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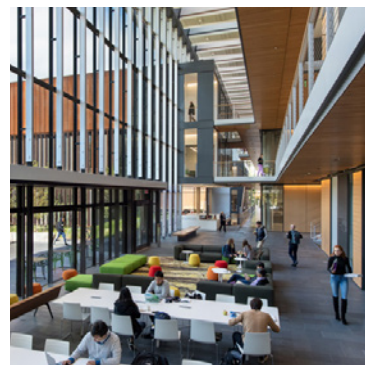


Encore

AIA Interiors Awards 2022

Every year the American Institute of Architects conducts an awards program for interior architecture. Contributor John Morris Dixon highlights the winning work of 2022, created by a diverse group of talented U.S. architects.

FULL STORY ON PAGE 3...



Reducing Loneliness in the Workplace

With remote work now the norm, there has been an increase in employee loneliness. This disconnect leads to absenteeism, staff turnover, and loss of productivity. Suzette Subance of TPG Architecture explains how she utilizes design to reshape offices so that workers feel less isolated.

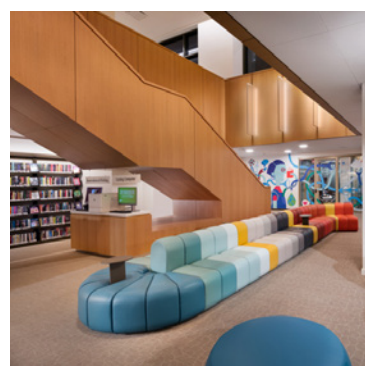
FULL STORY ON PAGE 13...



Four Commercial Design Trends You Should Know About Now

Contributor Claire Butwinick details four key commercial design trends we should know about now. She provides an insider's look at the most exhilarating color palette of 2022, the next stage of biophilic design, and how the new office will take shape.

FULL STORY ON PAGE 18...



In Memoriam: Gyo Obata, FAIA

Gyo Obata, FAIA, renowned architect and a co-founder of HOK, passed away on March 8, 2022 at the age of 99. His work defined a multidisciplinary approach that established HOK as a firm capable of complex projects, and fueled its growth into one of the largest, most highly regarded architectural firms in the world.

FULL STORY ON PAGE 22...



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SEE AND I REMEMBER. I
DO AND I UNDERSTAND."
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AIA Interiors Awards 2022

by John Morris Dixon, FAIA

Every year the American Institute of Architects conducts an awards program for interior architecture by licensed US architects. An architectural firm may design interiors as parts of whole buildings, or of additions and renovations to them. When architects take on separate commissions for interiors within buildings, those are more likely to be for facilities such as

restaurants, galleries, or performance venues, which pose special functional and technical demands – or for public spaces in office or apartment buildings, where most of the total space will be designed by others.

In terms of what interiors by architects are likely to be submitted to awards programs, that may depend on diverse factors, including how

much these honors may relate to the firm's overall image or are expected to impress prospective clients. And, as all recent architectural awards have shown, today's honors may depend to a considerable extent on how the work deals with broader current issues such as social and environmental concerns. All of these factors are represented in this year's impressive award winners.

Amherst New Science Center

Amherst, MA

Payette, Architect

Amherst College's new science center was designed to replace aging facilities that could not support today's technology, equipment, or teaching methods. Conceived as five distinct buildings connected by day-lighted circulation spaces, which form a sheltered portion of a campus walkway, the complex offers all students of this

undergraduate school an invitingly transparent window into the sciences.

The roof covering the common spaces acts as a unifying feature for the entire center while serving several key functions. A series of finely configured skylights animate the roof's form and modulate the daylight entering. The roof also supports photovoltaic panels to generate electricity and offers radiant heating and cooling to spaces below, while its shapes and materials provide acoustical control.



Amherst College: The New Science Center is organized around a daylight-filled multistory Commons. Photo: © Chuck Choi

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A palette of carefully articulated materials appears throughout the complex, relating it to the traditionally designed campus of which it is part. Handmade gray brick

evokes local stone walls, natural-finished wood maintains a campus tradition, and custom weathering-steel screens echo the colors of neighboring structures.



Amherst College: Activity in the Center is fully visible to campus, and a majority of spaces within share visual connection to each other and to outdoors. Photo: © Chuck Choi



Amherst College: Interiors promote transparency and interaction at every level. Photo: © Chuck Choi

Chicago Architecture Center*Chicago, IL**Adrian Smith + Gordon Gill Architecture*

Founded as a nonprofit in 1965 – then known as the Chicago Architecture Foundation – the nonprofit facility has found an ideal downtown home in the Illinois Center commercial complex. It occupies the lower floors of Mies van der Rohe's One Illinois Center tower, an architectural landmark in itself, and faces the skyscraper-lined Chicago River, convenient to the foundation's ever-popular boat tours of the city's design heritage.

Serving nearly 700,000 visitors a year, the center accommodates on-site exhibits, lectures, and retail operations. Its 85 annual tours take place on foot, by bike, bus, and Chicago's iconic elevated trains, as well as by boat.

The Skyscraper Gallery comprises the heart of the 20,000-square-foot space. A panoramic city view can be enjoyed through 40-foot-high windows. Its acoustically effective metal ceiling reflects the movement of the river and its traffic. The foundation's signature vivid red, employed on key surfaces and signage, contrasts boldly with Mies's sober materials palette.



Chicago Architecture Center: Exterior view. Photo: © James Steinkamp



Chicago Architecture Center: Entrance lobby with museum shop. © James Steinkamp



Chicago Architecture Center: Skyscraper gallery. © James Steinkamp

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Geneva Car Barn & Powerhouse*San Francisco, CA**Aidlin Darling Design, Architect*

Constructed in 1901 for San Francisco's first electric railroad, the two-story car barn and the one-story powerhouse served their original purpose until the Loma Prieta earthquake of 1989. Seriously damaged, then abandoned, these memorable landmarks of the Outer Mission neighborhood were saved from demolition by Friends of the Geneva Car Barn and Powerhouse, a community group seeking to repurpose them as a cultural hub.

The design team was commissioned by that group and the city's Recreation and Parks Department (which became its owner) to adapt the buildings as a cultural and educational center for underprivileged young people. To secure tax credits for the project, its team coordinated closely with the National Park Service and the California State Historic Preservation Office throughout the phases of design and construction.

The car barn, renovated in 2020 as the first phase of the project, contains a café, a gallery, a black-box theater, and an event space that can accommodate 300 people. The new program elements, including plywood-clad enclosures for specific functions, were carefully inserted into the structural shell. Brickwork was

wire brushed for lead abatement, then sealed. Damaged plaster was sparingly repaired, using a subtly different color to distinguish new from old. Examples of graffiti from various periods were retained. Glass flooring covers pits that once contained turbines now display artifacts from the buildings' histories.



Geneva Car Barn & Powerhouse: Before the Renovation. © Aidlin Darling Design, Courtesy of the SF Recreation & Parks Department



Geneva Car Barn & Powerhouse: Car barn interior, repurposed. Photo: © Matthew Millman Photography, Courtesy Aidlin Darling Design

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Duke University, Rubinstein Arts Center*Durham, NC**William Rawn Associates, Architects, Inc.*

The new arts center, known on the campus as “The Ruby,” is designed to extend to the arts the culture of interdisciplinary studies the university has applied to its programs in science, engineering, and medicine.

The building houses 14 flexible studio modules arranged around a central gathering place and an outdoor working yard. Each module is deliberately non-departmental, equipped to accommodate different disciplines working individually or together. Functions for a given module can fluctuate year to year – or even day to day. The focus on

convergent, rather than specialized, venues differentiates this arts center from its peers at other schools.

The design of the studios assures that art-making of all kinds is on display at all times. Each module has large glazed openings and a set of acoustically treated barn doors, which can be fully open for maximum exposure, fully closed for total privacy, or partially open for acoustical privacy while offering visual transparency through generous double-glazed sidelights.

The architectural enclosure accommodating these facilities is designed to provide for – and express – flexibility, collaboration, the virtues of natural light, and a connection to the broader campus.



Duke University: View from a studio into common spaces. Photo: © Robert Benson Photography



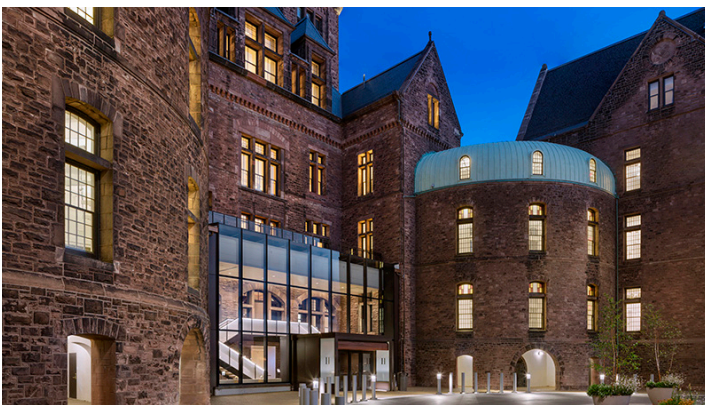
Duke University: Exterior. Photo: Courtesy Duke University



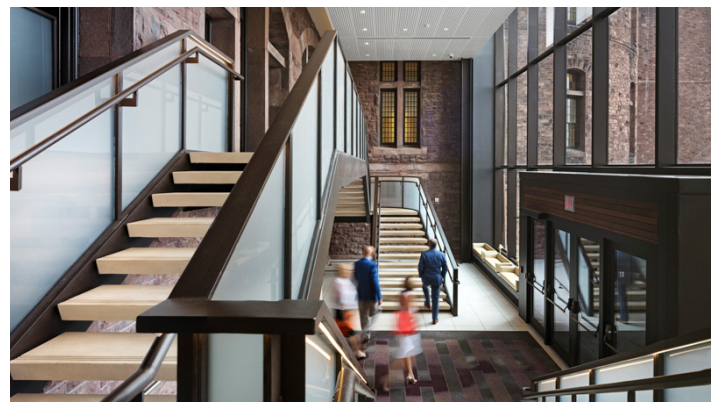
Duke University: After-dark view into dance studio. Photo: Courtesy Duke University



Richardson Olmsted: Preserved hallway with furniture-like bump-outs to accommodate guestroom bathrooms. Photo: © Christopher Payne/ESTO, Courtesy of Deborah Berke



Richardson Olmsted: Restored exterior and new entry pavilion. Photo: © Christopher Payne/ESTO, Courtesy of Deborah Berke



Richardson Olmsted: Interior of entry pavilion with new steel and glass staircase. Photo: © Christopher Payne/ESTO, Courtesy of Deborah Berke

Richardson Olmsted Campus

Buffalo, NY

Deborah Berke Partners, with Flynn Battaglia Architects and Goody Clancy

The transformation of spaces in the former Buffalo Asylum for the Insane has been doubly blessed this year with national AIA Honor Awards in both Architecture (officeinsight, February 28 issue) and Interior Architecture.

The hotel functions here are in-

tended to complement other adaptive-use functions being developed in the sprawling structure designed by one of America's most famous 19th-century architects, Henry Hobson Richardson. And the hotel will offer its own appeal, centered as it is on a generous site designed by the equally famous landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted.

The hotel is entered through a tall, glass-enclosed lobby on the central

axis of the stone-clad structure. Its 88 newly configured hotel rooms are reached by a restored grand stairway and broad day-lighted corridors. Wider than needed for their new uses, the corridors now accommodate small cabinet-style bump-outs adding space to bathrooms for the guest quarters. Carpets throughout are custom designed in abstract patterns recalling the surrounding landscape.

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Pennsylvania State University Recital Hall*University Park, PA**William Rawn Associates, Architects, Inc., with Bostwick Design Partnership*

The project is the first to be completed under a new master plan for the campus's College of Arts and Architecture precinct. To strengthen relationships among the arts components, the plan envisions a central quadrangle ringed by compelling new art, music, theater, and architecture facilities, for which the recital hall sets the example.

As a 14,000-square-foot addition to the existing music school, this hall rectifies the deficiencies of its predecessor, acoustically and in terms of visibility. The new construction includes a 410-seat performance hall and lobby, while the

existing hall has been converted into a rehearsal room and backstage facilities. The activities in the new space are visible from the campus through 40-foot-high double-skin curtain walls that acoustically isolate the interior from nearby bus traffic. A terraced outdoor space provides a link to the nearby theater building, fostering contacts among students and faculty of both programs.

Inside, the hall's shape promotes interaction between audience and performers. The vineyard-style seating surrounds the performance space on four sides, with no seat more than eight rows from the stage. Interior design elements, including a distinctive wood-clad ceiling, address acoustical needs while providing a memorable spatial experience.



Penn State Recital Hall: Performance in the round. © Robert Benson Photography



Penn State Recital Hall: Hall in daylight. © Robert Benson Photography



Penn State Recital Hall: Acoustic double-skin curtain wall opens recital hall to campus. Photo: © Robert Benson Photography

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Two Union Square Repositioning

Seattle, WA
NBBJ, Architects

While the Two Union Square tower remains a notable icon on the Seattle skyline, the needs of today's office tenants are rapidly evolving. Moreover, a series of incremental, uncoordinated modifications had interrupted the continuity of the building's public areas, leaving some of them underutilized. These issues

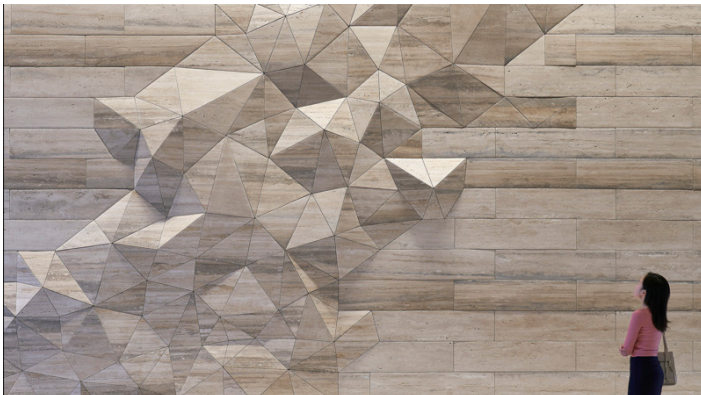
have been addressed by repositioning all of its essential public spaces.

The redesign was developed not only to improve these areas functionally, but to express in them the intersection of technological innovation and natural beauty that the Northwest has come to represent. Wood ceilings recall the motion of winds and waves; a fractal travertine wall is inspired by the region's tectonic activity.

Advanced technologies such as VR modeling were applied in both the design and construction of key features. The fractal stone wall was computationally configured and engineered, with each of its 1400 stone pieces optimized to minimize material waste. A similar technically sophisticated approach was taken for the wood wave ceiling, which is comprised of 3,000 curved planks. ■



Two Union Square: Lobby with travertine walls and wood wave ceiling, Photo: © Kevin Scott @ K7scott



Two Union Square: Detail of travertine lobby wall. Photo: © Kevin Scott @ K7scott



Two Union Square: Casual gathering space. Photo: © Kevin Scott @ K7scott

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Employees want to return to the office to collaborate with colleagues. Photo courtesy of Veronica Bean.

Reducing Loneliness in the Workplace

by Anna Zappia

With remote work now the norm, there has been an [increase in employee loneliness](#), with 61% of Americans claiming to feel lonely, a rise from 54% in 2018. This disconnect from others leads to absenteeism, staff turnover, and loss of productivity. Management teams are now looking to designers to reshape offices so that workers feel less isolated.

The pandemic has forever changed the way people work, and so much time away from the office took an unexpected toll. “We’re coming off of almost two years of working remotely, and burnout has become a real issue. It’s actually difficult to get a break from the chaos at home,” said Suzette Subance, managing executive and studio creative director at New York City-based TPG Architecture.

People are ready to return to the workplace so that they can meet with their colleagues again, and as Subance explained, workplaces must emphasize collaboration. Central hubs like town halls that give employees the opportunity to

gather will be important. “People aren’t coming back to the office just to sit at a desk behind a monitor. They’re returning because they crave social interaction.”

Subance also noted that while the physical space links to the company culture, there is less focus on offering a host of amenities as an afterthought, and more attention placed on task-oriented areas where staff can do their work comfortably. “There might be a four-person area for a meeting. And then a section that fosters mentorship, somewhere to pop in and have a one-on-one conversation. We are creating spaces with purpose, so everything is curated. Having an open office and a ping-pong table is not enough anymore.”

Surprisingly, furniture plays a key role in promoting camaraderie, which can lessen loneliness during the workday. Incorporating removable partitions or adjustable seating gives employees options — crucial in shifting hybrid

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environments. “We’re talking about soft architecture now, and how it will enhance these types of spaces. It might be furniture that creates subtle boundaries. The pieces that we are selecting can provide some useful privacy, but they are also moveable,” Subance noted.

By utilizing multi-tasking essentials, Subance said that designers can mimic the ease of a residential setting. “People want choice in their work environment. At home, individuals can move from one place to the next, and tailor an interior to suit their needs. They want that same flexibility to make their jobs easier. So there will be less structure and more creativity.”

She also described two types of adaptability that ensure seamless re-



Furniture is a form of soft architecture. Incorporating removable partitions or adjustable seating gives employees options. Photo courtesy of Veronica Bean.



Designed by TPG Architecture for Havas Health, this space is suitable for a range of functions. Photo courtesy of TPG Architecture

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configuration. “There is the short-term flexibility, so that might mean using a lounge chair on casters and a portable laptop table that I can pull up to it. Then there’s the flexibility that may require a little bit more. You might have to pull things apart with tools, but you won’t necessarily need an architect to come in and redesign the entire office.”

Leaders in every sector are embracing the concept of neighborhoods, with designated areas and rooms within certain zones to support the mental health of employees. Remote workers are used to having the ability to step away from their computers to take a quick break. Creating similar recharge

zones will keep staff energized and encourage mingling.

“The idea of wellness in the office is more all-encompassing now. It’s not just about good spots to have a meal or to connect, we might also add a meditation room. Maybe we will include more respite spaces. These things used to be considered a luxury, and they are becoming the norm,” Subance said.

She described analyzing traffic patterns to produce an effective layout. Active areas are found in the center, and quiet, heads-down departments along the perimeter. Each space is crafted to be a destination that invites

discovery. “A lot of clients are moving away from a regimented sea of workstations. We are all taking our cues from hospitality design, bringing in these elements of delight, like a beautiful wallpaper or unique finish. These special details make the workplace interesting and really enriching for people.”

By applying introspection and skill, designers can ultimately help to decrease the sense of loneliness experienced at the office. “People actually need to thrive in a workspace. So as we design, we need to think about how we affect humans at every level,” Subance added. ■



Designers are taking their cues from hospitality design, bringing elements of delight into the office. Photo by Tom Sibley

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Four Commercial Design Trends You Should Know About Now

by Claire Butwinick

We have reached an exciting turning point for contract design. After two years of remote working, learning, and gathering, we are welcoming people back to commercial environments. Our priorities have changed since the world went virtual; we've raised health, wellness, and comfort standards and shared spaces need to reflect that. As designers imagine new corporate, civic, education, health-care, and hospitality interiors, we've created a list of the top design trends that will define commercial design this year and beyond. Continue reading to learn about 2022's most exhilarating color palette, the next stage of biophilic design, and how the new office will take shape.

Home Away From Home

It's no surprise the commercial design industry has embraced residential design trends for nearly a decade. Plush lounge areas have sprouted up in coworking spaces, cubicles have given way to large communal tables, and offices have even introduced nap rooms for midday recharging. But after two years of remote work, employees have

adopted a more relaxed style. A recent [study](#) revealed that 45 percent of teleworker employees work from their couch and 38 percent work from their bed.

As people re-enter public spaces, designers are integrating at-home comfort like never before. Instead of fluorescent lighting, offices will opt for natural light and soft LEDs. In lieu of extra desks, designers will add more couches and lounge chairs, allowing employees to engage with coworkers, answer emails, and even take conference calls from a comfortable seat.

What a Gem

The most regal of all color palettes, jewel tones are making a bold comeback this season. From emerald green to marigold, these hues evoke excitement and creativity as people return to shared spaces. Take architecture firm Beyer Blinder Belle's [Stavros Niarchos Foundation Library](#), for example. Surrounded by wood stairwells and soft white walls, the library's gem-colored banquette and matching ottomans beautifully anchor the space. The bench also invites visitors to sit, read, and quietly converse with others.



The Stavros Niarchos Foundation Library (SNFL) in Manhattan, designed by Beyer Blinder Belle. The interior features a range of jewel tones. Photo by John Bartelstone, courtesy of the New York Public Library.

While jewel tones are energizing, they're also grounded in nature. Inspired by earth's precious rubies, emeralds, sapphires, and more, the colors bring warmth to commercial spaces. Even Pantone's 2022 Color of the Year, [Very Peri](#)'s amethyst-like hue can be enlivening or soothing depending on the setting. For a toned-down design approach, pair jewel tones with candy-colored pastels or soft neutrals.

Bring the Outdoors In

The health benefits of nature are undeniable—it alleviates stress, induces relaxation, and improves physical health—but our need to be indoors is unavoidable. Studies show we spend [90 percent](#) of our lives inside, so it's imperative we bring Mother Nature to us. Biophilia, the act of bringing the natural environment into the built environment, has taken over commercial design through floral motifs and living plant walls. This year, designers will continue the trend by introducing organic materials, earth-toned colors, and more to enhance an outdoor connection.

Portland-based architecture firm Hacker Architects subtly integrates wood and natural light in its [First Tech Federal Credit Union](#) project. Designed around a “people first” approach, the five-story workspace prioritizes employee comfort and health with abundant floor-to-ceiling windows, easy outdoor access, and warm wood beams throughout the structure.

Privacy, Please

Open-concept workspaces dominated office design just a couple of years ago, but now we're seeing the rise of segmented work environments. After years of working from home, pods and enclosed areas offer privacy for uninterrupted heads-down work or one-on-one calls. As companies continue to prioritize health and safety, permanent

segmentation will also be essential to the workplace. We're not saying offices will revert back to cubicles, but you can expect a hybrid of connectivity and privacy.

Synecdoche's design for the [Modelon office](#) offers open communal areas, as well as four enclosed meeting spaces for individuals and small groups. Many of the meeting



The Pantone Color of the Year is Very Peri, a dynamic periwinkle blue shade. Image courtesy of Pantone



The Pukka armchair and ottoman from Ligne Roset in periwinkle, the color of the moment. Photo courtesy of Ligne Roset

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rooms are divided by heavy curtains to customize the space size, and all are washed in oranges and blues to match the company's branding aesthetic.

"Orange is a high-energy color that promotes several attendees to actively participate in the larger meeting space, while the smaller, intimate blue rooms put people at ease for uses like performance reviews," says Synecdoche's principal, Lisa Sauve. "We intentionally wanted to color the entire room instead of an accent wall to embody the energy instead of an aesthetic application. The

curtains reinforced this to bring the continuity full circle while also providing privacy and acoustic dampening."

Trends may change year to year, but commercial interiors can last for decades. Since commercial interiors turnover less than those in other design sectors, today's decisions have a lasting impact on how people engage with a space. And after two years away from public places, we're eager to imagine interiors people want to be in day after day. By integrating residential-inspired furnishings, jewel-toned

color palettes, natural materials, and private workspaces, designers create enduring spaces that can be enjoyed for years to come. ■

Claire Butwinick is a senior account coordinator at Paxson Fay, specializing in marketing and social media strategy, copywriting, and public relations. Formerly the assistant editor at GRAY Magazine, Claire brings her editorial background and a passion for all things design to her role. Her work also appears in officeinsight, SagaCity's Jewish in Seattle Magazine, and more.



Designed by Synecdoche, the Modelon office is enlivened with pops of vibrant orange and blue. Photo by John D'Angelo



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In Memoriam: Gyo Obata, FAIA

by Julia Peppard

Gyo Obata, FAIA, a world-renowned architect and a co-founder of HOK passed away on March 8, 2022. He was 99.

The son of artists who emigrated from Japan to the U.S., Gyo Obata was born in San Francisco, CA and grew up in an artistic household. At the age of 18 he enrolled in the architecture program at the University of California, Berkley but in his freshman year Japan attacked Pearl Harbor and in the wave of anti-Japanese hysteria that swept the country, his parents were removed to an internment camp. However, his father was able to arrange permission for young Gyo to leave the west coast and transfer to Washington University in St. Louis, MO; one of the only universities in the country that would accept Japanese-American students at the time.

He received his Bachelor's degree in Architecture from Washington University and then continued his study under Eliel Saarinen at Cranbrook Academy,

where he earned a Master of Architecture and Urban Planning degree.

After a stint in the U.S. Army, Mr. Obata joined Skidmore, Owings and Merrill in Chicago, where he worked for four years before joining the St. Louis firm of Hellmuth, Yamasaki & Leinweber. At HYL he was a design assistant to Minoru Yamasaki. In that role he collaborated in the design of the main terminal at St. Louis' Lambert International Airport.

In 1955 Mr. Obata joined with George Hellmuth and George Kassabaum to found Hellmuth, Obata & Kassabaum (HOK). At the age of 32 Mr. Obata was the design principal of their new firm.

His first internationally recognized design was for the Priory Chapel at the Saint Louis Abbey, but his nearly innumerable projects have left an indelible imprint on the built environment around the world. For a more complete list and discussion of his work and its impact we highly recommend the wonderful

obituary tribute to Mr. Obata on the HOK website. It can be [found here](#).

His legacy in buildings designed and built is truly monumental. His work defined a multidisciplinary approach that established HOK as a firm capable of large complex projects and fueled its growth into one of the largest and most highly regarded architectural firms in the world.

He lived a remarkably full life, continuing to come to the office into his 90's. While we didn't know him personally we know his work and can imagine the influence he has had on generations of architects and designers who have worked with him at HOK. According to the HOK obituary, "With an approach to life that regarded each day as a portal to possibility, Gyo also loved spending time with his family and friends, gardening, tennis, art, travel, reading, his dogs, birds, music, theater, opera, films and cooking. ■



Gyo Obata in the mid-2000s. He continued to come into the studio into his 90s.

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RESEARCH-DESIGN CONNECTION

Creativity and Movement

by Sally Augustin, Ph.D.

Research linked creativity and walking some time ago. Murali and Handel build on prior studies and report that “Creativity, specifically divergent thinking, has been shown to benefit from unrestrained walking. . . . [during the Murali/Handel project, creativity test] scores were higher during walking than sitting. . . . participants either walked freely or in a restricted path,



or sat freely or fixated on a screen. . . . similar to unrestrained [or free] walking, unrestrained sitting also improves divergent thinking. . . . Since most online teaching involves fixating on a computer screen, the amount of free body movements, including head and eye movements, are greatly reduced compared to a normal classroom set up. . . . introducing periods of free movements in between sessions of online teaching, even during sitting, can improve the flow of ideas and aid in the learning process.” Murali and Handel found that unconstrained movement, whether sitting or standing, can boost creativity. ■

Supriya Murali and Barbara Handel. 2022. “Motor Restrictions Impair Divergent Thinking During Walking and During Walking and During Sitting.” *Psychological Research*, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00426-021-01636-w>

Sally Augustin, PhD, a cognitive scientist, is the editor of Research Design Connections (www.researchdesignconnections.com), a monthly subscription newsletter and free daily blog, where recent and classic research in the social, design, and physical sciences that can inform designers' work are presented in straightforward language. Readers learn about the latest research findings immediately, before they're available elsewhere. Sally, who is a Fellow of the American Psychological Association, is also the author of Place Advantage: Applied Psychology for Interior Architecture (Wiley, 2009) and, with Cindy Coleman, The Designer's Guide to Doing Research: Applying Knowledge to Inform Design (Wiley, 2012). She is a principal at Design With Science (www.designwithscience.com) and can be reached at sallyaugustin@designwithscience.com.

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Fill in the empty cells so that every row, column and cube contains a digit from 1-9, without duplication. (Level: Easy)

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PRODUCT INTROS

>KI introduced the Zoetry Collection designed by David Allan Pessó “for bold, beautiful lounge environments.”

Lounge and guest seating includes single, loveseat, sofa, bariatric and tandem models with shared arms and inline tables. Contrasting stitch options are available in 16 thread colors. Select lounge models are available with optional privacy screens. Benches include two- and three-seat models with standard or bariatric cushion sizes. Optional wood or poly arm caps are available on units with arms, and armless models feature a laminate surface on each end for placing personal items. Occasional tables include square and rectangular tables in four sizes, with worksurfaces available in nearly 50 finishes, including laminate and solid surface. All components within the collection are available with optional power modules. Each piece is crafted with an aluminum leg and frame design, providing visual continuity. “The inspiration behind Zoetry has to do with fascination with the European residential market,”

said designer David Allan Pessó. “There’s a juxtaposition between fine-tailored upholstery and the platform they typically rest on: beautifully articulated, heavily tooled die-cast metals.”

“The Zoetry Collection represents the intersection between purposeful and poetic design,” said Angela Allen, KI’s director of product marketing. [Read More](#)

>Pulp Studio added “Refracted Reflections” to its catalog of custom glass products. Playful textures and mirrors refract light for lively and dramatic effects for a feature wall application in a hotel lobby, back bar, elevator cab interior and more. Made of low-iron textured glass and reflective interlayers, “Refracted Reflections” has six textures in 24 colorways that can be color coated, ceramic decorated, laminated, printed with custom graphics, or mirrored. “With ‘Refracted Reflections,’ the designer is in the driver’s seat,” said Lynda Nishimoto Lax, President of Pulp Studio. “Choose from dozens of our Pintura or Colorlites stock colors or use your own graphics. There are limitless capabilities for interior and exterior projects.” [Read More](#)



KI: Zoetry

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Pulp Studio: Refracted Reflections

>Rockfon North America partnered with a color sensory expert to create its new collection, “The Colors of Well-being.” It features a

fresh selection of 34 carefully curated, nature-themed colors for Rockfon® Color-all™ acoustic stone wool ceiling panels and matching



Rockfon “Colors of Well-being” collection, 2022 Color-all range (Top image Rockfon Color-all Clay – Bochsler Creative)

matte-finished Rockfon® Chicago Metallic® ceiling suspension systems. Rockfon Color-all stone wool ceiling panels' room-side surface showcases a colorful, smooth, non-textured face. Sizes are available in 2-by-2 foot or 2-by-4-foot modular formats with square lay-in, tegular square and narrow, and fully concealed edge designs. The Colors of Well-being collection organizes 34 nature-themed colors into four trend-driven palettes:

-Biophilic Awareness - Natural greens and blues reminiscent of plant and ocean life, and wood and wood-look finishes

-Uncluttered Wabi-Sabi - Very light beige, "greige," brown shades and natural tinted whites

-Technology - Chromatic blue, dark grey and silver

-Calm Enclosure - Pastel pinks, deep scarlet and mustard yellow

Supporting indoor air quality and healthy interiors, stone wool is resistant to moisture, mildew, mold and potentially harmful microorganisms. Acoustic stone wool ceiling panels from Rockfon are UL® Environment GREEN-GUARD Gold certified for low VOC emissions. Along with indoor air quality, optimized acoustics plays a key role in healthy interior environments. Rockfon Color-all ceiling panels provide best-level sound absorption with a Noise Reduction Coefficient (NRC) as high as 0.95 NRC. They also have a Class A Fire Performance. Stone wool ceiling

panels are lightweight, making them easier for installing contractors to lift, carry, cut and position in place. They also are sag-resistant and can be installed early in the construction timeline at up to 100% relative humidity. [Read More](#)

>Spaghetti Wall, an Italian wallcoverings company, offers collections featuring three-dimensional graphics created by Brioschi Ventrelli, Monogramma, and Studio Malisan.

Playful perspectives, intersecting geometries, and images illustrated on several planes define the wide range of textures in the Spaghetti Wall catalogue. The wallpapers in the *Artwork*, *Boiserie*, and *Wall* collections – among the nine that make up the company's graphic design offer – feature theatrical glimpses and repeating motifs that seem to burst out of the surface – stripes, polka dots and other optical designs – in numerous color alternatives and on five types of material, with no limit to the height and width of the roll starting from 50 cm. They feature different properties depending on their intended use and can have sound absorbing or water-repellent properties, high mechanical strength, a strongly textured appearance, or a composition made entirely of natural and recyclable materials. "Throwing spaghetti against the wall" is about trying again and again and experimenting with new solutions until you find the one that, finally, "sticks". [Read More](#)

officenewswire



Spaghetti Wall

>Tarkett launched the Renewal Series, a new soft surface collection for senior living environments. From flora and fauna to tree canopies and trellises, the Renewal Series is designed to invite the serenity of nature into spaces for healing and rejuvenation. It includes six styles in 12 colorways, available in modular carpet or Powerbond® hybrid resilient sheet. Five coordinating tufted broadloom patterns can also be tailored with a customer's specific color selections. And with Tarkett's Solution Spectrum™, designers can access

Tarkett's full palette of colors, patterns and textures that work together visually across multiple product categories. "In Japanese, the term shinrin-yoku translates to 'forest bathing,' or absorbing the forest atmosphere," said Tommy Keener, senior design director for Tarkett North America. "The goal of forest bathing is to live in the present moment and boost your sense of well-being, while immersing yourself in the calming benefits of a natural setting. Through the Renewal Series, designers and facilities personnel can bring a sense



Tarkett: Renewal Series

of calm and curiosity into their spaces, making every day feel almost like a walk in the forest.” [Read More](#)

NOTEWORTHY

>IFI – the International Federation of Interior Architects/Designers – awarded the 2022 IFI PRIZE to Spanish/Italian designer/architect Patricia Urquiola. Part of IFI’s Global Awards Program (IFI GAP) which recognizes and awards design excellence at the world level, the IFI PRIZE is Interiors’ highest individual accolade internationally. The founder and owner of Studio Urquiola was praised for her accomplishments and commitment to elevating the practice of Interior Architecture/Design. She was recognized for the breadth of her work, scope of her achievements, and contribution at an international level to the discipline. Also honored was editorial director of Italian magazine Domus, **Walter Mariotti**, who was presented with the IFI

Design Journalism Award (IFI DJA) for delivering outstanding and impactful reporting and storytelling. Further international design leaders were recognized as Fellows of IFI (FolFI), individuals who have displayed outstanding and exemplary professional leadership and international achievements within the Interior Architecture/Design discipline.

-Steve Leung (Hong Kong SAR, China), former President of IFI 2017-2020, Program Chairman of IFI GAP and founder of Steve Leung Design Group – SLD, was awarded for his service and commitment to IFI during his time as IFI President and member of the IFI Executive Board from 2014-2022.

-Lilia De Jesus (Philippines), associate professor; senior design consultant, APJArchitects; former IFI Board Member 2015- 2017; and former Philippine Institute of Interior Design President 2017-2019, was recognized for her ongoing academic, practice and volunteer work as a champion of the discipline in her coun-

officenewswire



IFI PRIZE 2022: Patricia Urquiola



IFI DJA - Design Journalism Award. Walter Mariotti



IFI Fellows (FolFI) 2022 Recipients (L-R) Steve Leung, Joice Joppert Leal, Lilia De Jesus

try and region.

-Joice Joppert Leal (Brazil), founder & CEO, Objeto Brasil Association, was commended for her long-standing support and furthering of IFI’s mandate, as well as her tireless commitment to knowledge-sharing, design advocacy and spreading design awareness in Brazil and beyond. [Read More](#)

>Dauphin America celebrated International Women’s Day last Tuesday with special recognition of six “extraordinary ladies” from its leadership team. Each was given a special title with a “superpower” identified:

-Chris Monaco, Customer Service Manager – “The Investigator” – Superpower:



Ultrasensorial Excavation

-Carol Wickoren, Regional Sales Manager – “The Tranquilizer” – Superpower: Unruffled Exertion

-Catalina Velez, Regional Sales Manager for LATAM – “The Positivity Whisperer” – Superpower: Hope Inducement

-Dayana Escalante-Navia, Chief Operating Officer – “The Synergist” – Superpower: Energy Optimization

-Gigi Polo, Design Director – “The Dreamer” – Superpower: Imaginative Resiliency

-Kaneez Darbar, Vice-President Sales – “The Resolute” – Superpower: Transformative Growth [Read More](#)

>KCAD announced the full Wege Prize 2022 slate of Core Judges, with two newly added judges for 2022, as well as a new Program Coordinator.

With an ensured five-year continuation and a doubled total purse of \$65,000 USD for student prizes, the Wege Prize competition inspires academically talented college students to collaboratively design innovative solutions that combat the world’s “wicked problems” and support a circular economy. Student participants gain insight from a diverse array of knowledge

areas and experiences in sustainable business, clean energy, industrial design, STEM education, and many other fields. The judges’ role benefits the transdisciplinary teams of five that compete over nine months and four distinct phases. The students receive support and guidance from the judges’ feedback and commentary to continuously enhance, expand, and transform their innovative visions into a feasible and functional reality.

-Martha Meiers, the Wege team’s new program lead, helps to amplify KCAD’s message of empowering innovative students to collaboratively develop and implement powerful cutting-edge ideas for a sustainable future. She was tapped to offer her expertise, research, and academic experience on how KCAD and the Wege Center for Sustainable Design can further

encourage students to create sustainable designs embedded in behavior and practice. The new judges include two leading experts from Europe:

- Meritxell Martín i Pardo is an accomplished writer, researcher, and professor. After working as a university professor, she became a research associate for the Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage. While running a cultural sustainability program in Catalonia, Spain, her projects documented the communities’ cultural diversity and living traditions, and she helped develop strategies to make these expressions vital, visible, and viable. In addition to continuing exploring relationships between the circular economy and living heritage in the Ellen MacArthur Foundation flagship learning program, Martín i Pardo is a founding member of a nongovernmen-

tal organization, The Cascade Collective for Cultural Sustainability, and she is a professor of anthropological, cultural, and religious studies at IES Abroad in Barcelona.

-Jo Williams is a circular economy learning consultant based in the UK who also works for the Ellen MacArthur Foundation in setting up and managing its higher education program. The program includes the world’s first circular economy fellowship program, an international year-long program for graduate students that blends online and summer school learning. Since 2018, Ms. Williams has been a senior tutor on the University of Exeter’s CE Masterclass, an online program for business executives. She also developed and runs circular economy workshops for clients including for the U.N.’s Switch Asia Leadership Program and for Tsinghua University, China. Prior to this, she worked in science communication, developing content for exhibitions and events at the Science Museum in London, and she ran her own company working with museums around the world.

Returning judges for Wege



Martha Meiers



Meritxell Martín i Pardo



Jo Williams

Prize, reflecting varied expertise, include **Alysia Garmulewicz**, **Christopher Carter**, **Nathan Shedroff**, and **Colin Webster**. Late last year, Wege Prize also announced two additional core judges, the design pioneer **Tom Newhouse** and sustainability consultant and expert **Bill Stough**. [Read More](#)

>IIDA NY launched its first annual Hazel Siegel Scholarship. This program honors the legacy of acclaimed textile designer Hazel Siegel, who died in 2020 after more than 40 years of dedicated service to the chapter. Managed by the chapter's Student Development Group, the scholarship aims to nurture the talent of student members, providing them with financial support to participate in activities such as trade events, competitions, courses, and volunteer initiatives. The three recipients of this year's award—**Paridhi Chawla** of the Pratt Institute, **Robert Torres** of the New York Institute of Technology, and **Caleb Cambron** of Cornell University—were awarded an all-expense paid trip to the IIDA Texas Oklahoma Chapter's SHIFT Student Conference, accompanied by Student Ambassador Alison Brown, Interior Designer at Perkins and Will. In January 2022, the students

spent nearly three days in downtown Dallas attending various programs, networking with professionals, and engaging in friendly competition. They took part in two competitions—the first of which was an invite-only Charrette. Paridhi Chawla participated on the first-place winning team, and Caleb Cambron on the third-place team. Cambron also joined in the Material Bank Palette competition, receiving honors for his palette for his mom's future dream kitchen. "When we sent our students to the conference, we had hardly considered the competitive aspect of the event," said Elisabeth Mejia, VP of Student Development at IIDA NY and Interior Designer at HKS Architects. "But coming back with three wins was an added thrill to the entire experience for us all." [Read More](#)

>Material Bank was recognized by Forbes as one of America's Best Startup Employers of 2022. Presented by Forbes and Statista Inc., this award recognizes the top 500 companies based on over 8 million data points. The companies were selected based on an innovative methodology evaluating employer excellence in three ways: *-Employee Satisfaction:* extensive research was con-



ducted on 'Average Length of Employment' and 'Online Employer Reviews'.

-Employer Reputation: company-specific information was algorithmically extracted from social media channels such as news sites, micro-blogs, blogs and social networks.

-Company Growth: comprehensive evaluations of 'Website Traffic', 'Headcount Growth Rates', and 'Industry-Referenced Job Openings'. [Read More](#)

>Sedia Systems earned a contract as a preferred fixed seating solution for the 5,500 educational institutions who are members of E&I Cooperative Services. Founded in 1934, E&I Cooperative Services is the only member-owned, non-profit procurement cooperative exclusively focused on serving the education community. Its portfolio of 130+ contracts with industry-leading suppliers and innovative sourcing solutions help their members in the higher education, community college and K-12 space save time and money. "We have been eager for this relationship for many years," said Roy Koch, Managing

Partner who oversees sales for Sedia Systems. "It's a great opportunity to partner with the premier sourcing cooperative for educational institutions, and it's valuable recognition for Sedia Systems as we continue to grow into the leading fixed seating provider in the marketplace." [Read More](#)

RE-SITED

>Laurel M. Hurd was appointed as the new CEO of Interface, effective Apr. 18. She will succeed **Daniel T. Hendrix**, who has served a second stint in the CEO role since January 2020. Mr. Hendrix will continue his 39-year tenure with the company remaining as Chairman of the Board of Directors. Ms. Hurd is a results-driven leader who brings to Interface 30 years of sales management, product development, and brand stewardship experience in both the consumer-packaged goods and the consumer durables sectors. As Segment President of Learning and Development at Newell Brands, she oversaw the company's largest segment representing

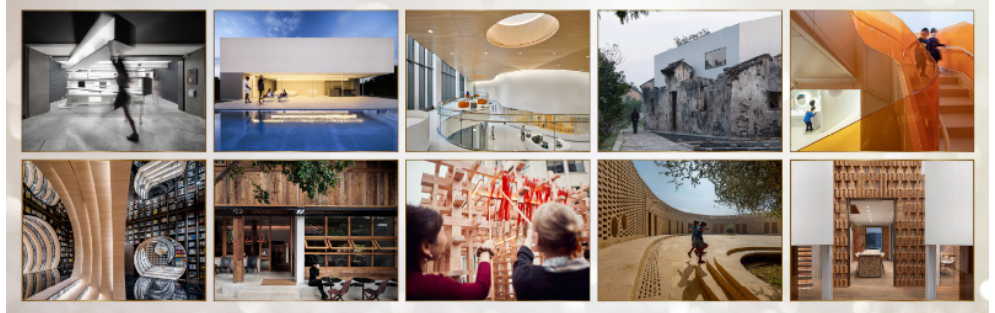


more than \$3 billion in revenue in 2021, or more than a quarter of Newell's overall revenue, and approximately \$600 million of operating profit. In her new role, she plans to lead Interface on its next phase of growth, while also delivering on its mission to become a carbon negative enterprise by 2040. "Interface is a special company," she said. "I see amazing potential to further extend the company's impact by continuing to deliver on its sustainability mission and purpose. I'm grateful for the opportunity to build upon Dan's unwavering dedication and successful stewardship over the past four decades, particularly through the challenging dynamics of the past two years. I intend to take us forward to capitalize on the re-emergence of the commercial interiors market and to continue to take share globally as we successfully diversify across segments and expand our mix of products."

[Read More](#)



Laurel M. Hurd



IFI DDA 2022 Gold Winners

ENVIRONMENT

>Tarkett North America was recognized by the U.S. Department of Energy as a partner in DOE's Better Climate Challenge. Joining more than 50 organizations across the U.S. economy that are stepping up to the Challenge and driving real-world action toward a low-carbon future, Tarkett has committed to reduce portfolio-wide greenhouse gas emissions by at least 50% within 10 years and to work with DOE to share successful solutions and decarbonization strate-

gies. As Tarkett undertakes this challenge, DOE will support its efforts with technical assistance, peer-to-peer learning opportunities, and a platform for the organization to demonstrate its commitment to being part of the solution to climate change. Tarkett is already achieving greenhouse gas reductions through increased energy efficiency at production sites, renewable energy sourcing and eco-designed products. Through eco-design, Tarkett teams are selecting and using high-quality materials with a low carbon footprint. Ad-

ditionally, Tarkett's Climate Roadmap for 2030 covers reductions in greenhouse gas emissions from its own activities (Scope 1) and its purchased energy (Scope 2) – as well as those arising from the rest of its value chain, from suppliers to end customers (Scope 3). [Read More](#)

PROJECTS

>IFI presented more than 150 Gold, Silver, and Bronze Awards in the second edition of its IFI DDA – Design Distinction Awards at its virtual awards ceremony Feb. 21.

Part of the IFI GAP – Global Awards Program, IFI DDA is a global design competition featuring today's "best-of-the-best" designed projects. Showcasing the diversity of interiors practice and value of high-quality architecture worldwide, the 2022 winners included a sustainable, community-centered school catering to 400 girls under the poverty line in Rajasthan, India; the modernization of Parisian barracks as a means of regenerating the city; a private wine cave excavated into limestone along a secluded river bend in the U.S.; and



Tarkett: DOE Partner

a new typology self-service store for online shopping customers in Finland. This year's edition gathered a record-breaking number of outstanding entries from more than 50 countries across all world regions. Awards were presented in 10 categories: Commerce, Habitat, Health, Humanitarian, Learning, Play, Stay, Student, Sustainability, and Work. The IFI GAP 2022 ceremony featured preeminent leaders of Interior Architecture/Design, who comprised IFI's leadership and the prestigious IFI GAP 2022 international jury. IFI partnered with world-renowned Zaha Hadid Design and Citco for the design and production of Gold Award winners' IFI DDA 2022 trophies. Carved from a singular orthogonal block, the trophies maintain a direct relationship with each other; embodying the spirit of collaboration and cooperation that leads to exceptional and distinct designs. [Read More](#)

EVENTS

>The Beverly Willis Architecture Foundation is hosting its twelfth Industry Leaders Roundtable Mar. 24-25, near Dupont Circle in Washington DC. To achieve greater representation of women in architecture, engineering, and construction, this event brings together dynamic thought-leaders from varied fields and highlights how the full integration of women into the workplace produces firm-wide benefits, including expanded markets, improved



BWAF Roundtable

recruitment, and retention of key talent. Among the event's forward-thinking panelists in psychology, sociology, law, architecture, and engineering are keynote speaker, Stephanie Duncan of Stonebridge Associates, along with session moderators and panelists Bolanle Williams-Olley of Mancini Duffy, Angelica Baccon of SHoP Architects, Julie Kantor, PhD, PJ Kantor Consulting, and others. Networking meals and a museum tour will provide further opportunities for discussion and collaboration. The schedule on Thursday, Mar. 24 is 10am–5:15pm, plus 7pm cocktails/dinner; and on Friday, Mar. 25 is 10am–2pm. [Read More](#)

>BIFMA on Thursday, Mar. 24 will present an online CEU, Demystifying Furniture's Role in Sustainability, Noon-1pm Eastern. Part of the BIFMA Learning Monthly Series, this is a live virtual learning opportunity for BIFMA members, designers, buyers, and anyone interested in furniture for the built environment. There is no fee to attend. The course

compares and explains the approach to sustainability between building rating systems, transparency protocols, and product certifications. It defines key sustainability attributes relating to furniture and how LEVEL® by BIFMA—as a comprehensive third-party multi-attribute furniture sustainability standard—can support sustainability goals. The speaker, Ashley Blevins, is the Director of Sales for GMi Companies, manufac-

turer of the brands Ghent, Waddell, and Vividboard. [Read More](#)

>Foscarini's VITE exhibition is now on display at its New York flagship showroom. Representing a change of vision and a shifted perspective for the lighting brand, the VITE project transports visitors into real homes in Copenhagen, New York, Naples, Shanghai, and Venice to discuss light, not from the perspective of the lamp, and those who designed, developed, and produced it, but from the perspective of those who live with it inside their own spaces, in their homes. Created by Gianluca Vassallo (artist, photographer, and videographer) and Flavio Soriga (writer), VITE's central focus is not the products but the human beings, leaving viewers to gaze into and roam around the private spaces of the individuals. A digital copy of VITE – 281 pages – can





Foscarini: VITE NYC Exhibition

be freely downloaded. In the showroom exhibition, Foscarini narrates this human-centric vision by offering a setting to experience the photographic works with accompanying lighting designs. Products on display include Lumiere by Rodolfo Dordoni, Gregg by Ludovica+Roberto Palomba, MITE Anniversario and Twiggy by Marc Sandler, Plena by Eugenio Gargioni and Guillaume Albouy, Sun –

Light of Love by Tord Boontje, Caboche by Patricia Urquiola and Eliana Gerotto, Aplomb by Lucidi Pevere, and Spokes by Garcia Cumini. A virtual tour of the showroom is also available. [Read More](#)

>Humanscale this Thursday, Mar. 17 will host a webinar focused on designing healthy and effective home office spaces, Noon-1pm Eastern. Moderated by home design

expert and author Sophie Donelson, with panelists Samantha Josaphat, Founder & Principal of Studio 397, and Elizabeth Margles, Chief Marketing Officer of Humanscale, it will share purposeful solutions and strategies to set clients up for success. Following the 45-minute discussion will be a 10-minute live Q&A. After hearing from the experts, designers can visit Humanscale's new

Residential Designer Trade Program to learn even more and receive special pricing, concierge services, and other perks. [Read More](#)

>IFDA NY is celebrating Spring and the 75th anniversary of IFDA this Tuesday, Mar. 15 at the Fisher & Paykel showroom in the A&D building, in person 5:30-7:30pm. [Read More](#)

Humanscale®
Webinar Series

THURSDAY, MARCH 17 • 12-1PM ET

**THE NEW HOME OFFICE TIPS
EVERY DESIGNER NEEDS**

Moderator: Sophie Donelson
Home Design Expert and Author

Panelist: Samantha Josaphat
Founder & Principal of Studio 397

Panelist: Elizabeth Margles
Chief Marketing Officer, Humanscale

Humanscale webinar

technology

TECHNOLOGY

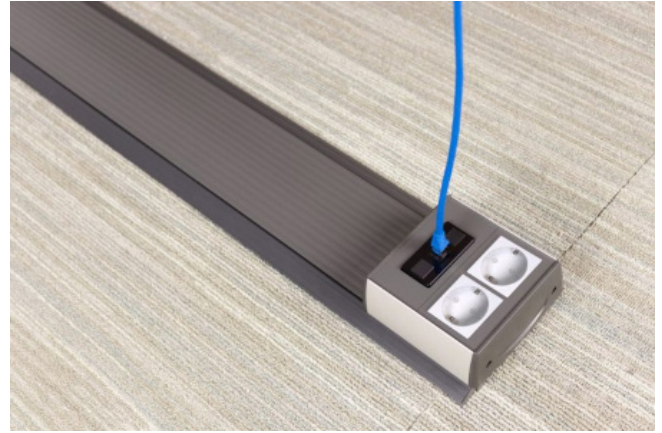
>FSR is going global with its Smart-Way Raceway. The award-winning wire management system, manufactured in the USA, has been expanded to include international versions and is readily available for both domestic and international shipping.

“Smart-Way is the most cost-effective and easiest way to get power, data, and AV across the room to where it’s needed,” said FSR President **Jan Sandri**. “It’s been incredibly popular in the U.S., and we’re excited to bring it to our customers all around the globe.”

Smart-Way comes complete with two pairs of edging that allows it to be used as an in-floor solution or on-floor installation configuration in, or on any carpet, wood, tile, or laminate flooring between 0.21” and 0.38” high – without the need to purchase additional parts. The platform offers two-part tee fitting options that allow cables to change direction seamlessly and reach the required destination without any complications. 45° and 90° corners are available independently that don’t compromise the minimal bend radius of wire and add to the system’s flexibility. System compartments that previously provided ample space for power, communications and A/V connectivity have been upgraded with 2-gang and 3-gang extension covers for even more space for extra-deep gang products.

Smart-Way blends into any room’s decor with its slate-grey or bright aluminum finishes making it ideal for offices, conference rooms, collaborative work environments, or anywhere wire management is desired. The ADA compliant system further

preserves the room’s aesthetics with a block cable pathway that can interface with a Smart-Way device box using FSR’s new mounting bracket. Cables can also now be routed from the under-side of a table down to a Smart-Way device box. [Read More](#)



FSR: Smart-Way Raceway

>Legrand® launched a new radiant® Wave Switch, extending its touchless technology first made popular by the adorne® Collection. Designed for any environment where hands might get dirty, messy, or full, the radiant Wave Switch provides an easy, sleek option for cleaner control in both commercial and residential applications and is available in both 15A and 20A. Users can avoid touching the switch directly by

Industry Stock Prices

	3.11.22	12.31.21	10.1.21	7.2.21	4.1.21	12.31.20	%frYrHi	%fr50-DayMA
MillerKnoll	34.2	38.9	39.6	46.9	41.8	33.8	-33.4%	-9.8%
HNI	35.9	42.1	38.0	42.8	39.6	34.5	-23.5%	-12.6%
Inscape	0.8	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.8	1.0	-35.4%	-16.7%
Interface	12.9	16.0	15.6	15.5	12.7	10.5	-28.5%	-7.6%
Kimball	8.8	10.2	0.9	13.1	14.0	12.0	-40.9%	-9.5%
Knoll	-	-	-	25.9	16.6	14.7	-	-
Leggett	36.1	41.2	45.5	51.4	46.5	44.3	-39.0%	-7.5%
Mohawk	131.1	182.2	179.2	195.1	198.3	141.0	-43.4%	-15.4%
Steelcase	11.5	11.7	12.8	14.7	14.5	13.6	-31.6%	-5.1%
Virco	2.9	3.0	3.5	3.7	3.1	2.5	-29.5%	-3.2%
SUM	274.3	346.2	336.1	410.1	387.8	307.7		
DJIndust	32,944	36,338	34,326	34,786	33,153	30,606	-10.9%	-5.3%

technology

turning lights, or even small-motored appliances like garbage disposals, on and off with just a wave, limiting mess and reducing the potential spread of germs.

"Exceptional design is as much about offering practical solutions as it is about style and form," said **Angela Coffman**, VP, Marketing EWS & GM Collections. "Who hasn't struggled to hit the lights when carrying something? Or needed to flip a switch with less-than-clean hands? Our collections of designer switches and outlets include options for touchless control to add convenience while also helping create cleaner spaces. Whether those spaces are hotel guestrooms, office conference rooms, or the kitchen and laundry room in a home."

The Wave Switch installs easily in place of any standard light switch and can be used in both single-pole and 3-way applications. It also features an internal sensor which can be adjusted to detect the wave motion anywhere from 1" to 6" from the device to best fit a specific user's needs or preferences. In addition to the new radiant Wave Switch, the adorne Wave Switch will also be made available in a 20A version to round out Legrand's complete offering of designer, touchless solutions.

[Read More](#)



Legrand: radiant® Wave Switch

>Spiezie Architectural Group, Inc. launched its updated brand and newly designed website. Catalyzed by new service offerings and recent acquisitions, Spiezie undertook the re-branding and website redesign to reflect the firm's growth and values. The new company tagline is **People. Passion. Purpose.** The firm celebrates its employee-owners whose passion makes a positive impact in the lives of the firm's clients, the spaces they inhabit, and the world around us. The logo is a representation of those individuals, and Spiezie, stepping into the future.

"We are excited and proud to debut our new brand and company website to our clients, partners, and employee-owners," said **Thomas S. Perrino**, President and CEO of the firm. "The brand is a modern interpretation of who we are today and the inclusiveness, innovation, and forward progress we continue to promote. We are excited to share our new brand, along with our new website that highlights our talented staff, service offerings, and design portfolio."

The website's update showcases projects from all aspects of Spiezie's portfolio, highlighting expertise in education, senior living, healthcare, corporate/commercial, government, hospitality, landscape architecture, electrical engineering, urban planning, interior design, furniture procurement, and multi-family residential projects. Additionally, **Spiezie's Our Team** section of the website highlights the firm's thought leadership across all offices and markets.

"Our goal was to create an engaging brand that represented our company culture and positions us for the next step forward in our growth," said **Jaime Sliker**, Creative Marketing Director with the firm. "We love design, and we love what we do. Our new brand and website convey our design excellence, our openness, and our personality." [Read More](#)



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- > Our employee retention rate is exceptional. We have been voted Crain's Top Places To Work for 3 of the last 5 years.
- > Our corporate structure has middle management, which provides additional support from individuals who have performed in those roles previously.
- > Our training program ensures that new hires learn the necessary steps in our operations to be successful in their role.
- > Strong leadership led the company through major market crisis events which allowed for 90% of the staff to be retained.
- > The company mission and values are respected and adhered to by all, which leads to forward thinking, a collaborative culture and continuous improvement.
- > Family atmosphere for a friendly work environment, but also recognizes the importance of work life balance & incorporates fun activities within the team & with our families.
- > Benefits package and perks such as a hybrid work schedule, floating holidays, annual reviews and employee recognition throughout the year.

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**Inventory Control Specialist - Orangeburg, NY**

Arc-Com is a leading manufacturer and supplier of design-driven, high-performance textiles and wallcoverings for the commercial market. Our Headquarters facility is located in Rockland County, NY, which is about 15 miles north of Manhattan and in a wooded, safe, rural area. We are committed to creating performance products that are innovative and beautiful, which we manufacture in facilities all over the world. Our legacy has been built over 50 years, which we will continue to build for decades to come.

We are **succession planning** for the expected retirement of our VP of Production, who oversees controlled inventory production and distribution, as well as the management of our Customer Service Team. We are looking for an Inventory Control Specialist (ICS) to oversee the ordering, storing, receiving and distribution processes of our organization's products, which are warehoused in multiple locations. We sell over ~5,000 SKUs and are constantly adding new product to our running line.

The ICS' main responsibilities include:

- > Control the levels of inventory on each of our products to ensure adequate supply, without risk of excess or obsolescence. Requires communication with mill sources all over the world.
- > Work with logistics and expeditors to ensure timely access to transportation for inbound inventory as well as accounting for all inbound costs.
- > Work with finishers and other entities on special application to our products.
- > Work with other senior management members to ensure price lists are current and reflect current costs.
- > Consistent exposure and coordination with our national sales force to ensure product delivery meets client expectations.
- > Address, assess and resolve any product performance and quality issues.

Arc-Com is implementing new ERP software to simplify monitoring our inventory, among other reasons. The ICS will be part of the implementation team and will have input into the reports and tools needed to facilitate job responsibilities.

Required skills include:

- > A strong communicator who will work with mill sources and transportation providers all over the world.
- > Team player and strong manager who can work seamlessly with our customer service and other company personnel.
- > Reliable professional with excellent attention to detail and a business mindset.
- > Able to maintain and monitor ways to optimize inventory control procedures.
- > Strong skill in negotiation and management of inventory costs and deliveries.

Required Experience:

- > Minimum of 10 years of inventory management experience.
- > Textile industry preferred, but at a minimum, must have experience with managing a large number of medium value items (SKUs).

We offer a competitive salary and a comprehensive benefits package.

Please email resume with requirements to rmoriarty@arc-com.com

The COVID-19 vaccination is required. The Company will consider accommodations for disability- and religious-based reasons.

Website: www.arc-com.com

BIFMA

Technical Director - Grand Rapids, MI

BIFMA is the leading non-profit furniture trade association in North America with members from around the world. Founded from the call to define uniform product standards for the industry, BIFMA has served as the voice of the commercial furniture industry since 1973 and is now the recognized source for refining, managing, and developing furniture standards that embody safety, ergonomics, health, sustainability, and performance that support buyer and specifier communities in making informed furniture selection decisions.

BIFMA further supports the industry providing market data, thought leadership, and industry outreach celebrating design and innovation in recognition of the significance furnishings play in the places we learn, work, heal and live through product registries, sustainability certification, statistics reporting, government relations, industry promotion, education, networking, and trade development programs.

We are seeking a Technical Director responsible for developing strategy and managing all activities related to BIFMA's safety and engineering performance standards. Reporting to the President and CEO, the Technical Director also interfaces with the Board of Directors Health, Sustainability, Safety, and Performance Advisory Council established to provide

strategic oversight and guidance. This position is in SW Michigan reporting into the Grand Rapids BIFMA HQ.

BIFMA offers competitive benefits and is an equal opportunity employer. Salary Commensurate with experience.

Responsibilities

Technical Services

- > Manage, guide, and document standards development, revisions, or reaffirmations following the ANSI process working with established committees. Primarily in the areas of engineering and electrical codes.
- > Convene and facilitate volunteer committee meetings for standards and advocacy efforts: agendas, facilitation, record minutes.
- > Serve as program manager for the BIFMA Compliant program and registry. Facilitate periodic audit of the registry. Manages relationships with testing agencies and participants.
- > Monitor and recommend appropriate action regarding code compliance, standards interpretations, or related issues to industry benefit.
- > Represent BIFMA with the International Standards Organization (ISO) and the American National Standards Institute (ANSI)
- > Research, develop and implement strategic plans designed to further

BIFMA's leadership position in safety and performance initiatives and standards.

Advocacy

- > Serve as industry advocate and subject matter expert with respect to areas of legislation and regulations impacting the safety and performance standards for the industry.
- > Research, develop and implement strategic plans to proactively address and negate the need for (imposed or optional) regulation by external entities.
- > Actively participate in associated industry organizations to stay current on issues impacting area of responsibility.
- > Serve as a point of contact and proactively manage relationships with related organizations and government agencies.

Outreach

- > Promote and increase program participation and membership. Work proactively with other BIFMA staff and committees to effectively communicate the value of these initiatives.
- > Support industry awareness through speaking engagements delivering presentations and Continuing Education Units (CEU's)
- > Work with BIFMA committees to develop position papers to reflect consensus view.

Leadership

- > Develop annual goals, objectives and provide input into annual budget.
- > Contribute to the total effectiveness of the association, communicating openly, addressing issues proactively, offering creative ideas and working as a positive, engaged team member.
- > Perform requested work as required.

General Qualifications

- > BS in Product Engineering or related field.
- > 15 yrs experience in product engineering and/or testing
- > 10 yrs experience in the furniture industry
- > 5 yrs experience in codes / standards (ANSI/ISO/ASTM)
- > 5 yrs experience in legislative and regulatory advocacy a plus
- > Excellent verbal communication skills
- > Presentation and Public Speaking
- > Technical Writing
- > Ability to work with a wide variety of individuals and disciplines.
- > Consensus building and large group facilitation
- > Proficient in MS office, word, excel, power point
- > Travel required, occasionally international

Please send resumes to:
email@BIFMA.org