



LEADING WITH LANDSCAPE III: RENEWING SAN ANTONIO'S BRACKENRIDGE PARK SUMMIT
MARCH 3, 2017: THE STABLE AT PEARL, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS
PRESENTED BY: THE CULTURAL LANDSCAPE FOUNDATION AND BRACKENRIDGE PARK
CONSERVANCY
WITH SUPPORT FROM: **PEARL**

Hemisfair will be our vibrant gathering place for everything from a day with friends to the San Antonio's biggest celebrations.

Bob Harris, FAIA, LEED Fellow, *Partner*, Lake|Flato Architects
Historic Main Plaza anccS

Botanical Garden's New Entry and Family Adventure Garden project which is located on eleven acres of City of San Antonio property. There are many successes to share but also lessons learned. How do we incorporate the rich history, culture, and ecology of San Antonio into these and future projects? How do we ensure a commitment for resilient ecological and landscape architectural master planning, design, and construction with the maintenance required to nurture a public landscape in a drought stricken, flood and freeze prone climate? Most importantly, how do we make all San Antonians feel welcome in these new additions to the Broadway corridor? It is important for all of the cultural destinations including Brackenridge Park to learn from each other and work together to create a cooperative and visionary plan for the future that tells the rich story of the City of San Antonio and its people.

Panel 2: What San Antonio's Brackenridge Park Can Learn from Other Cities

Moderator:

Chris Reed, FASLA, *Founding Director, Stoss*

Introductory Remarks to Panel 1

The last two decades have witnessed a resurgence of landscape in the remaking and revitalization of cities all across North America. From New York to Los Angeles, and from Toronto and Chicago to Houston and Dallas, both existing parks and leftover industrial spaces have been given new life as part of broader efforts to revitalize cities.

Yet parks today have a broader and more diversified set of agendas that they must address, a different set of pressures that they must respond to. Urban populations continue to diversify and they bring a wider range of cultural traditions (and uses of and in open space) with them. Storm intensities and frequencies have increased, as have the severity of drought conditions and drought-flood cycles; how can landscape help here? Local governments are strained for resources, which demands new models for sponsorship and funding and operations. And most of these projects fall under complex jurisdictional authorities, requiring new levels of coordination but also offering opportunities for how new policies can be set for open spaces and cities moving forward.

This panel looks to the lessons learned from other cities as a way to contextualize the challenges and opportunities ahead for Brackenridge Park. Douglas Reed sets the stage for us, drawing on the cultural legacies of nineteenth- and early twentieth-century park traditions (and cultural traditions) as a way of informing the rejuvenation of open spaces for the 21st century. Kinder Baumgartner discusses the issues of competing uses and users for contemporary parks, using Houston's Buffalo Bayou Park as an example of open space that mediates between local / neighborhood and regional users. Gina Ford talks of the radical diversification of voices and stakeholders involved in park-making, and how these can coalesce in new kinds of public spaces like those along the Chicago River. And Mia Lehrer shows how a strong vision for a park—in her case the remaking of the concrete channel Los Angeles River—can catalyze public and political support and spur changes in policy that lead to significant improvements in open space both within and beyond the immediate project and site.

like it in our country. We see in Brackenridge Park so much that might serve emerging San Antonio. In celebrating its heritage, we not only protect Brackenridge against irretrievable loss. We engage its wealth and beauty in response to critical needs of contemporary life.

The park's promise for the future will be explored in three ways:

1. Why look back in order to move forward?
2. Interpreting the story of water
3. Unifying the park; bringing cohesion

Kinder Baumgardner, ASLA, *Managing Principal*, SWA | Houston
Resolving Conflict in Historic Urban Parks

Brackenridge Park's most precious

