

## STUDENT CHARRETTE

*The expression “Charette” comes from the École des Beaux-Arts (School of Fines Arts) in Paris, where architecture students had to transport their presentation boards with plans to the exhibition place (now the Palais des Études) using carts when they were late for an assignment submission. “Charette” is the french for “carts”.*

The IFLA World Conference Student Charrette is an intensive workshop open to students of Landscape Architecture Programmes worldwide. Sponsored by the Nava Polman-Gerson Foundation, Netherlands, it is organized annually in the context of the IFLA World Conference and the IFLA Global Studio Program. The 2025 Student Charrette is developed and implemented by the French Federation of Landscape Architects in collaboration with the IFLA Education and Academic Affairs Standing Committee

We invite undergraduate and postgraduate landscape architecture students to apply for participation in a four-day workshop focused on exploring the power of landscape within urban strategies, using the Etoile Verte de Nantes (Nantes' Green Star) as a key example.

Students from diverse cultural backgrounds will have the opportunity to collaborate, exchange ideas, and, above all, enjoy the experience. Participants in the Student Charrette will be organized into teams, where they will receive guidance from academic experts and professionals to develop innovative and unique concepts.

### Theme : l'Etoile verte de Nantes (Nantes' green star)

The three natural corridors—the valleys of the Chézine, the Erdre, and the Sèvre Nantaise—form the branches of the Green Star, converging towards Île de Nantes. The Loire, extending along the east-west axis, serves as its main branch. In recent years, the river has become the vibrant heart around which the new face of the city is being envisioned and taking shape.

This workshop offers an opportunity to reflect on how landscape can play a central role in adapting cities to climate change. Through the study of specific case examples, focusing on the Nantes valleys and their role in the Green Star of Nantes, participants will explore, on one or more designated sites, how landscape approaches can help guide cities toward resilient urban planning that addresses contemporary challenges, with a particular emphasis on land management, water management, and the role of vegetation in urban environments.



**Video:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4vPLz5qNB6Y&t=92s> Subtitles available in english.

We look forward to the IFLA 2025 Student Charrette producing strategies and designs that seek to address the questions we have raised, drawing from the potential of the Etoile Verte de Nantes (Nantes' Green Star).

We hope you will be inspired to join us on this exciting journey!

**Program duration: September 6<sup>th</sup> to September 9<sup>th</sup> (4 days)**

*Participants will be welcomed starting Friday 5<sup>th</sup>, in the late afternoon, and accommodation will be provided from Friday 5<sup>th</sup>, to Wednesday morning, the 10<sup>th</sup>.*

# GENERAL TERMS

## Eligibility

Students majoring in landscape architecture all over the world (including graduate students). Students must be active students/enrolled in a program when the charette takes place. Proficiency in the English language, ability to use drawing and visualization programs, etc. is crucial to apply for student charrette.

## Admission

There are two pathways for admission to the IFLA World Conference Student Charrette.

- The first is related to the **IFLA Global Studio Program**. In this case, Master's or Bachelor's program chairs must apply for their students' participation (for further information, please see <https://www.iflaworld.com/global-studio-program>).
- The second pathway is dedicated to those students who aim **to apply independently** from their programs of enrollment and are interested in the IFLA World Conference Student Charrette but not in the IFLA Global Studio Program. These students must submit a Letter of Intent, Proof of Student Enrollment, and Selected Samples of Personal Work, which the organization of the Student Charrette will review.

Finally, after assessing all the applications, the organization will select 50 participants, although it reserves the right to modify the total number of participants during the selection process if necessary. Of these 50, 12 students will be selected from the number of applicants applying from France and 38 from the rest of the World (including all 5 IFLA regions).

## Participation fee

55 € / participant

- The fee includes lunch, coffee breaks, accommodation, site visit(s), and program participation. (The fee does NOT include personal expenses such as flights, travel insurance, shopping, touristic visits, breakfast, dinner, etc.)
- The payment method for the participation fee will be notified to the selected applicants at a later date.

## Application (for independent application only, not for GSP)

- **Letter of Intent** : 2 pages maximum (A4 size), please describe yourself and why you should be admitted into the Charette. Include self-introduction and share an experience/anecdote (personal or related to your studies) that has changed or evolved the way you consider landscapes and/or landscape roles (feel free!). It should be saved as an uneditable PDF.
- **Proof of Student Enrollment** : All participants must be enrolled in a program at the time of the charrette's and submit a Student Certificate.
- **Selected samples of your personal work**, from your studio projects or portfolio. You must present, through a book, at least 3 project that describes the best the theme "Guiding landscape". You will need to briefly describe, in a short text, how the proposed project addresses the theme. More details on the themes and sub-themes of the congress can be found at the following link: <https://www.ifla2025.com/abstracts/topics> (in ".pdf" format with a high resolution).

**You must apply using the submission form, which allows you to upload your letter of intent, proof of enrollment, sample works/portfolio, and enter some personal informations.**

For applications from France, you need to be student enrolled in a Landscape Architecture program, and you must be a FFP member (Fédération Française du Paysage).

Application form available at <https://ifla2025.com/student-activities/student-charrette>

## Timeline

Announcement	April, 2025
Deadline for Questions	Until April 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2025
Submission Deadline	May 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2025, at 23.59 (GMT)
Selection Notification	June 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2025. The selected students will be contacted individually
Workshop in Nantes	September 6 <sup>th</sup> to 9 <sup>th</sup> , September 2025
Award Ceremony	September 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2025, at IFLA World Congress

## Awards

Three awards will be given; 1st, 2nd, 3rd prize. Details will be communicated later on the website.

In addition to the above-mentioned awards, the IFLA World Congress 2025 organising committee has agreed to present a special prize in the name of the FFP (French Federation of Landscape Architects).

## Sponsor

The background of the IFLA-Charrette, sponsored by the Nava Polman-Gerson Foundation

### About Nava Polman Gerson

Most of the frequent IFLA-World Congress participants, and especially the somewhat “long timer” landscape architects, will remember Nava Polman Gerson as a faithful and joyous attendee of IFLA-World congresses since the Bern congress in 1980. She was serving as the Netherlands Delegate to IFLA for many years.

She was born in Israel in 1942 and inherited her interest in the environment from her father, who was a professional gardener. After her Gymnasium high school period and her military service, she started in 1961 studying landscape architecture at the Technion in Haifa, Israel, whilst working at the Segal Dekel landscape architects’ office in Tel Aviv.

In Israel she designed several different parks, such as the Engeland-Park in Tel-Aviv, the grounds of the Massada lift station and gardens in many kibbutz.

On one of her holidays she met her future husband, Hans Polman in what was then Rhodesia, and after her marriage in 1977 she decided to live in Holland.

Challenged by the differences in climate and in the geomorphology between Israel and Holland she started to work for the local authority in the city of Nijmegen in 1978, where she designed children's playgrounds, the landscape for the Lindenholt neighbourhood, restored old parks and cemeteries, etc.

In 1993, together with her husband, she started in MILLAND, her own landscape architecture practice, working mostly on the design of gardens and parks for local authorities and private clients.

She was a warm colleague and friend, joining the lectures, taking part in the social programmes, having professional and friendly discussions and telling jokes; we remember her Hans as a devoted and constant companion, taking part - mostly as the only man - thoroughly enjoying the "Ladies Programs". She lived a happy life with her family and friends; she wanted so much to come to the IFLA congresses to say "hello" to all her many IFLA friends that she loved so much.

She died on October 10th, 2009, at the age of 67 years and we lost a great friend and also a devoted landscape architect, but she will live on in the wonderful memories we all have of her.

In memory of Nava and her love of her profession, which she enjoyed teaching and discussing with young landscape architects and others, her husband founded in 2011 the Nava Polman-Gerson Foundation that sponsors the awarding of prizes to the three best projects in the Design Charrette for (up till 30 years old) landscape architecture students held in conjunction with IFLA World Congresses.

## Important remarks

- Late submissions will not be accepted, and any potential extension of the deadline will be determined by the organizing committee. To stay informed of announcements or updated information, please visit the official website of the IFLA World Congress 2025 at [www.ifla2025.com](http://www.ifla2025.com)
- Please direct any inquiries to the IFLA 2025 Student Charrette Organising Committee [student@ifla2025.com](mailto:student@ifla2025.com)
- All communication with the organizing committee will be conducted in English.

Before the Charrette, selected students will be provided with digital and detailed information of the area. At the end of the event, participants will be asked to present in, a digital design or a planning concept and a written summary explaining their work.