



KAREN BASS
MAYOR

April 29, 2026

Honorable Members of the City Council
c/o City Clerk
City Hall, Room 395

Honorable Members:

Subject to your confirmation, I have appointed Ms. Alexa Vaughn to the Disabled Access Appeals Board for the term ending June 30, 2028.

I certify that in my opinion Ms. Vaughn is especially qualified by reason of training and experience for the work which shall devolve upon her, and that I make the appointment solely in the interest of the City.

Ms. Vaughn will fill the vacancy created by the departure of Theresa de Vera.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Karen Bass'.

KAREN BASS
Mayor

KB:lap

Attachment

COMMISSION APPOINTMENT FORM

Name: Alexa Vaughn
Commission: Disabled Access Appeals Board
End of Term: 6/30/2028

Appointee Information

1. **Race:** Caucasian
2. **Gender:** female
3. **Council District and neighborhood of residence:** 5 - West LA
4. **Are you a registered voter in the City of Los Angeles?** Yes
5. **Prior commission experience:**
6. **Highest level of education completed:** M.A. Landscape Architecture, University of California, Berkley & M.A. Conservation and Resource Studies, University of California, Berkley
7. **Occupation/profession:** Landscape Designer and Accessibility Specialist, Sasaki Associates, Inc.
8. **Experience(s) that qualifies person for appointment:** See attached resume
9. **Purpose of this appointment:** Appointment
10. **Current composition of the commission (excluding appointee):**

Commissioner	APC	CD	Race	Gender	Term End
Harper Halprin	West LA	5	Caucasian	F	6/30/2030
VACANT					6/30/2028
Patricia Williams	East LA	1	Caucasian	F	6/30/2027
Cheryl Revkin	East LA	13	Caucasian	F	6/30/2026
Hector Ochoa	East LA	14	Latinx	M	6/30/2029



ALEXA VAUGHN ASLA, FAAR

PhD student, landscape designer, & Deaf accessibility specialist // Los Angeles, CA



EDUCATION

- 2023 - UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES // Los Angeles, CA
PhD Student, Architecture + Urban Design
Advisor: Dr. Dana Cuff
Certificate: Urban Humanities (2024)
- 2016 - 2018 UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY // Berkeley, CA
Master of Landscape Architecture, 2nd Professional Degree
- 2012 - 2016 UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY // Berkeley, CA
Bachelor of Arts in Landscape Architecture, *magna cum laude*
Minor: Conservation & Resource Studies

AWARDS

- 2025 - 2026 GRADUATE RESEARCH MENTORSHIP AWARD // UCLA
Designed to assist doctoral students in acquiring & developing advanced research skills under faculty mentorship, leading to the development of a doctoral dissertation. Project is titled, *Landscapes of Disability: (re)considering the institutional landscapes of 19th c. America*.
- 2023 - 2027 EUGENE V. COTA ROBLES AWARD // UCLA
Doctoral scholarship awarded to students who illustrate creative & innovative accomplishments & a variety of personal experiences & values related to differences in race, ethnicity, age, religion, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, or socioeconomic status.
- 2025 SCOTT OPLER GRADUATE SCHOLAR FELLOWSHIP // Society of Architectural Historians
The fellowship supports the attendance of advanced graduate students whose distinguished papers have been selected for delivery at the Society of Architectural Historians' annual conference. Alexa was chosen for the 78th Annual International Conference in Atlanta.
- 2022 - 2023 ROME PRIZE IN LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE // American Academy in Rome, Garden Club of America / Prince Charitable Trusts
For over a century, the American Academy in Rome has awarded the Rome Prize to support innovative & cross-disciplinary work in the arts & humanities. Each year, the prize is awarded to about thirty artists & scholars who represent the highest standard of excellence. Alexa was chosen as 1 of 38 fellows, out of 909 applicants. Her project is titled *Sorda Nella Città Eterna: Deaf in the Eternal City*.
- 2022 ASLA OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD // American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)
This honor recognizes volunteers who make notable contributions to or on behalf of the ASLA at the national level. Alexa was nominated & selected as one of four recipients on behalf of over 15,000 members.
- 2020 - 2021 LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIP // Landscape Architecture Foundation (LAF)
The LAF Fellowship for Innovation & Leadership is awarded to 5-6 individuals each year. Projects must demonstrate the potential to bring about impactful change to the environment & humanity & have the capacity to grow the leadership potential of landscape architects. Alexa's project is titled: *Design with Disabled People Now*.
- 2020 ELLE DECOR A-LIST ARCHITECTURE // ELLE Decor
"DeafScape" featured in January / February 2020 issue of A-List Architecture.
- 2018 UNIVERSITY OLMSTED SCHOLAR // Landscape Architecture Foundation (LAF)
Awarded annually to one outstanding student leader from each accredited landscape architecture program in the U.S. & Canada. Nominated by department faculty.
- 2018 H. LELAND VAUGHAN MEMORIAL FELLOWSHIP // LAEP Department, UC Berkeley
Awarded to students who have shown both academic distinction & active participation in departmental affairs in the Landscape Architecture & Environmental Planning department at UC Berkeley.
- 2017 BERKELEY CIRCUS AWARD OF MERIT // College of Environmental Design, UC Berkeley
Awarded for excellent student research poster: *Crip the Campus Map: A Critique of UC Berkeley's Campus Access Maps*.
- 2017 STEPHEN BUFTON MEMORIAL EDUCATION FUND // American Business Women's Association (ABWA)
A grant to women of excellence pursuing post-secondary education to support career advancement & leadership.
- 2016 GERALDINE KNIGHT SCOTT TRAVEL FELLOWSHIP // LAEP Department, UC Berkeley
Grand Tour & Visual Study of Europe undertaken in Summer 2016.
- 2016 ASLA CERTIFICATE OF HONOR // American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA), Northern California Chapter
Awarded for excellence in the study of Landscape Architecture & in recognition of outstanding academic achievement.
- 2012 - 2016 DEAN'S HONORS // College of Environmental Design, UC Berkeley

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Spring 2026 **TEACHING ASSISTANT** // AUD 133/289: Spatial Justice
Dept. of Architecture + Urban Design, UCLA
Part-time, spring quarter appointment with Dr. Dana Cuff & Dr. Yang Yang.
- Winter 2026 **TEACHING ASSISTANT** // AUD 132/289: History of Housing
Dept. of Architecture + Urban Design, UCLA
Part-time, winter quarter appointment with Dr. Cristobal Amunategui.
- Fall 2025 **TEACHING ASSISTANT** // AUD 291: The Program in Theory & Practice
Dept. of Architecture + Urban Design, UCLA
Part-time, fall quarter appointment with Dr. Dana Cuff & Dr. Yang Yang. Course required for second-year M.Arch students.
- 2025 - **LANDSCAPE DESIGNER & ACCESSIBILITY SPECIALIST** // Sasaki
Los Angeles, CA (hybrid)
Part-time. Notable Projects: UC Irvine Long Range Development Plan, Santa Monica Airport Conversion, Gallaudet University Campus Master Plan Renewal, office-wide services in universal design & accessibility.
- 2022 - 2025 **INDEPENDENT CONSULTANT** // Design with Disabled People Now & DeafScape
Los Angeles, CA
Part-time. Myriad services in accessibility & inclusion for the Deaf & disabled communities throughout the design process.
- 2024 - 2025 **GRADUATE STUDENT INSTRUCTOR** // DIS 195CE: Internship Course in Disability Studies
Center for Community Engagement, UCLA
Part-time, year-long appointment. Independently instructed & mentored junior & senior undergraduates during their two-quarter internship.
- Summer 2024 **TEACHING FELLOW** // Summer JumpStart Program
Dept. of Architecture + Urban Design, UCLA
Part-time. Prepared & presented four weekly architectural history & theory lectures. Critiqued studio pinups & final review.
- 2023 - 2025 **RESEARCH ASSOCIATE** // cityLAB-UCLA
Dept. of Architecture + Urban Design, UCLA
Part-time. Assist Dr. Dana Cuff & her team in spatial justice-centered design, research, policy, & education.
- 2021 - 2023 **LANDSCAPE DESIGNER & ACCESSIBILITY SPECIALIST** // MIG (Moore Iacofano & Goltsman)
Los Angeles, CA
Notable Projects: City of Stockton ADA-SETP, Gallaudet University Hanson Plaza, LA City College Sculpture Garden, Broadway-Manchester Corridor, Lincoln Blvd. Santa Monica.
- 2018 - 2021 **LANDSCAPE DESIGNER** // OLIN
Los Angeles, CA
Notable Projects: Los Angeles River Master Plan, Eugene Town Square (OR), Sportsmen's Lodge (Los Angeles), Gallaudet University Hanson Plaza, OLIN Labs: People Lab
- 2017 - 2018 **GRADUATE STUDENT INSTRUCTOR** // Land Arch 103 + 102
College of Environmental Design, UC Berkeley
Professor Chip Sullivan & Professor Karl Kullmann; analog & digital landscape architectural studios.
- Summer 2017 **LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE INTERN** // Studio One Eleven
Long Beach, CA
Notable Projects: Harvey Milk Promenade Park, Ocean & Cherry, Santee Alley.
- Spring 2017 **LANDSCAPE DESIGN CONSULTANT** // Landible
Berkeley, CA
Assisted principal Mary Muszynski with residential designs in the East Bay & improved marketing on the Landible website.
- 2016 - 2017 **GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANT** // Prof. Chip Sullivan
College of Environmental Design, UC Berkeley
Assisted Professor Chip Sullivan in his research for his book, organization of studio materials, lectures, & critiques.
- Spring 2016 **LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE INTERN** // Miller Company
San Francisco, CA
Projects focused primarily on Bay Area schoolyards & parks.
- 2015 - 2016 **GARDENER** // Blake Garden
Kensington, CA
Myriad of gardening tasks & helped build a photo-viewing platform.
- Summer 2015 **LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE INTERN** // Damir Hurdich Design (DHDSF)
San Francisco, CA
Assisted principal Damir Hurdich with residential projects in the SF Bay & surrounding areas.

SKILLS

ANALOG TECHNIQUES // watercolor & ink sketching, mixed media
DIGITAL TECHNIQUES // designing, rendering, model making
TOPOGRAPHY // grading, ADA & accessibility review
CONSTRUCTION // CDs, details, materials, accessibility auditing
CALIFORNIA PLANTS // identification, ecology, palettes
WRITING & RESEARCH // essays, site analysis, POEs, editing, history
ACCESSIBILITY // ADA, ABA, CBC-11B, Universal Design, DeafSpace
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT // accessible meeting facilitation
LANGUAGES // English, American Sign Language (ASL)

SOFTWARE

DRAFTING // AutoCAD, Revit, ProCreate
3D MODELING // Revit, SketchUp, Lumion, (some) Rhinoceros
CREATIVE CLOUD // PhotoShop, Illustrator, InDesign, Acrobat
MICROSOFT // Word, Excel, PowerPoint
OPERATING SYSTEMS // Mac OSX, Windows
ACCESSIBILITY PROGRAMS // CommonLook, BlueDAG

AFFILIATIONS & PROFESSIONAL INVOLVEMENT

- 2014 - **AMERICAN SOCIETY OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS (ASLA)** // California Southern Chapter
Current role: Public Policy Committee; Affiliate ASLA Groups
Past roles: Professional Practice Committee (2020-2022), Accessibility Subcommittee (2020-2022), Universal Design Policy advisor (2022)
ASLA @ Berkeley Student Chapter: Vice President (2017-2018), Academic Committee (2016-2017), & Student Member (2014-2018)
- 2025 - **DISABLED DESIGNER NETWORK (DDNxLA)** // Co-Founder (with Deanna Lynn)
A new initiative & ASLA-affiliate group for landscape architects & designers with disabilities (& allies) to form working relationships, friendships, & mentorships. Network also seeks to gather anonymous, basic statistical information.
- 2025 - **SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS (SAH) AD HOC ACCESSIBILITY COMMITTEE** // Committee Member
Formed to improve the accessibility of the SAH programs & operations from the standpoint of members with disabilities.
- 2025 - **PERKINS&WILL HUMAN EXPERIENCE RESEARCH LAB** // Contributor
Disability Inclusion series. A reimagining of design processes to center dignity, equity, & belonging.
- 2023 - **UCLA COMMITTEE ON DISABILITY (UCOD)** // Graduate Student Representative & Voting Member
The Committee (part of UCLA DEI Office) analyzes & identifies problems, proposes solutions & recommendations for the campus' disabled community.
- 2023 - **POOL MAGAZINE** // PhD Advisor, UCLA Dept. of Architecture + Urban Design
Issues 9, 10, & 11
- 2022 - 2024 **INVITED PROPOSAL REVIEWER** // Palgrave Macmillan Publishers - Social Sciences
Invited to review a proposals for potential books in designing for disability & neurodivergence.
- 2022 **ACCESSIBILITY WORKSHOP EXPERT & PARTICIPANT** // EnactLAB & American Academy in Rome
Invited to actively participate in a series of workshops to improve accessibility & inclusion at the American Academy in Rome.
- 2022 **INVITED PANELIST** // National Endowment for the Arts - Grants for Arts Projects
Reviewer of projects submitted for consideration for 2022 grants for the National Endowment for the Arts within the Design Discipline.
- 2016 - 2018 **GROUND UP JOURNAL** // UC Berkeley Dept. of Landscape Architecture + Environmental Planning
Editor-in-Chief (Issue 7) & Editorial Team (Issue 6)
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PUBLICATIONS

- May 2018 **"DeafScape: Applying DeafSpace to Landscape"**
Vaughn, Alexa. "DeafScape: Applying DeafSpace to Landscape." *Ground Up Journal* 7. (May 2018): 100-104.
- July 2020 **"The ADA at 30: The Battle for an Accessible and Inclusive Future Continues"**
Vaughn, Alexa. "The ADA at 30: The Battle for an Accessible and Inclusive Future Continues." *The Dirt (ASLA)*. July 24, 2020.
www.dirt.asla.org/2020/07/24/the-ada-at-30-the-battle-for-an-accessible-and-inclusive-future-continues/
- Aug. 2020 **"Guide to Universal Design"**
Dillon, Ian, Alexa Vaughn, et al. "Guide to Universal Design." ASLA Professional Practice. August 20, 2019. www.asla.org/universaldesign.aspx
- May 2021 **"DeafScape Principles in Public Spaces"**
Vaughn, Alexa. "DeafScape Principles in Public Spaces." *Landscape Performance Series (LAF)*. May 1, 2021.
www.landscapeperformance.org/collections/deafscape
- June 2021 **"The Insensitivity of Sensitivity Studies"**
Vaughn, Alexa. "The Insensitivity of Sensitivity Studies." *Ground Up Journal* 10. (June 2021): 80-85.
- May 2022 ***Principles of Accessibility Design for Landscape Architecture***
Braley, Drew, et al. *Principles of Accessibility Design for Landscape Architecture*. ASLA Research Report Series. May 2022.
www.asla.org/researchreports
- Dec. 2024 **"A Garden, A Park, and A Plaza: Reimagining Roman DeafScapes"**
Vaughn, Alexa. "A Garden, A Park, and A Plaza: Reimagining Roman DeafScapes." *Garden Club of America Bulletin*. (Winter 2025): 48-51.
- June 2025 **"Deaf Experience: Beyond the ADA Standards"**
Vaughn, Alexa. "Deaf Experience: Beyond the ADA Standards." *LA+* 21. (Spring 2025): 86-93.
- Aug. 2025 **"Accessibility Auditing: Four Case Studies"**
Vaughn, Alexa. "Accessibility Auditing: Four Case Studies." *Critical Planning Journal* 28: (Summer 2025). [Currently published online].
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RELATED PRESS & PUBLICATIONS

- Allen, Nafeesah. (December 23, 2022). "Yes, Luxury Home Design Can Also Be Accessible for People with Disabilities." *House Beautiful*. Retrieved from www.housebeautiful.com/design-inspiration/a42317608/luxury-design-for-disabilitie/
- Bingjie, Zhao, Zhang Bing, Zhu Xu, and Huang Danlei (eds). (April 2024). "Inspiration Flash." *GQ China SXSW/ Special Issue*. 86-87. IPrint.
- Bourque, Caroline. (August 7, 2024). "Accessible design is in demand. Is the home industry ready?" *Business of Home*. Retrieved from <https://businessofhome.com/articles/accessible-design-is-in-demand-is-the-design-industry-ready>.
- Budds, Diana. (August 28, 2019). "Why inclusive cities start with safe streets: New design guidelines from the American Society of Landscape Architects show us how to build them." *Curbed*. Retrieved from www.curbed.com/2019/8/28/20835301/universal-streets-accessible-street-design

Curkin, Charles. (January/February 2020). "A-List Architecture: Masters of the Universal: The Future of Architecture is Inclusivity - From a Theater with No Bad Seats to Colorful Wheelchair-Friendly Homes." *ELLE Decor*. [Print].

Dillon, Ian. (August 05, 2019). "Gallaudet University Designs for the Deaf Community, but Everyone Benefits." *ASLA The Dirt blog*. Retrieved from www.dirt.asla.org/2019/08/05/gallaudet-university-applies-deafspace-guidelines-to-the-landscape

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Gamolina, Julia. (August 08, 2023). "Flourishing Accessibility: DeafScape's Alexa Vaughn on Impact in Design Through Education, Research, and Practice." *Madame Architect*. Retrieved from <https://www.madamearchitect.org/interviews/2023/7/21/alexa-va>

Landscape Architecture Foundation. (October 29, 2020). "LAF Fellowship Spotlight: Toward Universal Design." *LAF*. Retrieved from www.lafoundation.org/news/2020/10/LAF-fellowship-spotlight-alexa-vaughn

Liebermann, Wanda. (November 28, 2019). "Teaching embodiment: disability, subjectivity, and architectural education." *The Journal of Architecture* Vol. 24, Issue 6: 803-828. [Print].

Liebermann, Wanda. (2024). *Architecture's Disability Problem*. New York: Routledge, 2024: 4, 75-76, 148. [Print].

McKenzie, Janae. (January 22, 2025). "Designers Weigh in on How to Create an Accessible Home." *House Beautiful*. Retrieved from www.lafoundation.org/news/2020/10/LAF-fellowship-spotlight-alexa-vaughn

National Endowment for the Arts' Accessibility Office & Design Program. (October 2021). *Disability Design: Summary Report from a Field Scan*. National Endowment for the Arts. Retrieved from <https://www.housebeautiful.com/shopping/a63374398/accessible-interior-design-according-to-experts/>

Schuler, Timothy A. (April 05, 2022). "Placemaking Pitfall" *Landscape Architecture Magazine (LAM)*. [Print & online]. Retrieved from www.landscapearchitecturemagazine.org/2022/04/05/placemaking-pitfall

Stinson, L. (August 23, 2019). "New 'universal design' guide wants to make public spaces pleasant for all: The American Society of Landscape Architect's guide lays out best practices for designing inclusive streets, parks, playgrounds, and more." *Curbed*. Retrieved from www.curbed.com/2019/8/23/20829286/american-society-of-landscape-architects-universal-design-guide

Sullivan, Chip. (2023). *Field Sketching for Environmental Designers*. Philadelphia: Routledge, 2023; 132. [Print].

Sunghye, Kang (Sarah) with MissionIt. (November 2022). "DeafScape for Everyone." *MSV Social Impact Series, Issue 4: Safety*, 62-71. [Print & online]. Retrieved from www.magazinemsv.com.

Swenson, Samantha. (October 20, 2019). "This Streetscape was Designed by a Deaf Person for Deaf People." *ELLE Decor*. Retrieved from www.elledecor.com/design-decorate/trends/a29476722/alexa-vaughn-deafscape-universal-streets

LECTURES, CONFERENCES, PANELS, & WORKSHOPS

- June 2019 **Inclusion & Access Series (OLIN) - Lecture & Discussion Panel Facilitator & Speaker**
OLIN Labs // People Lab lecture series (with Danielle Toronyi)
- Sept. 2020 **Designing Accessible & Inclusive Public Spaces During COVID-19 - Invited Guest Lecturer**
HR&A
- Oct. 2020 **Design with Disabled People Now & DeafScape Applications - Invited Guest Lecturer**
The City College of New York (CCNY) // LAAR 61100 - Landscape Architecture Studio I
- Nov. 2020 **DeafSpace, DeafScape, & Beyond: Universal Design in Landscape Architecture - Conference Speaker**
ASLA reVision 2020 // annual conference - education session (with Danielle Toronyi & Derrick Behm-Josa)
- Dec. 2020 **DeafScape, Accessibility, & Universal Design in Academic and Professional Projects - Invited Guest Lecturer**
UC Berkeley - Dept. of Landscape Architecture & Environmental Planning // LAND ARCH 200A + 234A graduate studios
- Jan. 2021 **Design for Collective Wellbeing (DeafScape & Disability Lens) - Invited Guest Lecturer & Panelist**
Florida International University - School of Architecture // Decolonizing Design Lecture Series Panel
- Feb. 2021 **Inclusion & Access for Disabled Folx in Landscape Architecture - Invited Guest Lecturer, Panelist, & Workshop**
Association for Community Design (ACD) // 2021 webinar series (with Danielle Toronyi)
- Feb. 2021 **University of Oregon Annual Shadow Mentor Day - Invited Guest Speaker**
University of Oregon - ASLA Student Chapter // annual event
- Mar. 2021 **USC International Women's Day - Invited Guest Speaker**
University of Southern California - School of Architecture // annual event
- Mar. 2021 **DeafScape: Inclusion & Access as Radical Landscape Process Beyond the ADA - Invited Guest Lecturer (two lectures)**
Washington University in St. Louis - Sam Fox School // landscape architecture graduate studio lecture & public lecture
- July 2021 **InclusiveFUTURES: Conversations on Inclusivity, Disability, & The Human Body - Invited Lecturer & Panelist**
DigitalFUTURES World // live-streamed webinar
- July 2021 **DeafScape Principles & Case Studies - Invited Lecturer & Panelist**
World Deaf Architecture (WDA) // annual conference within the 2021 AIA Annual National Conference
- July 2021 **Introduction to Landscape Architecture, Inclusion, & Access - Invited Lecturer (two lectures)**
Pueblo del Rio (The Urban Studio) & Temple University EDI Summer Program // high school student pipeline programs
- Aug. 2021 **Including the Deaf & Disabled Communities in the Design Process - Invited Guest Lecturer**
UC Berkeley - College of Environmental Design // IINLAND summer program

- Oct. 2021 **Creating a Compelling Design Portfolio - Invited Alumni Panelist and Workshoper**
UC Berkeley - College of Environmental Design // bi-annual workshop
- Oct. 2021 **Including the Deaf & Disabled Communities in the Design Process - Invited Guest Lecturer**
Virginia Tech - School of Architecture + Design // Landscape Architecture lecture series
- Nov. 2021 **Including the Deaf & Disabled Communities in the Design Process - Invited Guest Lecturer**
UC Berkeley - Dept. of Landscape Architecture & Environmental Planning // LAND ARCH 200A + 234A graduate studios
- Nov. 2021 **Design with Disabled People Now - Conference Speaker**
ASLA 2021 Annual National Conference // annual conference - education session (with Karen Braitmayer & Dr. Aimi Hamraie)
- Nov. 2021 **Access Auditing: An Immersive & Inclusive Intro to Testing Site Accessibility - Conference Field Session Leader**
ASLA 2021 Annual National Conference // annual conference - field session (with Karen Braitmayer & Dr. Aimi Hamraie)
- Feb. 2022 **Including the Deaf & Disabled Communities in the Design Process - Invited Guest Lecturer**
Rutgers University - Department of Landscape Architecture // Common Lecture Series
- Feb. 2022 **Including the Deaf & Disabled Communities in the Design Process for K-12 Schools - Invited Guest Lecturer**
Cal Poly Pomona - Department of Landscape Architecture // Collaborative for Healthy & Inclusive Learning (CHILE) lecture series
- Feb. 2022 **An Interview on Design for the Deaf & Disabled Communities - Invited Guest Interviewee**
University of Pennsylvania - Dept. of Landscape Architecture // Unruly Practices course
- Feb. 2022 **Including the Deaf & Disabled Communities in the Design Process - Invited Guest Lecturer & Studio Critic**
UC Berkeley - Dept. of Landscape Architecture & Environmental Planning // LAND ARCH 101 studio
- Mar. 2022 **Including the Deaf & Disabled Communities in the Design Process - Invited Guest Lecturer**
North Carolina State University - Dept. of Landscape Architecture // LAEP 502 studio
- Mar. 2022 **Universal Design & DeafSpace: A Conversation - Invited Guest Lecturer & Critic**
University of Michigan - Taubman College of Architecture & Urban Planning // Digital Material Technologies studio
- Mar. 2022 **DeafSpace: Applying DeafSpace to Landscape - Invited Guest Lecturer & Panelist**
Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
- Mar. 2022 **Design with Disabled People Now - Invited Guest Lecturer & Exhibition**
Pennsylvania State University - Stuckeman School // Bracken Lecture Series, teaching collaborations, & exhibition
- Apr. 2022 **DeafSpace & DeafSpace in Architecture - Invited Panelist**
Yale University - Linguistics Dept. & Yale ASL // public panel (with Jeffrey Mansfield & Christopher Laing)
- Oct. 2022 **DeafSpace & the Design Process - Invited Guest Lecturer & Workshoper**
San Francisco Bay Conservation & Development Commission (BCDC) // training session workshop
- Nov. 2022 **Innovation is Invitation: Defining What's Next in Inclusive Play - Conference Speaker**
ASLA 2022 Annual National Conference // annual conference - education session (with Jill Moore & Ingrid Kanics)
- Nov. 2022 **(Re)Defining Universal Design: Case Studies & Explorations in Inclusion & Access - Conference Speaker**
ASLA 2022 Annual National Conference // annual conference - education session (with Ian Scherling & Joshua A. Halstead)
- Nov. 2022 **Designing for Disability Justice - Invited Guest Lecturer**
Rhode Island School of Design - Dept. of Landscape Architecture // LDAR 225G theory course
- Feb. 2023 **Including the Deaf & Disabled Communities in the Design Process - Invited Guest Lecture & Studio Critic**
University of Michigan - Taubman College of Architecture & Urban Planning // Digital Material Technologies studio
- Mar. 2023 **Interview for Framing & Development - Invited Guest Interviewee**
Boston Planning & Development Agency (BPDA) & Agency Landscape + Planning // Boston Design Visioning
- Mar. 2023 **DeafSpace: Applying DeafSpace to Landscape & Design with Disabled People Now - Invited Speaker**
U.S. Access Board
- Mar. 2023 **Including the Deaf & Disabled Communities in the Design Process - Invited Guest Lecturer**
UC Berkeley - Depart. of City & Regional Planning // CY PLAN 120
- Aug. 2023 **Good Architecture Includes Everyone: Designing Beyond the ADA - Invited Conference Speaker**
Leadership Exchange in Arts & Disability (LEAD) 2023 Conference // annual conference (with Valerie Fletcher & Aaron Wong)
- Sept. 2023 **DeafSpace / Design with Disabled People Now - Invited Guest Lecturer**
Woodbury University - School of Architecture // fall lecture series
- Oct. 2023 **Universal Design Auditing: An Immersive & Inclusive Intro to Testing Site Accessibility - Conference Field Session Leader**
ASLA 2023 Annual National Conference // annual conference - field session (with Contour Collective, Jill Moore, & Ian Scherling)
- Oct. 2023 **A Path Forward: Identifying Accessibility Challenges & Solutions for Historic Landscapes - Conference Speaker**
ASLA 2023 Annual National Conference // annual conference - education session (with Monica Rhodes & Laurie Matthews)
- Nov. 2023 **Designing for Disability Justice through DeafSpace - Invited Guest Lecturer**
Rhode Island School of Design - Dept. of Landscape Architecture // LDAR 225G theory course
- Jan. 2024 **Designing for the Deaf & Disabled Communities - Invited Conference Speaker**
New Jersey ASLA 2024 Annual Meeting // annual conference
- Mar. 2024 **DeafSpace / Design with Disabled People Now - Invited Guest Lecturer**
UCLA - Disability Studies // DIS 101: Intro. to Disability Studies
- Mar. 2024 **Structures of Feeling: Imagining Disability as Design Lens - Conference Speaker**
South by Southwest (SXSW) // annual conference & festival (with Kelsey Zlevor of Mental Landscapes)

- Apr. 2024 **Final Reviews in Architecture (B.Arch, Year 2) - Invited Critic**
Woodbury University - School of Architecture // ARCH 202: Studio Four
- May 2024 **Final Reviews in Landscape Architecture (MLA+U, Year 3) - Invited Critic**
USC - Dept. of Landscape Architecture + Urbanism // ARCH 698B: Advanced Design-Research Studio
- May 2024 **Universal & Human-Centered Design Methods - Invited Guest Lecturer**
UCLA - Dept. of Architecture + Urban Design // AUD 133/282: Spatial Justice & the City
- June 2024 **Accessibility Challenges & Solutions for Historic Landscapes - Invited Guest Lecturer & Panelist**
Friends of Fairsted // with Monica Rhodes & Laurie Matthews
- June 2024 **Final Reviews in Architecture (M.Arch, Year 2) - Invited Critic**
UCLA - Dept. of Architecture + Urban Design // AUD 413: Major Building Design with Landscape Studio
- Aug. 2024 **Designing for the Deaf & Disabled Communities in San Diego - Invited Guest Lecturer**
AIA San Diego Regional Design Advisory Council (RDAC) // monthly meeting
- Aug. 2024 **Designing for the Deaf & Disabled Communities - Invited Guest Speaker**
Victor Stanley // Virtual LA CES Education Series
- Oct. 2024 **DeafSpace Auditing: An Immersive & Inclusive Intro to Investigating DeafSpaces - Conference Field Session Leader**
ASLA 2024 Annual National Conference // annual conference - field session (with Derrick Behm Josa, Jeffrey Mansfield, & Gallaudet University)
- Oct. 2024 **Connecting the Dots: Best Practices for Designing with and for Disabilities - Conference Speaker**
ASLA 2024 Annual National Conference // annual conference - Deep Dive session (with Ian Scherling, Caitlyn Clauson, Chris Downey, & Ben Perez)
- Nov. 2024 **DeafSpace / Design with Disabled People Now - Invited Guest Lecturer**
UCLA - Disability Studies // DIS 101: Intro. to Disability Studies
- Feb. 2025 **Creating a More Inclusive Design Process - Invited Speaker & Workshoper**
Snow Kreilich Architects // training session workshop
- Mar. 2025 **CripTech Creativity: Rethinking Access through Art and Technology - Invited Speaker**
Max Planck Institute, Florence // conference - workshop
- Apr. 2025 **DeafSpace / Design with Disabled People Now - Invited Guest Lecturer**
Northern Alberta Institute of Technology & Texas A&M - joint presentation, landscape architecture
- Apr. 2025 **Reconsidering the Olmstedian origins of DeafSpace in the 19th c. campus design of Gallaudet University - Conference Speaker**
Society of Architectural Historians (SAH) 2024 Annual National Conference // annual conference - selected paper
- Apr. 2025 **Ideate: A Holistic Approach to a Universal Design - Invited Speaker & Panelist**
NYC DOT Equity in Motion Summit // annual conference (with Hilda Cardenas & Benjie de la Pena)
- Sept. 2025 **DeafSpace / Design with Disabled People Now - Invited Guest Lecturer**
University of Arkansas - Dept. of Landscape Architecture // LARC 33605: Design VI: Engaging Communities; Understanding Culture
- Oct. 2025 **Advocacy through Design: Leveraging Existing Design Strategies through a More Inclusive Lens - Conference Speaker**
ASLA 2025 Annual National Conference // annual conference - education session (with Benjamin Jensen & Dr. Naomi Sachs)
- Oct. 2025 **Inclusive by Nature: Sustainable Universal Design - Invited Keynote Speaker & Panelist**
Starkloff Disability Institute // presentation and panel (with Chris Downey, William Leddy, & Stuart Shell)
- Dec. 2025 **Eco-Access: Accessibility Meets Sustainability at the Workplace - Invited Speaker & Panelist**
Emerson Electric Co. // virtual event with Diverse Abilities Employee Resource Group
- Feb. 2026 **Designing Belonging: Inclusive Access in Public Landscapes - Invited Panelist**
The Olmsted Network // Conversations with Olmsted series (with Dr. Austin Allen, Kai Lawrence, & Finnegan Shannon)
- Mar. 2026 **Accessible & Inclusive Design in the Residential Landscape - Invited Speaker & Panelist**
Association of Professional Landscape Designers (APLD) // virtual program (with Ian Scherling & Christopher Noel)
- Apr. 2026 **DeafSpace / Design with Disabled People Now - Invited Keynote Speaker**
Colegio de Arquitectos y Arquitectos Paisajistas de Puerto Rico (CAAPPR) // virtual presentation during Landscape Architecture week



KAREN BASS
MAYOR

April 29, 2026

Dear Ms. Vaughn:

Congratulations! I am pleased to inform you of your appointment to the Disabled Access Appeals Board for the term ending June 30, 2028, subject to confirmation by the Los Angeles City Council.

On behalf of the people of Los Angeles, thank you for your willingness to serve. Our boards and commissions are a vital part of the City's governance, and your leadership and expertise will play an important role in shaping the future of Los Angeles.

To move forward, there are a few steps you must complete prior to the Council's consideration of your appointment. My Commission Affairs team has prepared an attached checklist with deadlines and submission instructions, and they are available to support you throughout the confirmation process.

Once again, congratulations, and thank you for your commitment to serve the people of Los Angeles.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Karen Bass'.

KAREN BASS
Mayor

KB:lap

Attachment I
Ms. Alexa Vaughn
April 29, 2026

Nominee Check List

I. Within 7 days of appointment:

- Submit the completed forms, found on the last three pages of this letter, to: myr-commissions@lacity.org **OR** mail them to:
 - Office of the Mayor
 - Attn: Luz Portillo
 - 200 N. Spring Street, Room 303
 - Los Angeles, CA 90012
 - Remuneration Form
 - Undated Separation Letters (2)
- Schedule a fingerprinting appointment to complete your background check.
 - The Commissions team will connect you with the Personnel Background Unit.
- Complete and file a Statement of Economic Interests (Form 700).
- Submit the CEC Form 60 (Ethics Clearance Form) to the City Ethics Commission.
 - The City Council cannot act on your nomination until the Ethics Department receives and submits your filings.
 - Note: you will be required to submit the same forms again after you are sworn in

II. Council Member Meetings:

You may be asked to meet with Councilmembers prior to your hearings.

- Your City Councilmember Katy Yaroslavsky
- Councilmember Hugo Soto-Martínez, Chair of the Council Committee, considering your nomination

III. Public Meetings at City Hall:

- Civil Rights, Equity, Immigration, Aging, and Disability Committee Hearing
 - The Clerk's office will contact you once your item has been scheduled.
- Full Council Hearing and Oath of Office
 - The Clerk's office will contact you once your item has been scheduled.

V. Standing Requirements

- Notify the Commissions team of any changes in address or contact information.
- If you wish to resign, you must submit a resignation letter to myr-commissions@lacity.org.