



Long Island Section *of the*
American Planning Association
New York Metro Chapter

Making Great Communities Happen

Contact Kathy Eiseman
Telephone 631-427-5665
Cell 516-680-7433
Email keiseman@nelsonpopevoorhis.com
Website <http://apalongisland.org/>

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LI SECTION OF THE AMERICAN PLANNING ASSOCIATION AWARDS FOUR SCHOLARSHIPS IN MEMORY OF PLANNER ARTHUR H. KUNZ

Since 1995, the Long Island Section of the American Planning Association has been awarding grants to new professional planners and students for attendance at the annual National APA conference. A scholarship fund was established for this purpose in 1994 in memory of Arthur H. Kunz, a well-respected Long Island planner who died suddenly in 1993 at the age of 59.

Arthur was passionate about the planning field and universally viewed as competent, nonpartisan and a man of great integrity. According a former colleague, Tom Isles, AICP, Arthur attended as many of the national APA conferences as possible and particularly enjoyed the mobile workshops, where he could experience “planning in action” so that he could bring good ideas back to Long Island. Tom recalls that Arthur would create annual slideshows of photographs taken during mobile workshops to share with friends and colleagues so that others could both be inspired and learn from his experiences.

The scholarship is very competitive and provides \$1,500 for registration, expenses, and participation in at least one mobile workshop during the conference. Simulating Arthur’s practice, each of the recipients is asked to present their own slideshow during the annual Arthur Kunz Memorial Scholarship Breakfast held each spring so that the audience can learn from their experience.

This year, four scholarships have been awarded for attendance at the National APA Conference in San Francisco in April. The following provides a little bit about the recipients:

- Michelangelo Lieberman is from Watermill and is currently working for the Town of Southampton in the Long Range Planning Division. By attending the National Conference, he hopes to learn new skills and techniques to bring back to Long Island and he is especially interested in conference sessions related to sea level rise, model codes, and municipal energy sovereignty.
- Nick Shearman lives in Astoria and is currently working as a Grant Administrator at the Glen Cove Community Development Agency. He also volunteers with an environmental organization called Sane Energy Project that advocates for the development of equitable renewable energy on Long Island and in New York State. He is looking forward to attending mobile workshops at the National Conference focused on affordable housing, neighborhood stability, and green infrastructure.
- Rebecca Steiner is from Oakdale and will graduate in June from the University of Delaware with a double major in Environmental Studies and Public Policy, a Political Science minor, and Graduate Certificate in Historic Preservation. She was an intern at the City of Long Beach in the Economic Development and Planning Department this past semester and hopes to return to work for the City. Rebecca is excited to meet planners from all over the country at the National Conference.
- Simone Torre is from Elmont and is currently pursuing a master's degree in Urban Planning from Hunter College. Additionally, Simone is a Junior Planning Analyst working in the Department of Strategic Investments at the Long Island Rail Road where she participates in long-range planning exercises. Simone is looking forward to attending mobile workshops at the National Conference and learning about innovative ways to address the problems of aging infrastructure.

The Long Island Section is a section of the NY Metro Chapter of the American Planning Association. Our members are private and municipal planners, public officials, and concerned citizens that work or reside in Nassau or Suffolk Counties. In addition to awarding scholarships, the Long Island Section offers numerous educational and social opportunities for planners including workshops, panels, guest speakers, and joint meetings with other professional groups. For more information about our Section, and to get involved, please visit www.apalongisland.org.

For more information about the scholarship program, please contact Kathy Eiseman, LI Section Treasurer, at Keiseman@nelsonpopevoorhis.com.