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RED ROCK CANYON CHARRETTE

BY: CASSI DAWES

Architecture and Landscape architecture students at UNLV were assigned a wonderful, fast-paced project this month. The students were separated into groups and assigned to a design professional. Several landscape architects from the Valley participated by working with their group during the week and a half project. The students were to present the BLM with design concepts, themes and ideas to improve the use and circulation at the Willow Springs/Lost Creek/Icebox Canyon area of the Red Rock Conservation Area. This site is one of the most popular destinations at Red Rock Conservation Area. The students met with experts, collected research and data, toured the sites and worked very hard. The area includes great hiking trails, popular rock climbing areas, petroglyphs and picnic areas. The students looked at many aspects of design including parking, accessible trails, signage and cultural and historical interpretation.

For those that may be unfamiliar, Red Rock Canyon was designated as Nevada's first National Conservation Area. It is located 17 miles west of the Las Vegas Strip on Charleston Boulevard. The area is 195,819 acres and is visited by more than one million people each year. Red Rock Canyon offers a different type of excitement than can be found in other parts of the valley, including a 13-mile scenic drive, more than 30 miles of hiking trails, picnic areas, and a visitor center with exhibit rooms and a book store. If you haven't visited Red Rock yet, make it a point this spring to do so.

I had the opportunity to work with students at UNLV on a Red Rock Design Charrette for this project. Working with the students was a great experience. I encourage everyone to participate in similar projects when the opportunity is available to you. If you are interested, don't hesitate to contact the School of Architecture or the Landscape Architecture Department at UNLV. They would welcome your interest. The students benefit from visits by design professionals, whether it is a single visit during class, attending a jury as a juror or as a professional related to a specific project. It is fun working with up and coming graduates who may one day be working with you on a project.

You cannot depend on your eyes when your imagination is out of focus. Mark Twain

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

For February, let us present Lindzay Green! A native to Boulder City, NV, she says she's a sucker for Creosote and a self-proclaimed "plant freak."

In 7th grade, Lindzay designed her first "Dream House" with everything that is important to a 7th grader and decided that architecture was for her. It wasn't until her first year of architecture school that she came to the realization that she preferred designing with living things.

While in school, she worked for 2 years in habitat restoration and has been working in the field of Landscape Architecture for 2 and a half years. She graduated from UNLV in 2006 with a bachelors in Landscape Architecture.

When she's not designing, she enjoys concerts, singing, hot yoga and her art group. She also loves being out in nature and taking pictures. This passion comes out in her designs.



JBA OFFICE BUILDING

2007 NASLA HONOR AWARD WINNER

The design for this office building incorporates a central planter with a dry river bed and boulder outcroppings facing a curtain wall into the building. Special attention to detail and aesthetics creates a cohesive interplay between indoor and outdoor spaces. Plant material and elevation change provide varied spaces creating a rich sensory experience throughout the planting.

The desert themed plant palette consists of drought tolerant plants. Perennials provide a variety of color throughout the year, while large mesquite trees are a lush, green back drop.

JUSTIN'S TOP 10 FAVORITE GOLF COURSES IN VEGAS (THAT HE'S PLAYED)

PART I

BY: JUSTIN LINDBLAD

10. Desert Rose – This course falls at the end of the list due to the way it was described to me prior to teeing off! This course was also the first course that I had played since my relocation from the Midwest so I had some pretty heavy expectations.

I was told that a lot of PGA tournaments were played here, which was true but not since the 70's and I don't think the maintenance staff has been there since! There was garbage everywhere and I shot in the 90's so my experience was subpar (not my score obviously).

9. Desert Willow- This is a par-60 executive course. It is a great place to test your short game. The layout consists of 12 par-3 holes and six par-4 holes. If you don't have a lot of time you can finish your round in about three hours. The Course is in good shape and usually isn't very crowded.

8. Angel Park- This club has two regulation eighteen hole courses, a twelve hole par 3 course, and an eighteen hole putting course. This course was designed by the legendary Arnold Palmer and is always in great condition! The 18 hole putting course is night-lit and provides a challenge for all that try it. Most of their facility is night-lit for those who work late or can't get there during the day.

7. Boulder Creek- Just recently opened in 2003, this 27 hole course down in Boulder City is worth the trip. It is a great course, and is one of the only courses in town that have bent grass greens (which I love because that is what all the courses in the Midwest are built with). The carts have GPS on them to take out the yardage questions you always have in a normal round!

6. Black Mountain- Offers many options: 18 holes of traditional golf and nine holes of true desert golf. This course you really get your bang for your buck. The prices are very affordable, and if you don't have a lot of time you can usually fly through this course in 4 hours which is unheard of out here in the Las Vegas valley.

PICTURE OF THE MONTH



LONG DRIVE TAKEN BY: MATT DURHAM

Be sure to look for Part II next month!