

UCFS Board Member Profile: Fred Chalfant

Name: Fred Chalfant

City, State/Province, Country: Baltimore, MD, USA

Place of Employment: TreeBaltimore, Baltimore City
Department of Recreation and Parks, Forestry Division

Job Title: Urban Forester

Educational level and major field: Partial College,
History



List any professional certifications:

- ISA Board Certified Master Arborist
- ISA Certified Urban Forest Professional
- TRAQ Qualification
- ISA Tree Risk Assessment Qualified
- ASCA Tree and Plant Appraisal Qualified
- Wildfire Risk Reduction Qualification

List any other urban forestry, arboriculture, or related organizations you're involved with:

Baltimore City Forestry Board, Maryland Big Tree Program Committee

LinkedIn profile link: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/frederic-chalfant/>

Brief bio:

Since 2020 I have worked for the City of Baltimore where I coordinate the TreeKeepers tree stewardship. From 2020 until 2023, I also served as an inspector. I currently manage the city's young tree care contract. Since 2024 I have served on the Industry Trends Committee. I attended MFI in 2025. I currently serve as a UCFS mentor and serve on the UCFS Accreditation Council. From 2017 to 2019 I worked for Blue Water Baltimore and the Baltimore Tree Trust. Before entering urban forestry, I had a varied career in photography, modular furniture installation, retail management, as well as political organizing.

What makes you happy about being an UCFS member?

The easy answer is everything about UCFS makes me happy, but the heart of it is the people. UCFS is a professional society that builds community. It's all my fellow urban forestry professionals from all over who are united in supporting and advancing the profession that

makes me happy. I've participated in most of UCFS's programs, though arborist exchange remains on my bucket list. Each one has been rewarding.

What got you interested in the field of urban forestry?

I have had a lifelong interest in trees, but it wasn't I attended TreeKeepers in 2013 that I became aware of urban forestry as career field. The broad spectrum of knowledge areas with a large community engagement focus meshed well with my background and experience.

In what ways do you want to contribute to the [mission](#) and [strategic direction](#) of UCFS? Are you particularly interested in a certain area of board service such as governance, policy, outreach, financial oversight, etc.? Do you see any of your strengths being especially helpful to leading the organization?

I am interested in both policy and outreach. I believe that my experience in engagement, outreach, and organizing combined with my arboricultural knowledge and nontraditional career path would be a valuable contribution to the board.

Favorite tree and why?

My favorite tree can vary, but most often I say silver maple. It is one of the first trees I planted as a child and one of the first trees I learned to identify at a distance. It may not be a tree for an urban tree well, but something about its form and shape speaks to me. I also like snacking on the samaras.