

Gary Lai is a thought leader in sustainability, resiliency, and conservation with over thirty years' experience in landscape architectural design and planning. His interest in drawing and environmentalism as a child led him to a field that he describes as the 'architecture of living things' with an immense potential to impact quality of life for future generations. His commitment to environmental advocacy is reflected in his teaching and speaking engagements, as well as his active involvement as a Board Member for USGBC-Los Angeles. Gary is currently a Practice Builder for Nature-based Solutions and Environmental Equity for Kimley-Horn in Los Angeles, California.

Throughout Gary's career he worked all over the States but predominantly in the Western US including, Seattle, Portland, the San Francisco Bay Area, Central Valley and Southern California, Reno and Las Vegas Nevada, Albuquerque New Mexico, and El Paso Texas. He was heavily involved in desert restoration for a huge health complex in Fort Bliss, El Paso, Texas and has had the honor of having worked in all four of the great North American deserts. Over the last 30 years, most of my over 200 projects have had some elements of biodiversity. Most recently, Gary was Principal-in-charge for a large park in South Los Angeles, Earvin "Magic" Johnson Park for AHBE/MIG, that had constructed wetlands and upland sage habitat restoration elements. Internationally, Gary has worked in China, Korea, and the Middle East.