

# Excellence in Landscape Awards Sample Application

## Project Information

**Project Name** Urban Living  
**Address of Project** 3515 N. Bosworth

## Firm Information

**Company Name** Kemora Landscape Designs  
**Contact Name** Marisa Gora  
**Address** 1530 W. Ainslie  
**City** chicago **State** IL **Zip** 60640  
**Phone**  
**Fax**  
**Email**  
Joint Project: NO

## Plaque Information

An inscribe plaque will be awarded to each Gold, Silver, and Merit Winner.  
Other entries will receive a Certificate of Recognition.

**Project Name** Urban Living  
**Firm Name** Kemora Landscape Designs  
**Name 1** Marisa Gora  
**Title 1** Landscape Designer  
**Name 2** Colleen Mulhern  
**Title 2** Project Manager  
**Name 3**  
**Title 3**

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## Excellence in Landscape Awards Program Entry (Section 2)

### Project Category

Residential Construction

### Details

**Date Completed** 10/02/2012

**Size** Less than 15,000 square feet

### Heritage and Decade Awards (optional)

Heritage and Decade Awards indicate the highest level of achievement over time in the award categories above. To receive a Heritage or Decade award, the project must be of Gold award winning quality in its main award category; however the project does not have to have won an award in a previous year to qualify.

**Neither** selected

If the project was installed more than five years ago and is being entered by the original installer, or has been continuously maintained by a maintenance firm for more than five years, select the **Heritage Award** category in addition to the project's main award category.

If the project was installed more than ten years ago and is being entered by the original installer, or has been continuously maintained by a maintenance firm for more than five years, select the **Decade Award** category in addition to the project's main award category.

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## Excellence in Landscape Awards Program Entry (Section 3)

### Project Attributes

D = Designed, I = Installed, M = Maintained, S = Subcontracted, N = None, O = IPM Used

Feature		Description
Lawns	DI	newly sodded side yard
Ground Covers	N	
Shrubs	DI	
Trees	DI	spruces, sugar maple, multistem hawthorne, ornamental pear
Mulch	I	
Flowers	DI	
Irrigation	S	
Grading	DI	regraded entire side yard
Lighting	S	Line voltage and low voltage lighting included

Decks	N	
Driveways	N	
Walks	DI	Bluestone full range
Walls	DI	tiered raised beds out of american granite
Terrace/Patio	DI	
Water Features	I	small purchased fountain installed in small seating area
Other Outdoor Kitchen	DI	built walls and countertops and installed appliances

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## Excellence in Landscape Awards Program Entry (Section 4)

### Digital Photo Descriptions

Identify project constraints, include challenges overcome, plant descriptions, and owner expectations. Do not use vague terms such as "north view" or "view from patio." Photo descriptions must match photo names and numbers included on the CD or posted to the FTP site.

1. The homeowner purchased the 2 flat adjacent to their property and demolished it for the purposes of creating a new outdoor living and play space for themselves and their two children.



2. They requested the existing garage on their property be connected to the house by a covered walkway and the one large tree at the back of the new property be saved.



3. The design was to preserve as much open play space as possible while  
) incorporating a fully equipped covered outdoor kitchen and fireplace.



4. The last requirement was a basketball court for their daughter to



- ) double as overflow parking when necessary, which we placed off of the alley with a custom designed screen to disguise it.



- 5.) The completed design brought together the outdoor kitchen and bar, dining space, and gas fire pit in an efficient and comfortable space that is capable of accommodating either the family of four or a party of many. The space is constructed of full range bluestone flooring with American granite vaneer walls and cedar accents.



- 6.) The covered breezeway opens up the new yard to connect to the old small backyard that now serves as an intimate casual seating area with a small accent water feature and a second fire pit. The same full range bluestone is utilized in both spaces as well as in the breezeway to create a strong connection between the spaces.





- 7.) The large fire pit in the main yard has a built in ipe and steel bench backed by granite raised beds and plantings. The background plantings are designed to create a screen and block out the adjacent building to create a private space.





- 8.) The covered outdoor kitchen was purposefully designed with the interior floor to step up to utilize one flat counter as both a counter height work station on the inside, while serving as a bar height seating area on the outside. Accented with overhead lights and a flatscreen tv with complete sound system, and wood beams and bar supports that tie the structure in to the screen behind the seating area.



- 9.) Inside the kitchen, there is all stainless steel appliances including grill with warming drawer, utility drawers, refrigerator, enclosed garbage and recycling can, and a cocktail station with sink. Each of these are perfectly mounted into granite veneer walls with a thermal bluestone countertop.



10. The basketball is discretely located behind the decorative screen and is complete with key and freethrow line. The space is surrounded by a steel and cedar fence that has a large sliding panel that opens to the alley to allow car access for additional parking.





11. The kitchen a fire pit area are comfortably located across from each other for easy entertaining and also preserving ample open grass space for play. The spruce and sugar maple along the fence are strategically located to block the structure next door and the stone wall at the end of the grass ties the front of the yard back to the entertaining space.



12. The seatwall along the front fence is constructed of the same American granite and bluestone coping and not only serves as a comfortable place to rest while playing, but double duties as a retaining wall to level off the severe grade change that exists from the back of the space to the sidewalk.



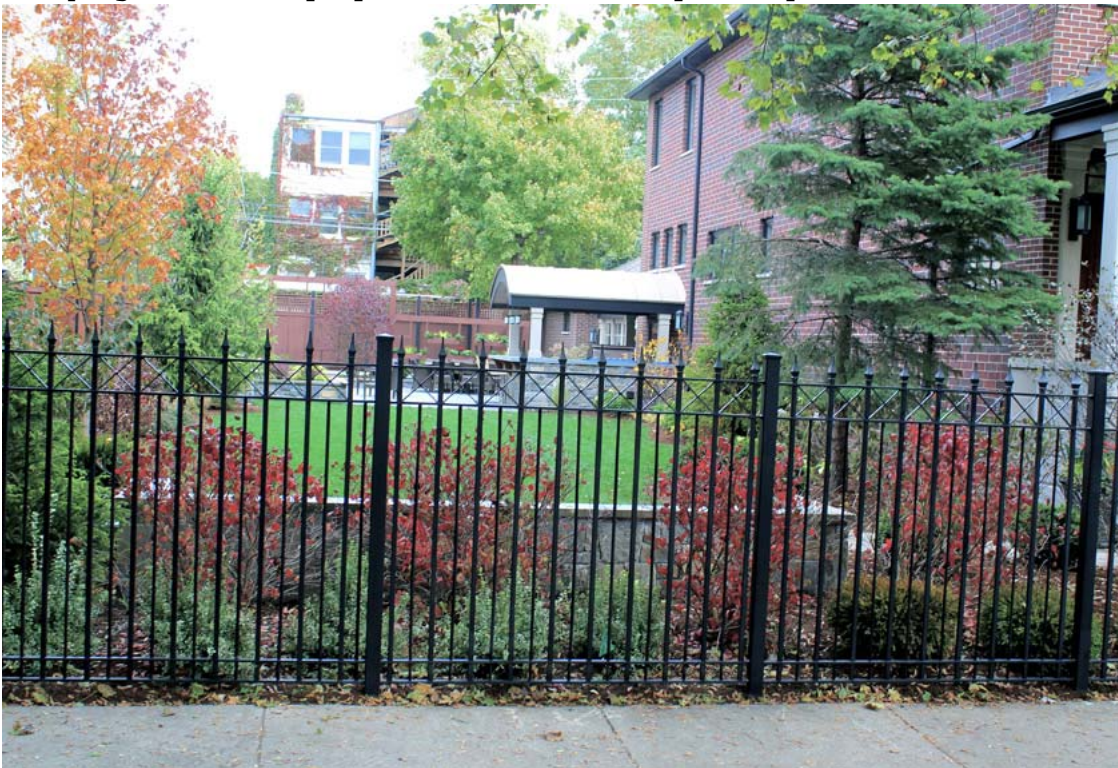


13. The view from the front to the back gives a wonderful view of the large grass space helps to keep the open feeling of the space while adding to the intimacy of the entertaining area as it is set back from the public walk. The custom wood structure also very successfully screens any view to the basketball space hidden behind the dining area.





14. Along the front fence there is a mixed planting of a spruce tree and  
 ) judd viburnums intended to create an obstructed view into the yard  
 while creating a unified front to connect the new space with the old.  
 A new iron fence was installed across both properties further  
 unifying these two properties into one complete space.





15. This view of the dining area illustrates the breezeway when the doors are closed as well as gives a close up to the screen that encloses the dining space and brings in opportunity for annual color. The cedar structure was custom designed to be an irregular open structure that distracts from the basketball court without walling it off completely.



16. The small interior space where the old yard once was, now is a calm quiet seating space for a few to enjoy an evening drink around the remote controlled fire pit. This left over small space became a true destination.





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## Excellence in Landscape Awards Program Entry (Section 5)

### Project Description (Maximum 2500 Characters)

Type up to 2500 characters (approximately 350 words). Identify project constraints, challenges and owner expectations. Explain your contribution and conclusion of the results. Be specific. Do not make the judges guess about your work. Proofread carefully before submitting (perhaps have another colleague read it also).

The owners of this 10 year old house near wrigleyville wanted more outdoor space for their family but did not want to give up their recently designed home. They decided to purchase the adjacent lot with intentions of tearing down the existing structure and opening up significant outdoor living/play space. The new yard was to incorporate a fully equipped adult entertaining space while preserving as much open grass space as possible. The owner's primary requests were a new protected connection to the old garage and a basketball court. The final design resulted in two entertaining spaces separated by covered connection to the garage with double glass doors on either side that can be slid open to create a complete connection between the old and new yard. The new side yard houses the large fire pit area, the outdoor kitchen, and dining area. A full covered outdoor kitchen, complete with sink and warming drawer, was located against the house near the doors for easy access. The basketball court is located beyond the dining space, but is camouflaged by a custom designed cedar screen that incorporates planter boxes for annual rotations. The raised planting beds and fire pits are constructed out of American granite and complimented with full range bluestone paving. The grade at the front of the lot significantly dropped to the sidewalk and we alleviated the slope from the grass area by incorporating an additional granite seat

wall. Beyond the seat wall we intentionally planted a mix of trees and shrubs to screen the yard from the city sidewalk. The small space that remains as you pass from the new yard through the sliding glass doors of the covered breezeway is now an intimate seating area for the couple to retreat to in the evenings to enjoy an outdoor fire. These two spaces, complete with outdoor speakers, TV, landscape lighting, new iron fencing and irrigation, all in a compact design is truly an efficient use of space for urban living.

### **Gold Narrative (Maximum 175 words)**

The Gold Narrative will be read on Awards Night if your project is selected for a Gold Award. Please provide a narrative that borrows heavily from your project description. ILCA reserves the right to edit your narrative.

#### **Gold Narrative**

The home owners incorporated a full city lot to their property as a sideyard. The new yard was to incorporate a fully equipped adult entertaining space while preserving as much open grass space as possible. The final design resulted in two entertaining spaces separated by covered connection to the garage. The new side yard houses the large fire pit with built in seating area, the outdoor kitchen, and dining area. A full covered outdoor kitchen, complete with sink and warming drawer, was located against the house near the doors for easy access and houses a flatscreen TV. The basketball court is located beyond the dining space, but is camouflaged by a custom designed cedar screen. The old yard is now an intimate seating area for the couple to retreat to in the evenings to enjoy an outdoor fire. These two spaces, complete with outdoor speakers, TV, landscape lighting, new iron fencing and irrigation, all in a compact design is truly an efficient use of space for urban living.