N.E. Miles Jewish Day School, 4000 Montclair Road, has invited the Birmingham section of Alabama ASLA to participate in its spring PTA fundraiser. Local landscape architecture and landscape contracting firms will design and build individual stations as part of a 9-hole mini golf course. Each of the stations should reflect the theme of “tikkun olam,” a Jewish commandment to participate in “repairing the world”—a perfect theme for Landscape Architecture Month, because that’s what we do!

Firms will construct and donate the stations to the school. Following the mini golf tournament, the stations (either individually or as a whole course) will be sold at auction to maximize the fundraising effort.

The school is open to any educational experiences that participating firms might wish to provide as part of this event and Landscape Architecture Month. If your students are too young to participate in the construction, maybe the class can help you with theme ideas!

Recommended Materials
- Traffic Master hobnail indoor/outdoor carpet tiles available in six colors from Home Depot—36 sq. ft./box; self-adhesive, 100% recycled. If we all use the same carpet type, it will ensure a standard playing surface texture
- Dimension lumber curb/edging or banking obstacles should extend 2” to 2½” above perimeter of playing surface to keep ball in play. If a bank shot is part of your station layout, try to provide a smooth, true surface
- 4” Schedule 40 PVC pipe: use at least a 3” deep section for hole; use sections of larger pipe to make “tunnel” obstacles less daunting
- Rigid insulation or like material may be cut and shaped for rolling surfaces

Construction Guidelines
- Budget: approximately $300-500 per station
- Overall station dimensions must fit within an 8’ x 8’ square but should not exceed a total of 40 square feet to allow for play and circulation
- Must be easily moved and assembled/disassembled/reassembled (i.e., its pieces should fit into a van or SUV; two people should be able to lift the parts) Think about portability when planning station hazards (sand, gravel, etc.), or include a method for transporting those items
- Stations should have obstacles, changes in topography/elevation, different textures to make play interesting and challenging; design must include curb or use topography to keep most balls in play.
- Durable construction that will support foot traffic from smaller children; consider reach of players and clubs when determining the width of your play area
- Consider using recycled or repurposed materials...this might be a good way to clean out some old sample materials!
- You may include your firm’s name or logo as part of the station design.

What’s in this for my firm?
This is a great opportunity to showcase landscape architecture and your design work, and to meet potential clients, so this should be considered a marketing activity for your firm. The school will provide a receipt documenting the station donation for your accounting and tax records. A “grand prize” for the winning station design is also being determined.

As part of the school’s publicity for the mini golf tournament, participating firms will get their names and/or logos printed on invitations and posters, as well as advertising in Southern Jewish Life, at local synagogues and the Levite Jewish Community Center. Sharing within your social networks will help even more! The school is also working to bring in media coverage (newspaper, TV, radio) and to bring in a local radio station for live coverage at the event.