

FULL MEMBERSHIP

All the Garden Designers featured on the website are GLDA Full Members (MGLDA). They have been in professional practice for a minimum of 3 years. Each has had their portfolio assessed by an independent panel of horticultural and design experts. **To become a Full Member, you first apply to become a Pre-Reg. member.**

Benefits of becoming a Full Member include:

- Use of 'MGLDA' after your name to promote your achievement which recognises you have attained the exacting professional standards required by the GLDA
- A dedicated page listing, including photographs of previous work, on the GLDA website
- Poster promoting your work at the GLDA annual seminar
- Media opportunities for PR (i.e. interviews, feature articles, etc)
- Discounted rates at the annual seminar or other events and trade shows supported by the GLDA
- Involvement in GLDA promotions at national garden festivals, public/trade events & seminars
- Annual subscription to the GLDA's journal, **Compass** (published twice a year)
- Regular online newsletters from the GLDA
- Promotion of your achievements in Compass and the newsletter as well as opportunities to submit articles for publication in Compass, the website blog and the newsletter
- Networking events with other members as well as Friends and Corporate Members of the GLDA

Full Membership of the GLDA costs **€200 per annum**. The membership year commences 01 March.

To become a GLDA Full Member the Garden Designer has to show, by providing the following information, that they can design gardens and provide the necessary information for a Landscape Contractor to build and plant them.

1. Project 1: Finished Garden Design on Site

This project shall include the following information:

- a. A client brief - 500 words
- b. Site photographs and site survey notes
- c. Concept sketch and images
- d. Master plan
- e. Construction photographs and images of finished garden

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2. Project 2: Hypothetical Project

Complete a 6-month programme run by the GLDA Membership Assessment Panel (MAP) team which will aim to provide attendees with the skills to produce comprehensive garden plans. The programme will run as follows:

Class 1: Introduction to the garden design project and run through the course work required during the programme.

Class 2: To present your Garden Design Concept to the class including sketches and mood boards.

Class 3: To present your Garden Design Master Plan showing the development of the design from the concept.

Class 4: Construction Details - developing a construction detail from the project.

Class 5: Planting Plans and schedules - developing a detailed planting area from the project.

Class 6: Presentation of the completed Garden Design Project to the MAP team.

This project will be used as part of your portfolio assessment for Full membership. If you are unable to make some of the classes the various aspects can be submitted and discussed during GLDA portfolio workshops held throughout the year prior to assessment.

3. Project 3: Finished Garden Design incorporating a GLDA Full Member Visit

This will require a comprehensive set of drawings to be submitted along with a report made by a Full Member on the construction and planting of the garden. The Full Member will be required to make one site visit. The drawings shall include the following:

- Survey and Analysis
- Concept Sketches and Mood Board
- Master Plan
- Hard landscape working drawings with a minimum of 2 construction details
- Soft landscape schedule and planting plans
- Maintenance Programme

4. Interview with the Membership Assessment Panel

Each potential new Full Member will be given the opportunity to discuss their works with a panel of three landscape professionals. At this meeting the Pre-Reg Member will be asked to explain their work and answer any questions the panel have on the three projects submitted.

If you are an established, practicing garden/landscape designer for a minimum of three years, you may qualify to apply for Full Membership if your portfolio is of an acceptable standard. Please submit a Pre-Registered Membership form and accompanying application documents.

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