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Foundation for Landscape Studies Presents National Honor to 21st Century Parks

Community Leaders Travel to New York to Learn from Park Successes

Louisville, Ky.— 21st Century Parks will be honored by the Foundation for Landscape Studies with the organization's Place Maker Award. The national honor, awarded annually, recognizes outstanding work in creatively enriching a particular landscape in the areas of landscape design, stewardship, scholarship and preservation.

"21st Century Parks is dedicated to the proposition that well-designed public parks form the heart of thriving neighborhoods and vibrant cities, and to realizing Louisville's ambition to create one of the largest new urban park systems in the nation," said the president of the Foundation for Landscape Studies, Elizabeth Barlow Rogers, who also is founder and former president of the Central Park Conservancy.

A delegation of Louisville business and community leaders will join 21st Century Parks officials in traveling to New York City to accept the award at the Foundation for Landscape Studies' Spring Luncheon on May 19.

“It is an honor to be recognized by an organization that works so diligently to foster the creation of quality places and that understand the role parks play in shaping a community,” said Dan Jones, Chairman and CEO of 21st Century Parks. “I am excited that we are on the verge of breaking ground to create a new parks system with many new places for people to enjoy and explore throughout this truly special Floyds Fork corridor. We could not have come this far without the support of so many wonderful people.”

While in New York, the group will visit historic Central Park, as well as the city’s newest park project, the High Line, an elevated, linear park built along a former rail line.

“Seeing the juxtaposition between New York City’s most historic park and its most exciting contemporary park will help us dream together about how to combine Louisville’s Olmsted Parks legacy with our modern vision for the parklands along Floyds Fork,” said Jones.

The delegation includes 21st Century Parks steering committee members and park architects, as well as CEOs, bankers, business owners, foundation representatives, Metro Parks officials and other community leaders who have been key partners in 21st Century Parks’ efforts.

About 21st Century Parks

Founded in Louisville in 2004, 21st Century Parks is the nonprofit organization leading the creation and management of a new, 4,000-acre public parks system along the Floyds Fork watershed in eastern and southeastern Louisville. The new parks system is one of the largest and most ambitious metropolitan park projects in the nation.

About the Foundation for Landscape Studies

The Foundation for Landscape Studies is a national not-for-profit corporation with a mission to foster an active understanding of the importance of place in human life. The foundation initiates collaborative projects that promote and advance landscape history and historic landscape design, theory and practice.

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