

GLORIA LAU

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PROFILE

Gloria is a designer and visual artist with roots in Hong Kong and California. Her professional experience in landscape architecture and urban planning focuses on public space, resilient infrastructure, and community-centered design. As an artist and researcher, Gloria documents and illustrates marginalized narratives and explores the interlinks between spatial systems, culture, and identity. She has led supervisory and management roles professionally and has partnered with various socially engaged organizations as advisor, graphic designer, and event curator.

EDUCATION & ACCREDITATIONS

University of Pennsylvania

Master of Landscape Architecture 2010

Master of City Planning 2010

Cornell University

Bachelor of Science in Urban and Regional Studies 2006

Licensed Landscape Architect (New York State)

American Institute Certified Planner

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Stantec - Associate (Senior Landscape Architect) · New York, NY · Jan 2022 - Oct 2023 (Sept 2019 - Dec 2021)

Project Management and Discipline Lead: focus on large-scale public space and resiliency projects. Led design and research; facilitated engagement and approval process; responsible for construction administration, budget, contracts, and staffing. Notable projects include:

- » Lower Manhattan Coastal Resiliency - Battery: a \$129 million project to prepare the historic Manhattan park for sea level rise.
- » Box Street Park: a 3-acre Brooklyn brownfield site transformed into a \$17 million waterfront recreational park that adapts to rising sea levels.
- » Bank of New York Mellon Public Realm: \$25 million public spaces and security improvements around the Manhattan headquarter.
- » Hoffman Park: a \$6.1 million project to upgrade a 2.5-acre community park in Queens to meet the neighborhood's evolving needs.
- » Grant Park: a \$17 million project to integrate two divided parks into a cohesive open space in the Bronx (Public Design Commission Award).
- » Melrose 62: managed construction administration of a \$6.3 million park at a formerly abandoned lot in the Bronx.
- » Queens Civil Court Plaza: a \$500k reconstruction of an on-structure plaza to address drainage, waterproofing, and maintenance issues.
- » 42nd Street Re-Envision: revision 42nd St from 7th to 8th Ave to maximize pedestrian space, improve safety, and revitalize ground floor uses.
- » Neighborhoods Now: pro bono efforts to assist neighborhood and small business COVID-19 recovery in Washington Heights.

Leadership: Department senior leadership. Supervised four direct reports and mentor staff. Led business development and outreach.

Open Architecture New York - Director of Projects (Project Coordinator) · New York, NY · Aug 2018 - May 2021 (Mar 2015 - Jul 2018)

Implemented thirteen pro-bono projects with community groups in underserved neighborhoods in a volunteer capacity. Established community relationships; selected and managed teams of volunteers; supervised and evaluated project quality and progress. Notable projects include:

- » Concrete Safaris: formed a close partnership with the East Harlem youth advocacy organization for 5 years. Developed and led volunteers on projects from designing obstacle course for active health fair, re-designing community gardens, to office renovation.
- » Community spaces: four community gardens, a public housing senior fitness hub, and a courtyard in a supportive housing facility.

HNTB - Project Planner & Landscape Architect · New York, NY · Sept 2016 - Sept 2019

Led design and outreach for planning and landscape architecture works. Responsibilities include technical analysis and design, environmental review, developing outreach and educational materials for complex transportation and transit oriented projects. Notable projects include:

- » Penn Station Access: site design and neighborhood analysis for four new train stations in the Bronx.
- » Mixmaster Interchange Reconstruction: masterplan for safe and sustainable infrastructure interventions for downtown Waterbury, CT.
- » Route 17 Reconstruction: environmental review and landscape design focused on stormwater management and ecological restoration for reconstruction of a 2.5 mile section of state route in Monroe, NY.

Thomas Balsley Associates (now SWA/Balsley) - Landscape Architect · New York, NY · Apr 2013 - Sept 2016

Managed parks and plazas, mixed-use developments, and commercial projects. Responsibilities include coordinating sub-consultants, partnering with communities and public agencies, and facilitating public review processes. Notable projects include:

- » NYCDOT Plaza Program: design and community engagement to transform 4 underused streets into public plazas. Includes Montefiore Plaza, Manhattan (Public Design Commission Award); Morrison Plaza, Bronx; Putnam Plaza and Broadway Bedford Plaza in Brooklyn.
- » Harbor City Waterfront Park: masterplan to transform a former industrial land into a waterfront mixed-use district and park in Shanghai, China.
- » Green infrastructure: site and planting design for neighborhood scale green infrastructure system in East Elmhurst, NY.

SWA Group - Landscape Designer · San Francisco, CA · Mar 2010 - Mar 2013

Focused on design of mixed-use development, masterplanning, and large park projects. Notable projects include:

- » Gemdale Gangxia Mixed Use District: public space design for a 9-block mixed use district in Shenzhen, China.
- » Poly International City Riverfront: landscape masterplan for a new city district with a sustainable design focus in Deyang, China.
- » San Antonio Station: adaptive reuse of a closed shopping complex into a technology campus in Mountain View, CA.

LEADERSHIP, FELLOWSHIP, & RESIDENCY

Laundromat Project - Create Change Fellow · Brooklyn, NY · Jan - Jun 2023

- » Selected as a fellow to develop and deepen a collaborative, community-based, and socially-engaged creative practice.
- » Worked with three cohort members to engage Bed-Stuy residents in collective public spaces centering on community creative practices.
- » Designed zine to illustrate our findings for community organization Restoration Plaza to access their art programmings.

Sunken Press - Co-Founder · Sept 2021 - Present

- » Co-founded art practice which uses printmaking and zines to trace how people, plants, and animals adapt new environments to call home.

Laudi CoLab - Co-Founder · July 2021 - Present

- » Co-founded the art-based design practice to amplify community stories in the built environment that have been erased or undervalued.
- » Y8 Member of **NEW INC**, an art incubator program for interdisciplinary artists and designers to develop creative practices at the New Museum.
- » Selected for **Bandung Residency** to foster solidarity between Asian American/Pacific Islander (AAPI) and Black communities.

New City Parks - Design Advisory Committee · New York, NY · May 2021 - Present

- » Provide technical and engagement inputs to advance organization's work in creating thriving urban parks in under-resourced neighborhoods.

Concrete Safaris - Advisory Committee · New York, NY · May 2021 - Present

- » Provide design and operational inputs to help prepare youth in East Harlem to lead healthy lives and engage in their neighborhood and beyond.

Urban Design Forum · New York, NY · May 2019 - Dec 2021

- » **Rewire** (2023-2024). Advisory Committee for initiative to reshape existing buildings and public spaces as engines for a climate positive NYC.
- » **Streets Ahead** (2021). Part of the Care working group to envision and advance ideas for a more vibrant, equitable streetscape.
- » **Forefront Fellow, Turning the Heat** (2019 - 2020). Explored how urban practitioners can advance climate justice principles. Developed recommendations to address the threat of extreme heat and four community-centered financial, organizing, and design strategies.

Diversity Committee (APA NYM Chapter) - Core Leadership & Design Coordinator · New York, NY · Jan 2017 - Dec 2021

- » Led and managed active members to advocate for diversity and equity through events, youth engagement, and communications.
- » Established **Hindsight**, an annual planning conference through the equity lens, which hosted more than 1,000 participants in its five years. Created branding and communication materials and organized exhibits that reflect each year Hindsight's theme.
- » **Awards:** Karen B. Smith Award for Outstanding Service to Members by National APA and Floyd Lapp Award for service by the APA NYM Chapter.

NYC AIA-APA-ASLA Annual Conference Planning Committee - APA Team Lead · New York, NY · Jan 2017 - Sept 2020

- » Curated speakers and interdisciplinary panels with American Society of Landscape Architects & American Institute of Architects.
- » **Award:** Floyd Lapp Award for service by the APA NYM Chapter.

American Society of Landscape Architects · 2018-2022

- » Women of Color Licensure Advancement Advisory Committee (2022) · Environmental Justice PPN Officer (2020-2021) · Invited member of Diversity Summit (2018 & 2019).

SELECTED EXHIBITS, SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS, & PUBLICATIONS

 **A Walk Through Flushing: The layered histories of Black and Asian communities in the Queens neighborhood** · Published in The Margins (Asian American Writers' Workshop) as part of Laudi CoLab · Dec 2023

 **Seeds and Memory** · Group Exhibit and Artists Book as part of Sunken Press · Oct 2023

 **God's Garage** · Published in Urban Omnibus as part of Laudi CoLab · Jun 2023

 **99 cents & Up & Up** · Data Through Design Ground Truth Exhibit as part of Laudi CoLab · Mar 2022


 **Industrial Chinatowns** · Hindsight Conference Virtual Exhibit as part of Sunken Press · Nov 2021

 **Together Resilient: Everyday and In Time of Crisis** · Associate of Community Design Webinar · Apr 2021

 **People-Powered Currency to Build Community Resilience** · Hindsight Conference · Nov 2020

 **Identify the Gap: Using Technology and Data for Inclusive Community Involvement** · ASLA Annual Conference · Nov 2019

 **Integrating Emerging Mobility into Multi-Modal Systems** · APA National Conference · Apr 2019

 **Film Territory: New York's Expanding Production Studios** · Published in Urban Omnibus · Apr 2015

SKILLS & LANGUAGES

Technical: Community Planning and Design · Engagement and Facilitation · Project Management · Spatial and Qualitative Research · Conference Planning · Illustration and Printmaking · Graphic Design

Software: ArcGIS · Adobe Creative Cloud · AutoCAD · Rhino · Sketchup · Microsoft Office

Languages: Chinese and English (fluent) · Spanish, German, and French (proficient)