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## **Hudson River Park Honored by American Society of Landscape Architects for Innovative and Sustainable Design**

**NEW YORK, NY (January 30, 2012)** – The Hudson River Park Trust today announced the Tribeca section of the Park is the recipient of a Merit Award for Landscape Architectural Design from the New Jersey chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA). Mathews Nielsen Landscape Architects, the firm that designed the area, accepted the Award for innovative and sustainable landscape design for the segment extending 1.5 miles from Canal Street to Chambers Street and including Piers 25 and 26, as well as ten acres of open land and seven acres of recreational amenities.

“The Tribeca section of the Park is completely indicative of a successful community planning exercise to address the needs of its residents,” said Madelyn Wils, President and CEO, Hudson River Park Trust. “Downtown previously offered little recreation space, and with the creative design of this area, there are now countless activities for Park visitors to enjoy.”

“We are honored to receive this award on behalf of all New Yorkers who are now able to reclaim a significant piece of abandoned waterfront as a new destination for walking, biking, or simply experiencing the outdoors,” added Signe Nielsen, Principal of Mathews Nielsen Landscape Architects. “And while this area has its own unique elements tailored to the neighborhood, it still maintains a beautiful continuity with the rest of the Park.”

Hudson River Park, stretching from 59th Street to Battery Park City, is the largest recreational amenity and open space project to be built in Manhattan since the opening of Central Park more than 150 years ago. The redesign of the Tribeca section includes the foundation of elevated, rolling landforms to create a Nature Walk as well as the reconstruction of Pier 25 to include recreational venues such as a children’s playground, an 18-hole mini-golf course, a street style skatepark, and Manhattan’s only waterfront beach volleyball courts. Over the years, the Trust has worked to rebuild old piers and construct venues for a range of activities while also maintaining and rehabilitating the Park’s natural landscape.

“The design encompasses a holistic view of sustainability,” affirmed Marc Boddewyn, Vice President of Design and Construction, Hudson River Park Trust. “In addition to establishing venues in the

Tribeca section to generate revenue for the Park's ongoing maintenance, we were able to incorporate many durable, low-maintenance materials and finishes that will allow users to enjoy the Park for many years to come while keeping operational costs to a minimum."

In addition to the developments already completed, plans are underway to redesign Pier 26 to include a community boathouse and restaurant as well as an estuarium that will engage in hands-on teaching of the Hudson River ecology.

The Landscape Architectural Design award was established with the purpose of recognizing organizations and individuals who demonstrate superior skill in the practice and study of landscape architecture. A jury of distinguished landscape architect professionals reviewed 33 entries in the competition this year and selected 10 winners in six different categories.

"The Tribeca Section of Hudson River Park successfully weaves together a wide array of passive and recreational activities for every age group and taste," noted Lawrence Porter, one of this year's jurors and a senior landscape architect for Rutgers University. "What could have ended up as a hodgepodge of community board desires was artfully composed and balanced with beautiful gardens, trees, and open lawns."

A full list of the design and engineering honors awarded to Hudson River Park to-date is available on the Trust's website, at [www.hudsonriverpark.org](http://www.hudsonriverpark.org).

#### **About the Hudson River Park Trust**

Hudson River Park Trust is a partnership between New York State and City charged with the design, construction, operation and maintenance of the five-mile Hudson River Park. A public benefit corporation and 501(c)(3), the Trust is governed by a thirteen-member Board of Directors. We employ a focused, diverse staff with experience in parks, design, finance, public policy, operations and maintenance, and are governed by the Hudson River Park Act, a 1998 law that established both the Park and its governing requirements.

#### **About the New Jersey chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects**

The NJASLA is the NJ Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects, a national organization of Landscape Architects, formed in 1899. The ASLA's mission is to lead, to educate, and to participate in the careful stewardship, wise planning, and artful design of our cultural and natural environments. Members of the Society use the "ASLA" suffix after their names to denote membership and their commitment to the highest ethical standards of the profession.

[www.njasla.org](http://www.njasla.org)

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