Fellows of the American Institute of Certified Planners (FAICP) for their excellence in professional practice and community service/leadership, respectively.

>> Also at NPC18, I had the pleasure to cheer on the leadership team from our Chapter’s Diversity Committee when they led an impassioned session on the reinvigoration of the Committee over the past several years, which was also highlighted in an APA blog post as one of the most active local chapter committees across the country.

>> I had great pride when I learned that multiple awards would be presented to the NY Metro Planners4Health Task Force, an interdisciplinary and interorganizational partnership focusing on the connections between planning and public health throughout the region. The Task Force received a Special Regional Commendation in Policy Integration in Planning and Public Health from the Westchester Municipal Planning Federation at their 2018 annual awards program, and the project also won an APA Divisions Council Achievement Award for Contribution to the Planning Profession.

Our Chapter is only as strong as our members who represent it in name and in practice, and in that vein, I want to extend my gratitude to the leadership team for a productive 2017-18 term, and to convey my enthusiasm and optimism for the path forward. In both 2017 and 2018, we convened Chapter leadership retreats for the Executive Committee and Co-Chairs of the subject matter Committees, and these landmark gatherings reinforced our shared vision to maximize value for our members. As I begin a second term as your Chapter President, I am honored to continue this collaboration with the leadership team and the membership at large to guide our Chapter’s evolution and celebrate our successes along the way.

Sincerely,

Max
American Planning Association

Update on National Initiatives

In April 2018, the APA Board of Directors approved the adoption of the Diversity and Inclusion Vision Statement, Mission Statement, and Strategy into APA’s Development Plan, which sets the direction for how APA operates and informs and inspires what we do as a planning community. For more information, visit www.planning.org/diversity/.

In 2018, APA launched Planning Home, an organization-wide initiative to reshape the way planning is used to address America’s housing affordability crisis. Driven by six guiding principles, the Planning Home initiative is laying the groundwork for planners to play a pivotal role in helping to reinvent housing policy. For more information, visit www.planning.org/home/.

It was a year of firsts for the APA Foundation, which aims to advance the art and science of planning through philanthropic activities. In 2018, the APA Foundation awarded the most student scholarships in one year—$25,000 to eight planning students—to make the planning profession more diverse and accessible. Also in 2018, the APA Foundation oversaw the first grant-making program for planners, raising more than $78,000 for resilience projects to aid seven communities that were impacted in 2017 by natural disasters including hurricanes, floods, and wildfires. Other firsts for the APA Foundation in 2018 included organizing the inaugural APA Giving Day and appointing workgroups for the FutureShape initiative, which will produce the first peer-vetted research agenda in the nation for the planning profession. For more information, visit www.planning.org/foundation/.

APA’s new online education platform, APA Learn, launched in November 2018. APA Learn features almost 400 courses (offering 500+ AICP CM credits) and seamless integration with CM logging, including enhanced search for CM-eligible courses and mobile-friendly bookmarking capabilities. For more information about this affordably-priced, top-quality education option, visit www.planning.org/apalearn/.

APA hosted its first-ever specialty conference in 2018, focusing on water issues. The Water and Planning Connect conference marked an impressive first step in building a stronger foundation between the planning and water management professions. The event’s water-focused program included engaging keynote, networking opportunities, and interdisciplinary panels. For more information, visit www.planning.org/conference/water/.

Following the 2018 National Planning Conference (NPC18) in New Orleans, planning is well underway for the NPC19 in San Francisco, scheduled for April 13-16, 2019. For more information, visit www.planning.org/npc19/.

Over the course of 2018, APA also provided a wide range of additional benefits to members, building upon a combination of long-standing programs as well as relatively new initiatives. These offerings included—but were not limited to—the following:

The annual Policy and Advocacy Conference, culminating in Planners’ Day on Capitol Hill, which offers attendees the unique opportunity to meet face-to-face with congressional representatives and staff in Washington, DC to discuss planning issues and funding for critical planning programs.

Designation of Great Places in America, which kickstarts the countdown to National Community Planning Month.

Topic-based, geography-based, and population-based work led by APA’s 21 Divisions.

The Planners Advocacy Network (PAN), which offers members an opportunity to shape APA’s policy and advocacy work, receive regular policy updates, and gain access to exclusive tips, training, and advocacy tools.

An annual slate of legislative priorities—in conjunction with ongoing work to publish policy guides and issue policy statements—in support of the mission to create stronger, more just communities.

The Ambassador Program, which aims to advance the public understanding of planning and promote the planning profession through activities and events in local communities.

The AICP Candidate Pilot Program, which offers planners the ability to take the AICP exam prior to earning the professional planning experience, thereby providing a path to start earlier to achieve the designation.

New resources in the Research KnowledgeBase collection, new reports issued by the Planners Advisory Service (PAS), and free online access to the APA Library E-Book Collection.

Applied research work coming out of APA’s Green Communities Center, Hazards Planning Center, and Planning and Community Health Center.

Additionally, APA membership continues to be free for any student actively enrolled or matriculated in any university or college degree program, and new members can join the APA at a savings of up to 85 percent a year, for up to two years. For more information, visit www.planning.org/membership.

APA Chief Executive Officer James Drinan recently announced his upcoming retirement. The APA Board of Directors has retained an executive search firm to lead the search for his successor. The NY Metro Chapter greatly appreciates Jim’s countless contributions to advancing the APA organization during his five-year tenure as CEO, and we wish him well in his future endeavors.
The APA NY Metro Chapter is served by an Executive Committee of 13 voting members, as well as the Immediate Past President and Chair of the Young Planners Group (YPG) as non-voting members.

**President**  
Maxwell Sokol, AICP

**Immediate Past President**  
James Rausse, AICP

**Chapter Secretary**  
Olivia Jovine

**Chapter Treasurer**  
Shachi Pandey, AICP, LEED AP

**Professional Development Officer/VP of Professional Development**  
Alex Wallach, AICP

**VP of Committees**  
Katie Theis, AICP, RLA, LEED AP

**VP of Communications**  
Ela Dokonal, AICP CUD, LEED AP

**VP of Intergovernmental Affairs**  
Moses Gates, AICP

**VP of Programs**  
Kovid Saxena, AICP, LEED AP, ENV SP

**Long Island Section Representative**  
Sean Sallie, AICP

**Lower Hudson Valley East Section Representative**  
Gina D’Agrosa, AICP

**Lower Hudson Valley West Section Representative**  
Heather Jacksy, AICP

**New York City Section Representative**  
Scott Grimm-Lyon, AICP

**Student Representative Committee (SRC) Chair**  
Caroline Peri

**Young Planners Group (YPG) Chair**  
Petr Vancura

The Chapter thanks the VP of Communications Ela Dokonal, AICP CUD, LEED AP, for her time spent designing this report, as well as Chapter Secretary Olivia Jovine for facilitating the preparation of the report.
American Planning Association

Leadership

APA is governed by its Board of Directors, who are elected from among the membership of the Association. The Board is chaired by the APA President, and sets broad policy for the Association and governs its affairs.

The AICP Commission is the eight-member governing body of the American Institute of Certified Planners. Members include a President, a President-Elect or an Immediate Past President, and six Commissioners.

Cynthia Bowen, FAICP
APA President

Courtenay D. Mercer, AICP, PP
APA Director Elected from Region I

Glenn E. Larson, AICP
AICP President

Justin Garrett Moore, AICP, AICP Commissioner Elected from Region I

Cynthia Bowen is the director of planning for Rundell Ernstberger Associates (REA), a national planning, urban design, and land architect firm founded in 1979. An active APA member, Bowen has held a number of leadership positions including president of the APA Indiana Chapter and vice chair and secretary/treasurer of the Chapter Presidents Council. Bowen is a graduate of Ball State University with degrees in urban and regional planning and environmental science and design. Within her community, Bowen has served on many boards and committees.

Courtenay Mercer is serving her second four-year term on the board and is the board’s secretary. She is principal of Mercer Planning Association in Jersey City, New Jersey, and formerly served as the director of planning at the NJ Office of Smart Growth. She holds master’s and bachelor’s degrees from Rutgers University. Within APA, Mercer has served as a member on the Budget and Development Plan Committee, Legislative and Policy Committee, and chair of the Membership Committee. She also previously served as the APA New Jersey Chapter president and as treasurer of the APA Chapter Presidents Council.

Glenn Larson has more than 38 years of comprehensive planning and management experience in a variety of communities in Virginia and South Carolina. He served as assistant director of the Chesterfield County, Virginia, Planning Department from 1991 to 2015. Larson is a charter member of AICP, and was AICP Commissioner from Region II from 2012–16, when he became president-elect of AICP. Prior to 2012, Larson served on the APA Virginia Chapter board of directors for more than 20 years. He has a Master of City and Regional Planning degree from Ohio State University and a BA from Miami University. He lives in Richmond, Virginia.

Justin Garrett Moore, AICP, is an urban designer and the executive director of the NYC Public Design Commission. He has extensive experience in urban planning and design — from large-scale urban systems, policies, and projects to grassroots and community-based planning, design, and arts initiatives. Moore is also a member of the Urban Design Forum and Next City’s Vanguard, and teaches at Columbia University GSAPP’s urban design and planning programs. He is also the co-founder of Urban Patch, a social enterprise that focuses on community revitalization and design in American inner cities.

The NY Metro Chapter congratulates Kurt E. Christiansen, FAICP and Deborah Alaimo Lawlor, FAICP, PP on their election to the roles of APA President-Elect and AICP President-Elect, respectively.
The 2018 National Planning Conference was filled with endless learning and networking opportunities in New Orleans. Here are some of the high-level highlights of the conference, broken down by the numbers.

Source: planning.org

>> More than 5,500 attendees joined their planning colleagues at NPC18

>> More than 1,100 attendees were planning students

>> Attendees came from 22 different countries...

>> ...and all 50 states!

>> Attendees had their pick of more than 274 educational sessions

>> For the first time, every NPC18 educational session was on one of 12 tracks

>> Attendees got out and about in New Orleans and the Gulf region on 47 mobile workshops

>> Between mobile workshops, the Blue Bikes system, and others, attendees biked their way around the city

>> More than 6% of NPC18 attendees took advantage of the Resume Clinic in the Career Zone, along with all the other career services offerings on hand

>> Attendees made great use of the complimentary professional headshots in the Career Zone

>> 5 National Planning Excellence awards were given

>> They explored 3 Great Places in America in New Orleans

>> Attendees posted their experiences all over social media, with 5,000+ mentions of #NPC18 on Twitter alone, 500+ posts on Instagram...

>> ...and APA’s snapchat filters around the convention center and New Orleans were viewed nearly 40,000 times over 4 days. For more, check out the full #NPC18 Social Media Rewind

>> 120 attendees joined the Planning Advocacy Network during NPC18

>> 55 attendees donated to the APA Foundation on site

The APA Foundation reached its first year fundraising goal during NPC18, raising more than $100,000 from NPC17 to NPC18.
Get ready for NPC19 scheduled for April 13-16, 2019, in San Francisco!

NPC18 - Opening Remarks from APA President Cynthia Bowen, FAICP

NPC18 - Career Networking Hour

NPC18 - APA Pavilion

NPC18 - The host city of New Orleans

NPC18 - The NY Metro Chapter was well represented!
Olivia Jovine
Chapter Secretary

Olivia Jovine is honored to have served as the Chapter Secretary for nearly three years. She started as the interim Chapter Secretary from February to September 2016. Thereafter, she was formally elected Chapter Secretary for the 2016 to 2018 term.

Ms. Jovine’s duties included preparing meeting minutes, managing the Chapter’s records, facilitating the preparation of the Chapter’s Annual Report, and assisting with organizing Chapter events.

The Chapter Secretary position plays a critical role in fostering communication within the Chapter as well as diligence through proper management and utilization of important records. Ms. Jovine has also undertaken stewardship of the admin@nyplanning.org email address, the Chapter’s P.O. Box, and Chapter membership records.

Ms. Jovine has appreciated and enjoyed being a part of the APA NY Metro Chapter leadership, and looks forward to continuing to stay involved with the Chapter as the founder and incoming Chair of the Technology Committee. The Chapter thanks Ms. Jovine for her service and welcomes James Rigert as the incoming Chapter Secretary for the 2019-20 term.

Shachi Pandey, AICP, LEED AP
Chapter Treasurer

The Chapter built upon its success from 2017 over the course of this calendar year. Consistent with our approach from last year, we developed a “goals-based budget” to maximize spending in the areas of planning education, professional development, and advocating for good planning practice. The spending in these areas is summarized in the charts on the next page, and we are very happy to report that the vast majority of our budget was dedicated to furthering the Chapter’s mission. The reports provided by our Vice Presidents and Section Representatives highlight the Chapter’s programs, events, and professional development activities throughout this past year.

We thank all of our returning and new sponsors for generously supporting our programs and mission. Our sponsorship drive for Chapter programming brought in over $32,500, which exceeded our goal for the year and was dedicated to supporting professional development and events and programs in line with our mission. Our Chapter operations and administrative functions were significantly supported by volunteer time, and we greatly appreciate the hard work of all of our volunteers!

We project ending the year on a strong note to set us up for continued success in 2019 and beyond.

The NY Metro Chapter thanks Shachi for her dedication to the role as Chapter Treasurer for the past two years, and look forward to continuing to work together as she steps into her new role as incoming Vice President of Intergovernmental Affairs for the 2019-20 term. The Chapter welcomes Kellie Radnis as the incoming Treasurer.
The 2018 APA-NYM
Financial Statement Table
Actuals for Financial Year 2018 are projected for closing date 31 December 2018

![Image of financial statement table]

![Image of expense report diagram]

The 2018 APA-NYM
Expense Report
Diagram of percentile allocations for areas of administration & operation vs. spending dedicated to furthering the Chapter Mission
**Certification Maintenance**

The APA New York Metro Chapter provides multiple opportunities throughout the year for our members to earn AICP certification maintenance (CM) credits to support their professional development and standing in the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP). As of mid-October, the Chapter has offered, or will offer, 30 events and conferences with over 135 CM hours of planning education in 2018, including law and ethics credits.

The Chapter's programs have maintained a high level of quality, as evidenced by an average reviewer rating of approximately 4 out of 5 stars.

**AICP Exams**

The Chapter welcomed 32 new AICP members in the past year, with 23 new AICP planners in November 2017 and 9 new AICP planners in May 2018. The Chapter also welcomed 5 AICP Candidates in May 2018 under the new AICP Candidate Pilot Program. AICP Candidates have successfully passed the comprehensive planning exam, and are on their way to becoming full-fledged AICP members pending two years of planning experience.

The Chapter had an annual average pass rate of 73 percent for the November 2017 and May 2018 AICP exams, which exceeded the National annual average pass rate of 66 percent. May 2018 marked the first time recent graduates were able to take the test prior to earning two years of experience and become AICP Candidates. Prospective AICP Candidates passed the exam at virtually the same rate as traditional examinees.

Continuing a time-honored tradition, the Chapter hosted a “What to Expect from the AICP Exam” session twice during the 2018 calendar year. The sessions provided an overview of the format of the exam as well as study tips and technical advice for applicants. The sessions were well received with record attendance, including a combined 37 attendees for the Spring and Fall 2018 sessions, plus approximately five new AICP planners who jointed to shared their experiences with those planning to take the exam. Many thanks to the session volunteers and best of luck to those preparing for the November 2018 exam!


**APA National Planning Conference**

In his role as VP of Professional Development, Alex Wallach took part in the PDO meeting at the APA National Planning Conference in New Orleans, where the discussion centered on APA’s efforts to promote the new AICP Candidate Program, how to help members prepare for the AICP exam, and how to help advance the AICP certification in the profession.

Under the AICP Candidate Program, eligible students and recent graduates of accredited planning schools can now start early on the path to AICP by taking the AICP exam fresh out of school while they are still in the academic mind frame. Passing the exam as a recent graduate distinguishes individuals to professional colleagues and potential employers; and candidates can use the “AICP Candidate” designation on business cards, resumes, etc. To put your planning career on the fast track, visit www.planning.org/aicp/candidate/ for more information on the AICP Candidate program.

Alex’s participation in the PDO meeting complemented his role as co-presenter in a conference session, “Becoming AICP - Advice from Recently Credentialed Members,” where attendees got study tips and candid advice about the AICP certification.

Also at the National Planning Conference, Chapter members Maxine Griffith, FAICP and Jan Degenshein, FAICP were inducted to the AICP College of Fellows. Fellows of AICP are nominated and selected by their peers to recognize and honor their outstanding contributions as professional planners. Maxine Griffith, FAICP delivered the Class of 2018 speech focused on the topics of power and diversity. Congratulations to Maxine and Jan!
Congratulations to Maxine Griffith, FAICP & Jan Degenshein, FAICP and all 2018 Inductees to the College of Fellows of AICP!

Congratulations to our Chapter’s new AICP Members!

November 2017 AICP Members:
Melissa Auton, AICP
Phil Betheil, AICP
Erich Bilal, AICP
Keith Binnie, AICP
Ariana Branchini, AICP
Tyler Cukar, AICP
John Parsons Douglas, AICP
Danielle Dowler, AICP
Peter Erhartic, AICP
Kristen Gelino, AICP
Jungje Jo, AICP
Kelsey Lang, AICP
Katharine Magiera Kirk, AICP
Josh Margul, AICP
Linda McIntyre, AICP
Brett Mons, AICP
Hobum Moon, AICP
John Nieman, AICP
Kelly Richardson, AICP
Vincent Riscica, AICP
Abigail Rudow, AICP
John Simpson, AICP
Jamie Springer, AICP

May 2018 AICP Members:
Gregory Cutler, AICP
Aileen Gorsuch, AICP

Congratulations to our Chapter’s AICP Candidates!

Timothy Douglas, AICP Candidate
Robert Joseph, AICP Candidate
Jennifer Roberton, AICP Candidate
Kirsten Weismantle, AICP Candidate
Jianhao Zhou, AICP Candidate

>> Share Your Ideas
If you have ideas for how the Chapter can support emerging and practicing professionals through certification and professional development, please reach out to Alex J. Wallach at pdo@nyplanning.org.
Katie Theis, AICP, RLA, LEED AP  
VP of Committees

In 2018, the Chapter’s Committees have continued to grow and extend their reach through increased membership, expanded CM programming and outreach activities on behalf of the Chapter. The Committees’ dedication to their mission, goals, and objectives resulted in a diverse and exciting year of panels, walking tours, and networking events.

The Chapter Committees bring unique perspectives to topics of shared interest and help the Chapter form partnerships with related organizations.

The Chapter thanks Katie Theis, AICP, RLA, LEED AP for her leadership, and welcomes Matt Cunningham, AICP as the incoming VP of Committees for the 2019-20 term. If you are interested in getting involved with or learning more about the Chapter Committees, please visit our website for more information: www.nyplanning.org/committees/.

2018 highlights:

>> Awards Committee
The Awards Committee identifies Annual Chapter Award recipients, and looks for candidates with excellence in the practice of planning in the New York Metro area. See the full list of 2017 award recipients at the end of this report. The 2018 award recipients will be announced at the 2018 Chapter Annual Conference and included in the 2019 Chapter Annual Report.

>> Diversity Committee
The Diversity Committee (DivComm) entered yet another busy and successful year since its revival in April 2015. This calendar year built upon the momentum from the launch of the first annual Hindsight Conference in November 2017 - a conference centralizing social equity in planning, which gathered over 400 participants from across the country. The conference was held in honor of the 100th anniversary of Buchanan v. Warley, the Supreme Court case that invalidated racial zoning. This all-volunteer-organized conference featured different sessions selected through a competitive Request for Session Proposals process, all centralizing equity in planning and giving a platform to diverse and underrepresented voices. In the spring of 2018, the committee began planning for the 2018 Hindsight Conference, which honored the 50th anniversary of the Fair Housing Act and once again attracted national attention and hundreds of attendees.

In April 2018, DivComm leadership Tiffany-Ann Taylor, Giovania Tiarachriestie, Daphne Lundi, and Catherine Nguyen presented at the National Planning Conference in New Orleans. The session focused on the need for greater diversity and inclusion in the profession, origins of our Chapter’s Committee, and our activities and lessons learned to inspire others around the country.

Simultaneously, the Committee released an APA blog post to help build the capacity of other chapters nationwide to start and grow diversity committees. This fall, Committee Co-Chairs Giovania Tiarachristie and Tiffany-Ann Taylor were also featured to speak on diversity and planning at the APA Policy and Advocacy Conference in Washington D.C. and the NACTO Conference in Los Angeles, respectively.

In May 2018, DivComm held another professional development event for its members and the greater public. In partnership with NYCxDesign, the NYC Economic Development Corporation, and the NY Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects, DivComm hosted a panel and networking session for Minority and Women Owned Business
Enterprises (MWBEs) in the planning and design professions.

The panel featured MWBEs and their journeys in starting and running their own firms, as well as how government can better support MWBEs in planning and design. The event was well attended and also featured a networking session with various City agencies and their MWBE divisions. Read more about the event on our website at www.nyplanning.org/groups/diversity/mwbe-panel-and-networking-event-on-planning-and-design/.

Throughout the year, the Committee also continued to be active with youth in planning workshops, leading interactive activities with middle and high school students exploring urban planning and their impact on communities. In February 2018, the Committee’s youth and planning education team held an Affordable Housing Crisis simulation workshop with urban geography students at the Pratt Institute. The team collaborated with the Urban Design Forum and Y-PLAN (Youth – Plan, Learn, Act, Now) to lead a workshop in March 2018 at Grover Cleveland High School in Ridgewood, Queens, focusing on immigration, safety, and public spaces. The team also participated in the Y-Plan summit in May 2018, which showcased the civic solutions of high school students from 16 schools across Brooklyn and Queens. The team piloted a new climate change/environmental justice planning game with teenage girls at the Octavia Project in July 2018. In November 2018, the team’s work was showcased at the Hindsight Conference as a way to encourage more planning professionals to participate in youth education.

Continuing to meet monthly, DivComm leadership have been striving to be more intentional in the balance of organizing and hosting educational events, while fostering a safe space and building a community for planners that identify as people of color, women, LGBTQ, and other underrepresented identities. This year, members have convened for arts and crafts day, movie nights, informal happy hours, and safe space hours in monthly meetings. To get involved in the work of the Committee, email diversity@nyplanning.org to convey your interest.

>> Economic Development Committee

Under the leadership of Co-Chairs Chisato Shimada and Anthony Drummond, the Committee continues to promote forums and events that educate and engage the planning profession in the realm of economic development.

The Committee remains active and involved in the trends of economic development throughout our region. This year, the committee held the first Economic Development Roundtable, which is envisioned to be a recurring event featuring conversations about projects, timely issues, and trends in economic development.

For the upcoming year, we look to continue our topical events by hosting professional forums and tours throughout the New York metro region.

Chapter members who are interested in participating in assessing the relationship between planning and economic development are encouraged to join the Committee. Please email economicdevelopment@nyplanning.org for more information.

>> Housing and Neighborhood Revitalization Committee (HNRC)

This year the Housing and Neighborhood Revitalization Committee continued focus on equity issues in the New York City housing market and the collateral damage of gentrification and displacement as it continues to increase locally and nationwide. Our activities ranged from discussions at Committee meetings to public events and neighborhood tours. Our goal was to highlight the perspectives of the communities undergoing dramatic change.

One series of events from 2018 featured tours in partnership with the Municipal Art Society (MAS). The first tour was of Downtown Jamaica on September 16th, followed by a tour of the Bronx Hub on October 20th. HNRC member Laurence Frommer led both tours, and the second tour was organized in collaboration with former NY Metro Chapter President, and Director of Planning for the Bronx Borough President’s office, James Rausse, AICP. The third tour was held in Brownsville on November 11th.

Members of HNRC also contributed to the APA process of updating the Housing Policy Guide to reflect significant changes in U.S. housing markets and Federal housing policy. Locally, HNRC has held several discussions about the state of the New York City Housing Authority and the ongoing efforts to improve conditions.

In conjunction with the Collective for Community, Culture and the Environment, HNRC recently led a session at the 2018 Hindsight Conference on the topic of fair housing and confronting segregation in NYC.

To get involved in the committee, please email housing@nyplanning.org.

>> Technology Committee

The Technology Committee, proposed and founded by Olivia Jovine, was recently approved by the Chapter’s Executive Committee and will officially launch in January 2019 as the Chapter’s newest committee. The Technology Committee will investigate relevant technology, innovations, and concepts to encourage innovation and learning in the field of urban planning, including best practices in the use of technology to support planning. The Committee is committed to equity and seeks to challenge and engage in discussions beyond “buzz words” and “hot topics.” Stay tuned for opportunities to get involved.
**Transportation Committee**

The Transportation Committee had another successful year hosting informal and CM events, as well as partnering with other transportation-related organizations. Committee leadership consisted of Matt Cunningham, AICP and Holly Chase, AICP (Co-Chairs), Stephanie Shelloloe, AICP (Events Coordinator), and Lindsay Levine (Communications Lead).

2018 highlights include:

- Hosted an NYC Ferry informal discussion and happy hour in January in Long Island City. Attendees heard from representatives of NYCEDC, Hornblower, and Insight Civil Engineering on the ferry system’s launch and growth since 2017.

- Organized a Regional Planning CM panel discussion in February. The event covered the history and context of regional planning in the New York City area, and highlighted the recently released regional plans from the Regional Plan Association (RPA) and New York Metropolitan Transportation Council (NYMTC).

- Held a happy hour and open meeting in March to discuss the Committee’s objectives and engage new and returning members.

- Partnered with the Greater New York Chapters of WTS and the Young Professionals in Transportation (YPT), in addition to our APA Chapter’s NYC Section, to put on the annual Transportation Trivia Night in April.

- Hosted a CM panel, “Building Equitable Bike Share in Bed-Stuy” in May. Representatives from Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Corporation, Citi Bike (Motivate), NYCDOT, and the NYC Department of Health discussed their partnership’s successes and challenges developing inclusive bike share programs and policies.

- Partnered with WTS and the NYCDOT Bicycle Program for a bike tour of East Harlem and Randall’s Island. The tour explored new and innovative bike infrastructure and ended with networking over food and drinks.

- Supported ASLA NY to promote the Park(ing) Day 2018 (September 21st) setup at Rockefeller Plaza, outside the Today Show windows.

- Partnered with YPT on the annual Transportation Scavenger Hunt in October. This year’s event took place between the Queensboro and Williamsburg Bridges.

To get involved with the Transportation Committee or hear more about our upcoming activities, join our Google and/or Facebook groups, or email us at transportation@nyplanning.org. We are always looking for feedback and ideas to expand our range of events, increase participation, and bring in new and diverse voices to continue the conversation around transportation in the New York Metro region.

**Urban Design Committee (with Arts & Culture Subcommittee)**

The Urban Design Committee, led by Co-Chairs Chris Rhie and Cristina Ungureanu, has had a productive year, continuing to advance its mission of elevating the role of the planning profession in urban design. In addition to organizing several events throughout the year, the Committee established internal working groups to broaden advocacy initiatives around youth education, emerging firms and providing planning/urban design technical assistance. The following working groups were established within the Committee in 2017, and have continued their work over the last year:

- **Youth Education** – Intended to raise awareness and understanding about the planning and urban design profession among NYC’s youth.

- **Emerging Firms** – Intended to highlight emerging planning and urban design practices and commend project innovation and ingenuity in urban design.

- **Technical Assistance** – Intended to provide a framework for offering short-term, pro-bono consulting services to local clients by Chapter members.

As of this September, Chris Rhie has stepped down from his post as he has relocated to Los Angeles. While Chris will be missed, the Committee is happy to welcome Greg Haley as incoming Co-Chair, joining Cristina to help steer and facilitate the Committee over the coming year.

Over the last year, the Committee welcomed new members Kaja Kuhl, Grace Lee, and Eugenia Di Girolamo, bringing our group to a total of 17 members. Alex Adams has continued his role as Communications Lead, and Renee Schoonbeek continues to represent our Chapter and the Urban Design Committee at the Fine Arts Federation.
This year, Renee also engaged with Chapter leadership to review panel session proposals for the Chapter Annual Conference. Greg represented the Committee through his role on the advisory group for the National Consortium for Creative Placemaking’s annual Creative Placemaking Leadership Summit.

The Committee continues to organize events open to the public and exceeded its 2018 goal of hosting at least 2 CM events and partnering with external organizations. Successfully completed events included:

- Ferry Happy Hour (co-hosted), January 2018
- Community Town Hall/Land Use Forum entitled “How Tall is too Tall?” (co-sponsored in conjunction with committee member Alex and his organization Civitas), June 2018
- Committee participation in the Joint APA/ASLA/AIA New York Conference, September 2018
- Sustainability District Planning Conference (in conjunction with NY AIA Planning and Urban Design Committee), September 2018
- Comprehensive Planning in NYC Panel, October 2018

The Committee has also continued to collaborate with the Arts & Culture Subcommittee, which has continued its robust schedule of programs. In 2018, the Arts & Culture Subcommittee hosted or collaborated on three events: “Building Equity and Assets through Arts & Culture,” April 2018; “Book Launch: City Makers” by Cassim Shepard (in collaboration with the Hudson Valley West Section), June 2018; and participation in the APA/ASLA/AIA New York Conference, September 2018. Two Subcommittee members have joined the Urban Design Committee’s Emerging Firms working group and supported its event in November 2018. Our online presence continues to grow with our Facebook group, and we continue to do outreach to local graduate programs to expand the community of information sharing.

The membership of the Arts & Culture Subcommittee continues to grow steadily with new members that represent the planning field as well as the arts field. Two years after founding the Subcommittee, Caroline Bauer, Vanessa Smith and Naomi Hersson-Ringskog have started to discuss a transition in leadership, and such discussions will continue in 2019. The Subcommittee feels strongly about collaborating more with other Committees in cross-pollinating ideas and interests and building a stronger Chapter community.

To stay informed of the Urban Design Committee’s activities, join our LinkedIn group and/or email us at urbandesign@nyplanning.org to get involved.

To stay informed of the Arts & Culture Subcommittee’s activities, join our Facebook groups or email us at apa.arts.culture@gmail.com to get involved.

Waterfront Committee

Over the past year, overlooking New York Harbor, the Waterfront Committee met Monday evenings once a month at Cornell University’s College of Architecture, Art, and Planning (AAP NYC) located at 26 Broadway on the 20th floor in Lower Manhattan. Committee members from diverse professional backgrounds convened to discuss waterfront developments, transportation, and general waterfront trends throughout the New York region. Discussion centered on preparations for APA events and Committee members sharing personal projects, workplace waterfront initiatives, and historic knowledge of the region’s waterfront.

Since late November 2017, the Committee hosted three CM accredited events, two at the Cornell Studio and one a walking tour along the Queens waterfront. The first CM event, titled “New Trends in Coastal Mitigation: A Detailed Look at In-Water Impacts & Mitigation in NYC,” brought together Marit Larson from the NYC Department of Parks and Recreation Natural Resources Group, Bonnie Harkin of Nautilus International consultants, and Max Taffet from the New York City Economic Development Corporation. The panelists presented on the history of in-water construction impact mitigation in NYC and emerging research and tools available for planners and practitioners undertaking waterfront work along the City's shorelines.
The second of the Committee’s CM accredited events was a walking tour on May 20, part of the annual (5/20) celebration of NYC’s 520 miles of waterfront organized by the NYC Department of City Planning. The Committee choreographed a series of experts from the Parks Department, City Planning, New York City Economic Development Corporation, Starr Whitehouse Landscape Architects, and Four Freedoms Park who toured the Committee through the coastal reaches from the Hallet’s Cove peninsula to the tip of Roosevelt Island. Walking approximately 3 miles, the route explored and educated participants on the diversity of NYC shoreline conditions, from one of the original privately owned public waterfront access areas to the brand new waterfront infrastructure of the NYC Ferry. Also visited and discussed along the way were New York City Parks’ kayak launches, the Socrates Sculpture Garden, and the new Cornell Tech Campus.

Most recently, in October 2018, the Committee hosted approximately 50 planners for a CM Law accredited event to learn about the elusive topic of how to plan for lands under water, which often have unclear jurisdictions and complex regulatory contexts—but also endless potential for creative waterfront activation. This perennial issue of waterfront planning is sometimes murky, always fascinating, and good to know about for professional planners working on the waterfront. Lawyers Scott Shostak from the New York City Economic Development Corporation and Alexis Saba from Sive, Paget, and Riesel PC provided detailed explanation of the law and recent cases surrounding issues of lands under water. This was accompanied by a presentation by Edward Weinstein, Principal of Edward M. Weinstein Architecture and Planning PC, who shared examples of history and opportunity associated with lands under water in communities across downstate New York.

In the coming months, the Waterfront Committee plans to host several meetings to discuss Newtown Creek and other Borough Waterways throughout New York City. The Committee meets monthly and is actively looking for new members. To get involved, email waterfront@nyplanning.org.
Additional Committee Event Highlights

Diversity Committee, MWBE Panel and Networking Event, June 2018

Urban Design Committee, Open Space Dialogues: From New Perspectives to Action, April 2018

Economic Development Committee, Roundtable Event

Transportation Committee, Bike Tour, April 2018
In the fast-paced world of today, where the news and notifications are flashing in front of our eyes, on our phones or vibrating on our wrists, it is crucial to develop and constantly improve the strategy that is designed to meet the content and message delivery as effortlessly and interestingly as possible.

The VP of Communications position, created in the Fall of 2015, is focused on improving the way the Chapter shares information and resources with members, as well as the public. Ela Dokonal, AICP CUD, LEED AP, Vice President for Communications, guided the Chapter on important Communication Strategies and executed communications-related needs during 2018. Ela devotes her time to support the Chapter’s collective efforts to leverage the synergies, raise interest, and broaden collaboration with other professional associations, through development and implementation of integrated communication and marketing strategies, collaborative work, and encouragement of sharing of experiences, knowledge, and opportunities.

Communications is crucial for the Chapter’s operating procedures, finances, and the objective to define quantifiable metrics to evaluate progress as we move forward. Our organization is uniquely positioned to promote the value of planning in consensus-building and decision-making, especially regarding vital socio-economic and environmental issues; our Chapter is in one of the most dynamic regions of the country.

The VP of Communications and the Chapter’s leadership team have started to outline communications-related objectives to advance the Chapter’s mission and achieve our overall goal of providing value to our members.

Examples of these objectives include the following, cutting across our varied communications platforms:

- Improve communication standards and tools
- Develop materials with a consistent visual branding
- Increase member engagement
- Promote volunteering, recognizing that we thrive when we work together
- Setup protocols to create a routine and ease of communication
- Improve features and information flow
- Promote our sponsors and help to implement in-kind sponsorships that benefit members
- Improve diversity and inclusion
- Support exchange of ideas

In addition to publicizing local programs, the Chapter shares information about APA National initiatives with our members.
The process of creating branding guides and expanding our social media presence has started, and we will continue to build upon the great progress to-date in 2019.

On a daily basis, Ela is working with Committees, Sections and other leaders to support communication needs, managing communication outlets, and supporting Chapter members and partnering organizations. The sign-up for the Chapter’s bi-weekly newsletter has increased to over 3,000 members, with above-industry average open rate, and the website visits have reached 17,000 views in the past month, with over 100,000 page views in the last year. In the next year, the focus will shift towards improving the Chapter’s following of Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn and Facebook media platforms.

As a member of the Chapter leadership, Ela will continue to discuss action-oriented next steps to maintain the momentum in 2019 and beyond.

Please contact Ela at communications@nyplanning.org with suggestions and questions.
In his role as Vice President of Intergovernmental Affairs, Moses Gates, AICP has guided the Chapter on its stance on important planning issues and releasing positions through 2018. Moses oversaw the Chapter’s participation in both of the APA Delegate Assemblies in 2018 – one at the National Planning Conference in New Orleans, and one at the Policy and Advocacy Conference in Washington, DC – which provide a forum for discussions that influence APA policy guides.

We were also represented at the annual Planners’ Day on Capitol Hill by several Chapter members, who met with the offices of both Senators from New York, as well as the offices of several other members of Congress. Among the agenda items were asking for commitments to robustly fund critical community development and infrastructure programs such as Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), Home Investments Partnership Program (HOME) funding, Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) grants (which replaced TIGER grants), and Transit Capital Investment Grants. Efforts last year were successful in retaining and expanding funding for these programs, and this year the focus was on preserving these funding levels in the face of proposed budget cuts. Planners’ Day also included an ask for legislators to support bipartisan legislation to create a task force on the impact of the affordable housing crisis and prioritizing housing in the 116th Congress.

The Chapter also submitted testimony to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) on its proposed changes to the Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) rules, and to the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency on its proposed changes to the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA). In both cases, the Chapter urged the federal government not to weaken the existing rules, and to preserve the ability of community organizations to properly comment on and advocate for implementation of the rules and legislation governing Fair Housing and Community Reinvestment. Full testimony is available on the Chapter website. Thanks to the National Fair Housing Alliance and the Association for Neighborhood Housing Development for informing the testimony of the Chapter on the proposed AFFH and CRA legislation, respectively.

Going forward, the newly elected VP of Intergovernmental Affairs for 2019-2020 will be Shachi Pandey, AICP, LEED AP, who is currently the Chapter Treasurer. Shachi and Moses will be working closely over the remainder of 2018 to effect a transition plan and new policy operations processes for the Chapter. The Chapter thanks Moses for his leadership in the policy arena!
The 2017 Annual Conference was an all-day event held on October 27, at 58 Park Avenue (Scandinavia House) in Manhattan. Though it followed the APA National Planning Conference in New York City, conference fatigue was not evident as the Chapter’s Annual Conference was fully subscribed with record support from sponsors. The 2017 conference featured the Regional Plan Association’s Fourth Regional Plan, a progress report on coastal resiliency, a novel panel discussion on the application of technology in the public realm, infrastructure for new mobility modes, and a planning law exploration of air rights transfers for complex projects.

Planning for the 2018 Annual Conference on November 16 at Lerner Hall, Columbia University, has been underway for more than a year. This collaborative effort has involved Executive Committee members, Committee Chairs, and, most importantly, Chapter members who enthusiastically responded to the call for session proposals, as in past years. Special thanks to Chapter President Max Sokol, VP of Communications Ela Dokonal, Chapter Treasurer Shachi Pandey, Chapter Secretary Olivia Jovine, Transportation Committee Co-Chair and VP of Programs-elect Holly Chase, Student Representative Amber Nowak, and Urban Design Committee member Renee Schoonbeek.

Chapter members are reminded that ideas for programs, recommendations for speakers, and discussion topics are always welcome and should be either sent to the VP of Programs, Committee Chairs, Section Directors, or the Executive Committee. Contact information is available at www.nyplanning.org.

On a personal note, I have served as VP Programs and Conference Chair since 2011, and decided earlier this year to step aside. I am extremely grateful to my colleagues in the Chapter for making this a truly rewarding experience. Tip of the hat to past Chapter Presidents Donald Burns and James Rausse.

VP Programs-elect Holly Chase has provided incredible support for this year’s conference, and will take the metro area’s premier planning event to greater heights—good luck!
Sean Sallie, AICP is currently serving in his second term as Section Representative. Long Island Section members are private and municipal planners, public officials, and concerned citizens that work or reside in Nassau or Suffolk Counties. Through the work of the Steering Committee, the Section offers professional development and networking events focused on topical planning issues and spotlighting great places throughout Long Island.

Arthur H. Kunz Scholarships & Annual Memorial Scholarship Breakfast
Since 1995, the Long Island Section has been awarding planning scholarships in Arthur H. Kunz’s memory. Arthur was a Long Island planner who was committed to preserving and enhancing Suffolk County by balancing its growth and development with environmental protection. He played an integral part in Suffolk County’s development for almost 30 years and worked for the Nassau County Planning Commission from 1958 to 1969. In 1969, he became Assistant Planning Director for the Suffolk County Department of Planning, and Director in 1989.

Every year, eligible applicants for the scholarship are chosen among Long Island entry-level planners or students in a planning-related major. This year the Section awarded four scholarships to Long Island planners Kendra Armstead, Lucia Cappuccio, Matthew Charters and Matthew Esposito. The scholarship covers the majority of expenses related to registration for the National Planning Conference, APA membership for one year for non-members, and some additional expenses. Mr. Kunz spent most APA conferences attending as many mobile workshops as possible and believed in the value of seeing planning in action in other parts of the country. Therefore, the scholarship stipulates participation in at least one mobile workshop and a short presentation at the Section’s Annual Memorial Breakfast event. Last year, in recognizing the 20th anniversary of the scholarship program, the Section published an article in Long Island Business News on the impact of Mr. Kunz’s legacy on new planners.

On May 4, 2018, the Long Island Section held its annual Arthur Kunz Memorial Scholarship Breakfast at the Sustainability Institute at Molloy College in Farmingdale. The event was attended by more than 70 public and private sector planners, engineers and economic development professionals. The event kicked off with inspiring words from Nassau County Executive Laura Curran and Suffolk County Executive Steven Bellone. Following Q&A with the County Executives, Dr. Floyd Lapp, FAICP delivered a heartfelt tribute to Arthur Kunz. The event then transitioned to reports from each of the 2018 Arthur Kunz Memorial Scholarship recipients on their experience and perspectives from the APA National Planning Conference. The Breakfast concluded with an exciting presentation by Scott Le Vine, Assistant Professor of Urban Planning at SUNY New Paltz, entitled “Transformation in Transportation: Self-Driving Technology, Mobility Services & Millennials.” The program offered 1.5 CM credits.

Summer Field Trip
On August 3rd, 2018, the Long Island Section toured the Sunken Forest Preserve and the Village of Ocean Beach on Fire Island. Nearly 20 planners from Long Island and the region boarded a water taxi from Bayshore and began the journey to Sailors Haven. At the ferry terminal, the group was met by Dave Raymond, Park Ranger, and Kaetlyn Jackson, Park Planner, from the National Parks Service who provided a fascinating tour of the Preserve.

The group was treated to many stories on the history of Fire Island and the ecological and geological significance of the Preserve. After a water taxi ride to the Village of Ocean Beach and a midday stroll along the maritime-inspired car-less streets, the group met...
up with Kevin Schelling from the Village’s Department of Public Works who began a tour of the many resiliency projects being constructed post-Sandy. Kevin shared his experience riding out Superstorm Sandy on Fire Island and a story of how he and his brother waded through waist-deep flood waters during the worst of the storm to shut off a well valve to preserve the only remaining source of potable water. The group toured the new ferry terminal and meeting space that is designed to allow a significant storm surge to penetrate and pass through the space. A highlight of the tour was viewing the new water pump facility constructed on the bay side of the barrier island. The new pump facility is raised significantly above base-flood elevation and includes a new command center room to be used during major storm events.

Overall, the scale of reconstructing Village facilities to be more resilient and multi-functional was a common theme throughout the tour. The group left Fire Island with an even greater appreciation for the natural beauty of our barrier islands, and how a small community can work together to plan and implement resiliency projects that meet the needs of residents and the demands of a tourism destination.

>> Annual East End Conference

On October 25, 2018, the Section held its Annual East End Planning Conference at Hotel Indigo East End located in Riverhead. The Conference kicked off with a mobile workshop at Sutter and Sterlington Greenworks Solar Energy Facilities in Calverton. The afternoon included two exciting panel discussions. The first panel session, titled "Innovative and Alternative On-Site Wastewater Treatment Systems (I/A OWTS) Implementation in Suffolk County," included representatives from the Suffolk County Department of Health Services who provided a brief history of the creation of Suffolk County’s I/A OWTS program, the benefits of the systems, funding programs, and the regulatory permitting requirements. Representatives from the Towns of Southampton and East Hampton discussed how they administer their respective I/A OWTS mandate and funding programs. The panel was moderated by Kyle Collins, AICP, Planning and Development Administrator for the Town of Southampton. The second session titled "Managed Retreat in the Coastal Zone," was moderated by Lisa Liquori, AICP, Principal, Fine Arts & Sciences. Speakers included: Thomas Isles, AICP, TAI Consulting, LLC; Allison Branco, Ph.D., Director of Coastal Programs, The Nature Conservancy of Long Island; Jane K. Brogan, Chief Policy & Research Officer, GOSR; and Lena DeSantis, Managing Planner, Anchor QEA. Panelists discussed the newly-developed NYSDOS Transfer of Development Rights Initiative for Managed Retreat, the Governor’s Office of Storm Recovery and other buyout programs, the National Peconic Estuary Program Climate Ready Assessment Project, and other climate adaptation projects made possible through strategic retreat. The program offered 5 CM credits.

>> Co-Sponsorships & Section Collaboration

The Long Island Section and the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Long Island Branch cosponsored a professional development event on October 16, 2017 (AICP CM Credits were offered). The Section is collaborating with the ASCE on a transportation transformation panel discussion for early 2019. The Section Steering Committee continues to reach out to other organizations on Long Island in an effort to provide a range of CM credit-offering programs and networking opportunities.
2018 Arthur Kunz Scholarship Winners with LI Section Officers

LI Section Officers
Sean Sallie, AICP, Section Director
Kathy Eiseman, AICP, Treasurer
Ann Fangmann, AICP, Secretary
Wes Sternberg, AICP, Professional Development Officer

2018 Steering Committee Members
Patti Bourne, AICP; Kyle Collins, AICP; Ela Dokonal AICP CUD, LEED AP; Marwa Fawaz; Taylor Garner; Emily Humes; Tom Isles, AICP; Janice Jijina, AICP, PE, LEED AP; Sarah Lansdale, AICP; Aryeh Lemberger, AICP; Jefferson Murphree, AICP; Maxwell Sokol, AICP; Wes Sternberg; AICP; David Viana; Alex Wallach, AICP; and Elissa Ward.
The Lower Hudson Valley East Section includes Westchester, Putnam, and Dutchess Counties on the east side of the Hudson River, just north of NYC. Section members live and/or work in a diverse environment that ranges from large urban cities, such as Yonkers, to small rural villages and towns. Gina D’Agrosa, AICP, has served as the Section Representative for the Lower Hudson Valley East Section since January 2015 and will be finishing up her second term at the end of 2018. Peter Feroe, AICP, will be taking over at the start of 2019.

The Hudson Valley East Section concluded 2017 by co-sponsoring a 4-day Land Use Leadership Alliance training program with the Pace Land Use Law Center in Dutchess County. The program focused on sustainable development techniques drawn from the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design for Neighborhood Development (LEED ND) rating system, the Technical Guidance Manual for Sustainable Neighborhoods, the Mid-Hudson Regional Economic Strategy and Sustainability Plan, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation’s Land Use Tool Kit, the Climate Smart Communities Program certification standards, and the Mid-Hudson Sustainability and Smart Growth Toolkit. The program was designed to help leaders create new networks of support, identify successful land use techniques, and develop implementable local strategies that will enable more sustainable development initiatives in our region.

In October of 2018, the Hudson Valley East Section collaborated with the Westchester County Planning Department and the WMPF to host a series of training sessions to discuss the guidelines and specifics of General Municipal Law 239, which is applicable to all Westchester County municipalities. The law requires that certain development projects, based on their closeness to state or county property or proximity to a neighboring municipality, be referred to the County Planning Board for their review. The County review provides an objective opinion on what consequences may result from a potential project. The final training session was videotaped and posted to the Westchester County website, so the information is available to municipalities when they have changes in leadership and staff. The WMPF certified the classes to meet the local training requirements for Planning and Zoning Board members, and AICP Planners received 1.5 CM credits for attendance.

Additional co-sponsored events in 2018 include a WMPF Planning Board Seminar on 10/29/18 and the Annual Alfred B. DelBello Land Use and Sustainable Development Conference, which will be hosted at the Pace Land Use Law Center on 12/6/18.

The Chapter thanks Gina D’Agrosa, AICP for representing the Section over the past several years and welcomes Peter Feroe, AICP as he steps into the role for the 2019-20 term.
The Lower Hudson Valley West Section focused on bringing professional training to the region. Over the course of the past year, we worked with multiple partners to help produce 10 events offering CM credits and raise awareness of the APA in the communities in Rockland, Orange, Ulster and Sullivan Counties.

In April we sponsored Sullivan Renaissance to bring Peter Kagayama to Sullivan County at their annual conference. We were able to offer CM credits to several professional planners, while sharing Mr. Kagayama’s enthusiasm for finding ways to cherish the communities in which we have chosen to live. We also worked with Rockland County to promote a certification course about case law updates.

In June we worked with the NY League of Conservation Voters on an event to discuss climate resiliency in the Delaware River Watershed and hosted a book reading by Cassim Shepard from his book Citymakers.

In July, the Section worked with the Upper Delaware Scenic Byway to bring Ed McMahon to Narrowsburg, a quaint hamlet on the Delaware River in Sullivan County. Mr. McMahon spoke about the importance of preserving the unique character of the communities in the region.

In September, we worked with Pattern for Progress to provide CM credits for a housing forum. The event convened experts in planning and finance for an in-depth conversation about the future of housing in the region.

In the coming year, the Section will continue work to bring ideas and knowledge about planning to the region through ongoing partnerships on events.

Heather Jacksy, AICP
Lower Hudson Valley West
Section Representative
Annual Chapter Holiday Party

At the beginning of the calendar year, the Section partnered with SRC and YPG to co-host the Annual Holiday Party on January 9th at Jack Doyle’s Bar and Restaurant in midtown Manhattan. The event was well attended and offered a networking opportunity for planners from across the region. Planning is underway for the 2018 Holiday Party, scheduled for December 12th. Save the date!

Hosting International Visitors

In March, the Section hosted a workshop for a group of planning leaders from Anhui Province in China. The workshop covered the history of planning in New York City. In September, the Section assisted a group of planning students from Ryerson University in Toronto by arranging workshops and walking tours related to Hudson Yards and the proposed redevelopment plan to transform JFK Airport.

Planning Themed Film Festival

The New York City Section sponsored the cocktail reception at the New York Preservation Archives Project Film Festival, which featured viewings and discussions of urban planning and preservation-themed films, including “On The Waterfront,” two films on Lincoln Center, and a series of shorts on such subjects as the World’s Fair Pavilion, the Domino Sugar Plant, a landmarked building in Gowanus Brooklyn, and a story of urban removal in the Hudson Valley. The festival also included a historic preservation-themed episode of “Murder She Wrote,” the television program from the 1980s/90s starring Angela Lansbury.

Networking with Other Professional Organizations

The Section was instrumental in planning a joint conference co-hosted by the APA, ASLA, and the AIA NY Chapters, titled “Designing a Carbon Neutral New York,” that was held on September 21st. The conference focused on carbon reduction policies that have been proposed and that are being implemented in New York City.

To get more involved in the efforts of the NYC Section, please contact Scott Grimm-Lyon at nyc@nyplanning.org.
During the winter and the Spring 2018 semester, several representatives graduated and we welcomed new members to the team for the coming year, including Camille Esquivel (Columbia), Brenna Hemmings (Hunter), and Katie Shepard (Rutgers). Additionally, we elected a new chair (Amber Nowak) and a vice chair (Jackson Chabot) for the 2018-2019 Academic Year.

The Student Representative Committee fosters an ongoing relationship among students at New York metro area planning schools, the local APA Chapter, and the national organization. To fulfill that mission, the Committee acts as a liaison between students and the APA and coordinates events such as the annual Studio Showcase and inter-school conferences.

2017-2018 was an active year for the Committee. Students from the five participating universities had the opportunity to attend panel discussions, informal talks with leaders in their prospective fields, networking events with fellow students and working professionals, and tours of urban centers in New York City and beyond.

In 2019, the Committee aims to continue strengthening the relationship between students and the APA at both the local and national level, and will continue promoting the benefits of the new student membership policies to encourage participation. The Committee also seeks to prioritize hosting educational and networking events in the outer NYC boroughs and the broader region. Another goal for 2019 is to strengthen the Committee's communications and social media presence.

The following summary offers highlights from the 2017-2018 academic year.

**Welcome Back Happy Hour**
To kick off the fall semester and build relationships between students at participating schools, the SRC hosted a Welcome Back Happy Hour at Gomi (East Village) in early September 2017. The event featured lively conversation and connections and helped start the year on the right note.

**5 Boro Pizza Challenge**
SRC members and classmates from local planning schools participated in the annual "5 Boro Pizza Challenge" in late September as a social and networking activity and fundraiser for Transportation Alternatives. The team navigated and travelled around the city by foot, bus, subway, and ferry to visit pizzerias in all five boroughs before a culminating event in the West Village.

**NYC Parks Discovery Days - Freshkills Park**
In early October, students from area planning schools met up at the NYC Parks Discovery Days event held at Freshkills Park on Staten Island. The event offered a chance to explore the park, participate in tours and activities, and learn more about its planning and development.

**Volunteering at Chapter Annual Conference**
At the end of October 2017, SRC members helped to solicit volunteers for the Metro Chapter's Annual Conference at Scandinavia House. Graduate student volunteers assisted in making sure the conference ran smoothly and provided support for organizers while also participating in the sessions and networking opportunities available throughout the day.

**Volunteering at Chapter Holiday Party**
In January 2018, SRC members assisted with recruiting student volunteers for the Metro Chapter's Holiday Party. Students helped with greeting guests and on-site registration and enjoyed refreshments and conversation with the professional Chapter members and attendees.
**Brooklyn Navy Yard Tour**
In February, the SRC organized a student-focused bus tour of the Brooklyn Navy Yard and a networking happy hour at the close of the event. About two dozen students attended the guided tour, which showcased the role the Navy Yard plays in providing economic opportunities for New Yorkers and explored the infrastructure and recent planning and development programs at the site.

**Lattes with Leaders**
For the third year in a row, the SRC organized a series of events called “Lattes with Leaders” during the spring semester that provided a forum for students to talk with leaders in the planning field in informal, small-group settings. This year, groups of three to six students shared coffee and conversation with Mary Kimball, Senior Resiliency Manager at the New York City Department of City Planning; Tenzing Chadotsang, Vice President and Director of Funding Agreements at the New York City Economic Development Corporation; and Moses Gates, Director of Community Planning and Design at the Regional Plan Association.

**Plazas, Bikes, and Public Art: A ‘Streetfight’ Panel Discussion**
In late March, SRC organized a book club series and panel discussion held at the Pratt Institute Graduate Center for Planning and the Environment. The event centered around the book “Streetfight: Handbook for an Urban Revolution” and featured conversation about street design projects in New York City with three speakers from architecture and urban design firm Snohetta and the New York City Department of Transportation.

**Newark Tour**
In early April, the SRC organized a second-annual planner-focused tour of Newark, New Jersey with the “Have You Met Newark?” tour group. The day-long walking tour included visits to various shops, restaurants, and parks in Newark as well as discussions with business owners and other community leaders. Students learned about how Newark is being revitalized through planning initiatives. The tour was led by a graduate of the Rutgers University planning program.

**Studio Presentations**
The Annual Student Studio Presentations were held at the NYU Wagner Puck Building this past year and featured student presentations and faculty/professional judges from Columbia, Hunter, NYU, Pratt, and Rutgers. More than 100 students, planning professionals, and community members attended to watch the presentations. Topics this year included “Affordable Artist Housing in New York City” (Hunter College); “Mott Haven: Home, Health, and History” (Pratt Institute); “Reimagining Community Strategies for Hazard Mitigation in Gowanus, Brooklyn” (Columbia University); “EWR: Arriving at Aerotropolis” (Rutgers University); and “Dash Labs - Data Exploration” (New York University).
The Young Planners Group (YPG) continues to work to support emerging planning professionals in the region and connect these new professionals with the NY Metro Chapter and its Committees and Sections. YPG welcomes new members and ideas for engagement, and in the year ahead looks forward to developing new programming and ways to connect members to one another and to the broader planning field, as well as strengthening the pipeline between student members and emerging professionals who engage with the Chapter prior to or immediately following enrollment in planning school.

The Chapter thanks Petr Vancura and welcomes Caroline Peri--outgoing SRC Chair--as the incoming Chair of YPG.

As discussed in the following sections, YPG fulfills its mission through three main efforts: networking and social events; the Mentorship Program; and the Youth in Planning outreach program.

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**Events**

YPG provides social and networking events to help young planners forge connections with their colleagues and encourage their participation with the NY Metro Chapter. Over the past several years, YPG has collaborated with Chapter Committees on events, programming, and other forms of professional development. In the coming year, YPG looks forward to continuing these partnerships to promote emerging planner participation in committee programming, and also seeks to host events and other opportunities to encourage coordination and collaboration with the SRC.

**Mentorship**

The YPG Mentorship Program celebrated its ninth year in 2018. The Mentorship Subcommittee that plans the annual Program was chaired by David Burgy and James Rigert, and includes Jack Nieman, Katie Shepard, and Kevin Luzong. All of the Subcommittee members served as mentors in this round of the Program.

In this year’s round of the annual Mentorship Program, the Mentorship Subcommittee formed 14 partnerships of mentors and mentees. As in previous rounds of the Program, the mentorship pairings were made based on the results of a brief but focused application process, including responses to a multiple choice and short answer-format survey as well as submittal of an updated resume. In forming the partnerships, the Subcommittee considered several factors, including areas of interest in the planning profession as well as preferred frequency and format of communication. The mentors comprised a wide range of senior and mid-level planners across a variety of specializations, and the mentees included mid-level and entry-level planners, as well as graduate students.

The six-month program began with a kick-off event in February, hosted at the offices of WSP. The kick-off event offered participants in the Program the opportunity to meet and mingle with their peers, as well as time for mentor/mentee pairs to begin developing informal mentorship plans for the six-month program. The Subcommittee circulated a Mentorship Program Guide, updated from previous years, and shared a list of planning-related events in the region to suggest ideas for possible activities for the mentor/mentee pairs.

Following the kick-off event, the Subcommittee organized an outing in March where participants listened to unique conversation with a distinguished panel representing several disciplines as they discussed demand-driven open data and its role in improving governance, empowering individuals, and solving public policy challenges.

The Subcommittee also coordinated a mid-point check-in event in June, hosted at the offices of WSP. This event included a discussion among mentors and mentees about their progress, reflections on their mentorship plans, and their intentions going forward in the Program. The mid-point event also included a facilitated discussion of an article focused on the importance of building and maintaining networks and professional relationships. The Program concluded with a celebratory gathering of mentors, mentees, and the Subcommittee.

Planning is underway for the 2019 Program, and the application for prospective mentees will be shared in the near future. If you are interested in serving as a mentor, please email ypg-mentorship@gmail.com to convey your interest.
Youth in Planning

The Youth in Planning program introduces local students to the planning field and supports their engagement with topical issues as members of the community. This work includes outreach to schools and coordination with community events. Over the past year, the goals of the Youth in Planning program have been advanced by the Chapter’s Diversity Committee and the Urban Design Committee, both of which have led initiatives to engage youth at area middle schools and high schools around topics related to urban planning, the planning process, and interactions with neighborhoods and communities.

YPG is exploring opportunities for partnership with these Committees to build upon lessons learned and the strong partnerships formed with educators and community leaders. We hope to coordinate additional school site visits and support a comprehensive curriculum that group members can use to foster a greater understanding of planning among youth in the New York Metro region.

Mentorship Program Events
Each year, the APA-NYM Chapter bestows recognition on individuals, organizations, and projects that exemplify the best of the metropolitan region's planning work. The awards are meant to highlight excellence in the field and inspire planners of the next generation.

>>**Lawrence M. Orton Award**

**Award for leadership in City and Regional Planning**

*Move NY* is a campaign leading the effort to reduce vehicular traffic during peak travel periods and raise revenue to improve mass transportation infrastructure. The Move NY campaign represents a coalition of seasoned transportation experts, policy makers, community advocates, and elected leaders, and has been endorsed by a broad spectrum of organizations. The APA NY Metro Chapter recognized Alex Matthiessen and Sam Schwartz for their leadership of this campaign.

>>**Andrew Haswell Green Award**

**Award to recognize individuals who have made outstanding contributions for a period of at least 15 years**

*Bill Woods* joined the NYC Department of City Planning in 1972 and served as director of the Staten Island Office and the Brooklyn Office. In 1989, Mr. Woods led the Department in the creation of the Waterfront and Open Space Division, and he inaugurated the role of director. He led this division until his retirement in 2011. Perceptive and ambitious, he elevated the debate about which use of the waterfront should take precedence--industry, development, parkland, or nature--and persuaded colleagues that the City's waterfront could accommodate all these activities, and more. Among his many accomplishments, his work was instrumental in guiding both the 1992 Comprehensive Waterfront Plan and the Vision 2020 Plan, in addition to helping the City take the bold step of turning the former Fresh Kills Landfill on Staten Island into a vast park.

>>**Meritorious Service or Achievement Award**

**Award to recognize work of unusual merit**

*The Town of New Castle Comprehensive Plan* represents a years-long effort to establish a vision for the Town that includes the Village of Chappaqua. Traditional comprehensive plans are often organized into discrete, single-issue topic areas, such as "residential land use" or "transportation." New Castle’s 2017 Comprehensive Plan adopts a multi-disciplinary approach that recognizes the interwoven complexity of the world today and promotes a coordinated planning process that incorporates universally applicable planning concepts, such as sustainability.

>>**Paul Davidoff Award**

**Award for Leadership in Housing or Equal Opportunity**

*The Brownsville Plan* is the culmination of an interagency neighborhood planning process in Brownsville, Brooklyn, which was led by the Office of Neighborhood Strategies at the NYC Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD). The Brownsville Plan's process and outcomes demonstrate leadership in meaningful community engagement, robust government coordination, and real investment in the people and built environment of Brownsville. HPD staff executed a thoughtful interagency planning process that built on neighborhood assets and enabled residents and community groups to have ownership in the plan. The Brownsville Plan is a prime example of how the public sector can conduct community planning to achieve greater inclusivity, transparency, and accountability.
Journalism Award
Award for print, broadcast, or web-based work

City Limits engages in in-depth community-based reporting throughout New York City, with the tag line “Investigating the City. Empowering Communities.” The APA NY Metro Chapter recognized City Limits for its coverage of rezonings. Specifically, City Limits published a three-part series by Roshan Abraham on Community Boards and their role in the rezoning process, as well as articles by Abigail Savitch-Lew on the implications of rezonings.

William H Whyte Award
Award for creativity and ingenuity in planning

No Longer Empty works with local community leaders and local residents to reactivate underutilized or abandoned spaces. The organization’s approach includes soliciting feedback on how such spaces should be adapted by the local community, and working with local artists and artisans to sustain the spaces. Past projects include “Upstairs Lounge” in the Meatpacking District (2011); “Jan Tichy: Politics of Light” on the Lower East Side (2013); and “Teresa Diehl: Breathing Waters” at the Seaport (2015). In issuing this award, the APA NY Metro Chapter recognized Naomi Hersson-Ringskog, AICP, who co-founded and served as Executive Director of No Longer Empty from 2009-2016.

Floyd Lapp Award
Award for service to the APA NY Metro Chapter

Michael A. Levine, AICP was recognized for his tireless dedication to the APA NY Metro Chapter for over a decade, most notably in the role of Vice President of Intergovernmental Affairs. Through this role, Michael oversaw the Chapter’s annual participation in the development of APA policy guides, monitored state and local legislative processes, and guided the Chapter’s responses to timely policy issues in the region. As a demonstration of his commitment to APA’s policy and advocacy efforts, Michael is currently serving as a member of the APA National Legislative Committee, and he continues to serve as an invaluable resource to the Chapter.

Student Awards 2017 - 2018 School Year
Columbia: Nicholas Johannes
Pratt: Rebecca Pryor
Hunter: Maggie Calmes
NYU Wagner: Sebastian Coss
Thank you

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