

**Candidate for the ILCA Board of Directors:**  
**Aaron Zych**

**Professional Experience:**

- Visionary / Management Team, ILT Vignocchi, Wauconda, IL 2022-Present
- Vice President/Management Team, ILT Vignocchi, Wauconda, IL 2015-2022
- Design Department Manager/Construction PM, ILT Vignocchi, Wauconda, IL 2011-2015
- Construction Project Manager (PM), ILT Vignocchi, Wauconda, IL 2009-20011
- Account Manager, ILT Vignocchi, Wauconda, IL 2004-2009
- Landscape Architect, ILT Vignocchi, Wauconda, IL 2001-2004
- Design Department Intern, ILT Vignocchi, IL Summer 2000
- Landscape Laborer Intern, David J Frank Landscape Contracting, Kenosha, WI Summer 1999

**Education (High school, college, or specialized training or certificate programs):**

- Bachelor of Landscape Architecture, University of Illinois, Champaign / Urbana 1995-2001
- Willowbrook High School, Villa Park, IL 1990 - 1995

**ILCA and Green Industry Activities (Committee service, awards won, educational or technical presentations, etc.):**

- ILCA Membership Co-Chair/Chair – 2019-Present
- ILCA Membership Committee – 2017-2019
- ASLA Education Committee – 2018-2022
- Invigorate U Presentation – 2022
- Member Peer Grow Group / McFarlin Stanford 2022-Present
- Registered Landscape Architect – 2006 to Present
- Registered Certified Arborist – 2005 to Present

**Message to ILCA Members:**

I am very appreciative and honored to be considered for an ILCA Board of Directors seat. My passion for the industry, the people, my company and for ILCA has continued to evolve and grow each year. When I switched majors from Music Education to Landscape Architecture in college, I took a huge leap of faith that the green industry was my future. I knew I would be able to create and design but what transpired, I could not have scripted better. My summer internships allowed me to work with every aspect of this industry: from plants to nursery owners, hardscape suppliers and who know I would love equipment so much. That was the true start of what grew into my life's passion, and I have been at it ever since.

I love to learn and grow and became a certified arborist in 2005 and a registered landscape architect in 2006. I asked my father-in-law (Harry Vignocchi, founder of ILT Vignocchi) early in my tenure what he would suggest for growth. He told me to get the heck out of the office and get into the field to learn as much as possible about plants, plant health care, horticultural practices and sales. This led me to make the transition from design to account management. This move only made me love what I did more and truly made me appreciate that position in this industry. Several years later I made the move back to design and after that my focus became learning as much as I could about business and leadership. I have been on that journey ever since as it is my opinion you can never educate yourself enough.

This is an industry that brings such joy to people, and while I was working on my personal growth there was still an emptiness to my professional goals. I saw firsthand, from other family members, how

participating in ILCA could so profoundly affect others in this industry. It was time to give back, to provide others with what was given to me at the start of my career. To play a part to ignite someone's passion as others had done for me. It was for that reason I became active on the membership committee. I have truly felt more fulfilled giving back, but always thought that if given an opportunity to help the organization grow from a board position I would not hesitate to accept.

All this work comes from the unwavering support of my wife (Donna Vignocchi) my daughter (Sofia) and the team that we have at ILT Vignocchi. I look forward to giving back further to an industry that I absolutely love.