

Lambda Alpha International (LAI) is an honorary, networked international association for distinguished professionals in all fields related to the use and development of land. LAI is committed to promoting best practices and making a difference in our communities. LAI has a network of 26 Chapters in North America, Europe, and Asia that offer a variety of programs with top speakers, relevant forums, and events where members engage in discussion and debate about land use, economic, and business issues that matter on a local level.

The Baltimore Chapter was formed in 1992 and its members – from business, academia and government – represent a wide range of professions dealing with some aspect of land economic. The heart of our activities is educational programs including monthly lunches with presentations by key leaders in their respective fields on current topics of major interest. The diversity of this membership provides an unusual reservoir of talent, knowledge and expertise to draw upon for these programs and discussions. This reservoir in turn attracts others with talent, knowledge, and expertise to the educational activities of Lambda Alpha at both the international and Chapter level.

Baltimore Land Economics Weekend (LEW) April 26 – 28, 2018

What is a LEW?

LAI hosts Land Economics Weekends (LEW) in chapter cities each spring and fall. The twice-yearly LEWs provide opportunities for members, guests, as well as local professionals, to broaden their perspectives and meet face to face with other accomplished professionals from around the world, while getting behind the scenes access to projects in some of the world's most interesting cities. The 3-day meeting includes a business meeting on the first day and two days of timely and informative tours of the host city. These tours present a first-hand look at key current developments and significant features of the city's economy, culture and landscape. All are presented by the local industry experts leading the initiatives.

Audience

The membership of LAI includes outstanding individuals from many parts of the world who have distinguished themselves in all of the various disciplines and activities that relate to the use and re-use of land. These individuals include not only those who are involved in the ownership, management, regulation and conservation of land, but also those who are involved in its development, redevelopment and preservation. The LEW participants represent a wide variety of professions that come from many cities in the U.S., Canada, Europe, and Asia. Total attendance is usually around 100 *plus* local chapter members, guests and local professionals. Many participants attend regularly, so establish professional acquaintances and friendships that are renewed at each semi-annual meeting and which may lead to professional collaboration throughout the year.

Recent LEWs

LEWs have recently been held in Toronto, Canada; Memphis; San Diego; Washington, DC; San Francisco; Madrid, Spain; Atlanta; Boston; Sacramento; Glasgow, Scotland; Phoenix; Honolulu; and Vancouver, British Columbia.

Baltimore's Role

In April 2000 the LAI's Board of Governors met in Baltimore (in an event that has become the Land Economics Weekend). Much has happened and been developed in Baltimore since then – with even more on the horizon – so the current LAI Baltimore Chapter Board of Directors decided that it is time for us to showcase Baltimore again. Baltimore is hosting the April 26 – 28, 2018 LAI Spring LEW.

LEW Program

We are pleased that the spring LEW will take place in Baltimore, and we look forward to showcasing recent development and revitalization of Baltimore, and its creative, innovative, and diverse communities and institutions. The Baltimore LEW program includes tours, briefings and first-hand views of local development which are the heart of the LEWs. Each city's presentation is unique but follows a pattern of showing the area's prominent features, new activities and changes or recent trends. Knowledgeable local speakers give informative and insightful explanations of the activities and places being seen. The schedule is usually quite full.

Thursday:

The first day's LAI International business meeting is followed by a welcoming President's Reception in the evening, the official kick-off of the LEW. It will be held at the Top of the World, 27^{th} Floor of the World Trade Center, at the Inner Harbor. Note optional, mid-afternoon Pre-LEW curator-led tours of the Walters Art Museum, with its Faberge exhibit, and the George Peabody Library are offered to a limited number of attendees who are not attending the business meetings.

Friday and Saturday:

The second day, Friday, begins with a breakfast meeting with a series of speakers providing an introduction to Baltimore, a showcasing of Harbor East and Harbor Point, followed by a luncheon cruise to hear about the significance of Baltimore's harbor, the Port of Maryland, and Tradepoint Atlantic's development plans. Then an afternoon guided bus tour on the eastside stopping at the newly completed Eager Park to learn about East Baltimore Development Inc. and Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions efforts. After returning to the hotel for a break, our guests may "Dine on Own" or participate in one of our "Dine Arounds." The Dine Around is a cocktail reception for 6-12 people hosted at the home or special place by a local LAI member followed by dinner (paid for on own) together at a nearby restaurant located in one of 250+ Baltimore neighborhoods.

The third day, Saturday, following the breakfast meeting, our guests will have a guided bus tour to Maryland Institute of Art for a talk about its role as an anchor institution with Jubilee and Seawall Development's efforts in Station North and Remington. Lunch will be "On Own" at the newly redeveloped R. House. Then a guided bus tour to Whitehall Mill and then follow a route along MLK, 395 for a fly-over view and along Key Highway to the hotel. The final LEW event is the Closing Reception and Awards Dinner Saturday evening. This will be held at the Frederick Douglass-Isaac Maritime Park. This closing ceremony will present the International Skyline Award and the Richard T. Ely Award, a keynote speaker, and closes with the invitation to the next LEW Fall 2018 in Orange County, California.

Sunday:

On the day following the official conclusion of the LEW we are offering a talk about baseball stadium design with Janet Marie Smith at the Baltimore Museum of Industry, followed by a Baltimore Orioles vs. Detroit Tigers baseball game at Camden Yards.

Questions?