LandLab is an artist residency at the Schuylkill Center in which artists create installations that prevent or remediate environmental damage while raising awareness about our local ecology.

Buprestid Insulae (1)
Anthony Heinz May, 2019
Near the Fire Pond
This installation was created for the Schuylkill Center’s exhibition, We All Fall Down, focusing on the ecological impacts of the invasive insect, the emerald ash borer. By carving into this standing dead ash tree, the artist sought to highlight the damage done not only by the ash borer but by human consumption.

Rain Yard (2)
Stacy Levy, 2013
In the Sensory Garden
This innovative artwork serves both a practical function (mitigating stormwater runoff from our building) and an interpretive function (highlighting the critical role that soil and plants play in the water cycle).

Human Nature (3)
Anki King, 2018
Behind the Visitors Center
King collected invasive Kudzu vines from the Schuylkill Center property and used them to form this sculpture over a wooden armature. She uses a human-like figure to encourage us to see ourselves as nature.

Al Mudhif (4)
Sarah Kavage & Yaroub Al-Obaidi
Near the Greenhouse
This outdoor guesthouse is the first of its kind to be built outside of Iraq and North America. Al Mudhif is a cross cultural healing and welcoming space. Made from the invasive wetland reed, phragmites, this structure comments on both the migration of plants and people.

Bird/Seed Shelter (5)
Julia Molloy & Taka Sarui | XLXS, 2009
In Jubilee Grove
This is the only remaining work from Gimme Shelter, a six-artist showcase. Soil formed a layer over the shells, seeded with native plants and birdseed, which washed away and left the shell available for birds and habitat growth.

Lentic (6)
Stacy Levy, 2002
On Springhouse Pond
Lentic means still water like ponds and lakes. A scientifically correct cross-section of pond life is sandblasted and gilded into the stones.

Remembering Water’s Way (7)
Dance Exchange, LandLab Resident Artists, 2017-2018
On the Fox Glen Trail
Sticks and invasive grasses were gathered and woven into these fascines, which have been placed to redirect water and retain soil during increasingly frequent rain events. A fascine is a bundle of sticks used to protect land from erosion. These installations were carried and installed as part of a performance and community walk.

Welcome Home (8)
Vaughn Bell, 2013
On the Widener Trail
This installation provides a home for native plants to dramatically illustrate the impact of invasive plants on the forest ecosystem. Bell and a team of Schuylkill Center staff and volunteers cleared the area inside the home of all invasive plant species and created the enclosure to protect the native plants from browsing deer.

Future Non-Object #1: Sol’s Reprise (9)
Jake Beckman, LandLab Resident Artist, 2014-2015
On the Widener Trail
Beckman explored the detritus cycle of a forest and its disruption by invasive earthworms, creating sculptural installations that make these hidden processes visible to visitors. This wooden sculpture is inoculated with local fungal spores which will break down over time and enrich soil health.

Native Pollinator Garden (10)
On the Widener Trail
This installation provides a chemical-free, native pollinator garden for the bee population on the grounds of the Schuylkill Center. This collaboration of three artists features wooden sculptural raised beds, zinc etched botanical signs, and thousands of pit-fired ceramic bees.

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