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Letter From the Past President



Meghan Bazemore

I have learned that life is too short to wait for someone to give you what you desire...Go out and get it! A dear friend and former employer, Maiser Aboneaaj, has always told me, "Shoot for the moon, Meghan...you may just land on the stars." This is more true for me now than it was when I started my career. Life is a series of lessons, one after the other. We should always learn from our mistakes, but more importantly

grow from the opportunities that are buried within those life lessons! Life is truly what you make of it.

I first learned of the NEWH organization early in 2003, when I was just starting my career. I saw the value of the organization and how professionally beneficial it is to be involved. I set a personal goal to become chapter president within 10 years...with the support of the Atlanta chapter board of directors and the hospitality community I was able to achieve that goal! For me, when I think of NEWH I'm reminded of friends, professional networking and giving back to the community. I am honored to be a part of the NEWH family.

Opportunities abound within the NEWH organization. No matter your passion, talents, interests or personality type there is a place for you. As it goes in life if you love what you do...you may find out you do what you love! We all have to make the most of our opportunities. NEWH is an unparalleled platform helping you find the tools you need for a successful career in the hospitality industry...it's up to you what you do with it!

In the Spirit of Networking...

Meghan D. Bazemore

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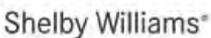
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Welcome the new 2014 Board of Directors. Some familiar faces and some new. We are so excited for 2014 and the great friends and networking that will come our way!



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Erica Coursey
Regional Sales Manager
Erica@NorthwestCarpets.net

Member News



Congratulations to **Amanda Dashwood** of ai3 on her new addition to her family, Taylor Rose was born June 28, 2013.



Margarita Leon of Fabric Innovations got married to Jonathan Hagg on March 2nd, 2013.

FGD has opened a new marketing department build and headed by **John Rose**.



Sam Opdenbosch and **Stacy Costa** are the new local Maharam sales representatives.



WINNER
BEST OVERALL VIGNETTE

FGD Glass received best overall vignette at HiConnect in Nashville.



Congratulations to 2013 Interior Design Graduates - The Art Institute of Atlanta

Pictured From Left: Courtney Daniels, Walter A. Thomas, Kathy Tran, Shantae' Walker

Congratulations to Georgia State University 2013 Interior Design Graduates



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On the Scene

2013 NEWH Scholarship Awards Gala at the Fox Theatre



2013 NEWH Rock-N-Bowl Classic at Midtown Bowl



Atlanta NEWH CEU Event: "Design at the Park"

Hosted by Arnold Design Resources and Kathryn Arnold; Program # SPR20012 "A Fresh Look at Coated Fabrics"; Provider: Spradling International, Inc.



On the Scene

Atlanta NEWH Summer Series Hotel Tour @ Homewood\HGI 9.27.13

Located in the heart of Midtown Atlanta, the Hilton Garden Inn Atlanta Midtown hotel is convenient to everything the vibrant city has to offer.

Owner - North Point Hospitality

Architecture - Lindsay Pope Brayfield Clifford & Associates

Interiors - Design Continuum Inc.



08.27.2013 NEWH at Hyatt Atlanta Midtown



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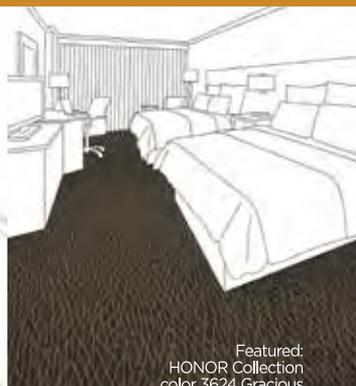
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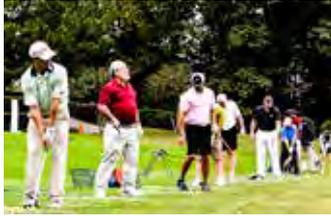
Erica Coursey
Regional Sales Manager
Erica@NorthwestCarpets.net

On the Scene

Atlanta NEWH Fundraising GOLF Tournament @ St Marlo's Country Club

Thank you to all of our wonderful sponsors, participants and volunteers for making this year's NEWH Atlanta Golf Tournament a success! This event is our largest fundraiser and will help us raise the bar on the Scholarships that we award to our deserving students. I feel blessed to have such strong member support from our chapter and look forward to working with you all again next year.

Sincerely,
Erica Coursey



A special thanks to Chuckyphoto and Media and our Corporate Golf Sponsors!

≡≡≡ Scholarship On The Beat



Who...

Stacy Costa, Maharam (NEWH Atlanta, Scholarship Director)
Sam Opdenbosch, Maharam
Michael Uhler, Scott Lighting & Shelby Williams

Where...

Art Institute of Atlanta, Hospitality Design Class

Why...

On August 22nd, Stacy Costa & Sam Opdenbosch with MAHARAM and Michael Uhler with SCOTT LIGHTING & SHELBY WILLIAMS volunteered to facilitate a lunch and learn presentation for the Hospitality Design students at the Art Institute of Atlanta. These vendors presented products, answer questions and donated materials to design students that are eager for product information. It's a worthwhile investment to familiarize future interior designers with products available for specification as they enter the marketplace.



Left to right (seated in foreground): Alice Omorogbe (interior design student), Renae Walker (student), Sam Opdenbosch (Industry Sales Representative, Maharam), Stacy Costa ((Industry Sales Representative, Maharam)

Left to right (standing in rear): Art Institute of Atlanta Professor John Gaul (Hospitality Interior Design Class Instructor), April Lee (interior design student), LeQuyen ("Kathy") Tran (student), Veronica Koontz (student), Brittany Sparks (student), Professor Michael Kleeman (Department Coordinator-Design), Megan Lee (student) and Michael Uhler (Industry Sales Representative, Scott Lighting & Shelby Williams)***

Scholarship On The Beat

With Gratitude...

Sam, Stacy and Michael:

Thank you so very much for providing such a wonderful Lunch and Learn event for the students in the Hospitality Design class at the Art Institute of Atlanta. The generosity and spirit of such gifted and talented industry representatives to come and share of their time and resources in order to provide valuable and inspirational design product and material information with students in the learning environment is to be commended. The students enthusiastically expressed to me how very much they appreciated each of you for taking the time out of your busy schedules to provide them with such a wonderful learning experience, inspirational and informative product brochures, fun take away gifts and material samples...all in addition to the delicious Panera Bread boxed lunches and cookies! You have definitely made a lasting impression on these students.

Please know that you have inspired these members of the next generation of professional interior designers and that they will surely remember your products and services as they enter the workforce. Your commitment to the field of interior design and dedication to participate in the process of interior design education speaks volumes about each of you and the companies that you represent.

Thank you for offering to commit to future such Lunch and Learn activities. The Art Institute of Atlanta appreciates your willingness to reach out and participate in the educational process for these future professional interior designers.

With sincere gratitude, appreciation and warmest regards,
John W. Gaul, MFA, RID, NCIDQ, IIDA, ASID, IDEC, CIDA Site Visitor Art
Institute of Atlanta Adjunct Professor

How you can help...

Design students need samples, catalogs and materials for their resource libraries. Please contact your local university's (UGA, GSU, UTC, SCAD The Art Institute, etc.) design department heads to reach out and help. If you need help contacting a school to donate resources, please send an email to the NEWH Atlanta Scholarship Director, Stacy Costa at scosta@maharam.com for more information.



A conversation with Stacy Costa

The Scholarship Director and new sales representative for maharam textiles.

Why hospitality?

The hospitality industry feels like family to me. I grew up in this industry and it's been a springboard into additional segments like commercial, healthcare and education.

How did you end up where you are?

I can tell you that I never thought I'd end up in sales.

When I was little, the only thing I can remember wanting to be was a wife and a mother. Luke, from The Dukes of Hazard show, (younger readers will want to refer to YouTube) was my husband and we were the proud parents of a cabbage patch kid. At 21, I did become a very young wife and a mother.

After being a stay-at-home mom for five years, becoming a single-mother cast me back into the work force. A large Atlanta-based recruiter placed me with Focus Procurement where I started out as a Project Assistant working under Margaret O'Neal, President of Focus. Margaret taught me so much about the industry and, under her supervision, I worked my way into project management for new hotel construction and renovations.

I enjoyed purchasing for 14 years. However when the economy fell, I had to recreate myself. I started my own company and worked as an independent sales representative. Piece by piece, I built a new career in an industry that I love, determined to stick around! After four years in commercial interior sales, I recently accepted a position with Maharam, a company that I have respected my entire career.

It's true, "life is a journey" it's just sometimes you cannot see your final destination until you've arrived! So here I am in sales and loving it!

Why did you get involved in NEWH?

In 2003, I attended my first NEWH event, The Scholarship Awards, held at the Fox Theatre in Atlanta. Everyone was there, the reps, purchasing agents, designers and industry leaders. I remember looking around the room and thinking to myself, "I want to be a part of this".

What has NEWH done for you?

NEWH has been instrumental in the development of my career. It has afforded me networking opportunities that have contributed to success in sales, gainful employment and, most importantly, lasting friendships.

What do you enjoy most about the NEWH Scholarship program?

That's easy...the students! It's easy to become invested in such talented, determined young minds. This will be my second year as the scholarship chair and I'm so excited to start reviewing the applicants again. With two kids of my own in college, I can relate to their financial struggles. Being able to put my children through college is my dream, which is why this is a program that's very close to my heart.

Can you offer any advice for college students who are hoping to work in the hospitality design industry?

Stay plugged in, network and attend NEWH events! Find an industry mentor, whether it be a sales rep, designer, instructor or fellow student...Mentors are invaluable! Also, getting practical experience before graduation provides a tremendous advantage in the job market.

When you are not at an NEWH event where can we find you?

Most of the time, I'm burning up the roads of Atlanta, visiting clients. I also enjoy speaking at schools, hanging out with friends and spending time with my three beautiful children.

A final thought...

Thank you to my life's mentors; Bertha & Jack Toombs, Jim & Terri Woolard, Margaret O'Neal, Gabrielle Thakkar, Dana Miller & Paul West for inspiring me to be the best I could be! It is because you believed in me which helped me believe in myself!

My proudest achievements are my children...Amber, Ashley & Brandon Hemphill





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Meet the Studio Rouge team that has been creatively and passionately designing hospitality, commercial and high-end residential interiors for the last 6 years.

Ryan Partin



Ryan Wayne first started in the Design Industry as a CO-OP student in the DAAP program at the University of Cincinnati. Within the vast opportunities and experiences he began his soul-searching for what his design abilities could flourish into. He found his love and passion of Interior Design focusing on Residential interiors. After 6 years of college that included 3 years of Internships; commercial, residential, and hospitality design. He was able to gain experience and design concepts from VOA Associates & Suzanne Lovell Inc both in Chicago as well as FA Hunter & Associates in Atlanta. While fulfilling his internship

at FA Hunter & Associates he found that he really loved the Hospitality Industry, and after graduation in 2005 he decided to pursue a position in either Chicago or Atlanta. Ryan Wayne holds a Bachelor of Science in Interior Architectural Design from one of the nation's top-ranked (F.I.D.E.R) accredited Colleges of Interior Design. After graduating college; he moved from his hometown of Batavia Ohio; a suburb east of downtown Cincinnati. He accepted a Junior Designer position at FA Hunter & Associates; a Hospitality Design Firm located in Atlanta, Georgia. There he was trained by Farley A. Hunter, where he was "thrown to the wolves" but developed a clear design concept where you apply it consistently throughout to create a successful project. It was stressed that communication and coordination are essential in completing a project that meets all of the requirements from the client, the brand standards, and design concepts. After 2-1/2 years and being exposed to several hotel properties throughout the world, Ryan Wayne was ready to experience the design community and partnered with Kelli Andrews whom he had worked with at FA Hunter. They created KAIDstudio; an eclectic design studio specializing in both hospitality and high-end residential design markets. Ryan & Kelli were connected to the sincere belief of creativity and detail with the ultimate design solution will make the perfect end result for their client. After 2 years and over 20 completed commercial, residential, and hospitality properties Ryan Wayne decided to part ways to create Studio Rouge Interiors, a hospitality & residential design studio located in Marietta just 20 minutes north of downtown Atlanta. The Creative Director's main job is to work through our economy's difficult time to imagine research, modify, create, renovate, detail, decorate, and build the next level of Interior Architectural Design.

Since starting Studio Rouge Interiors; Ryan Wayne has taken on over 40 hotel projects a year and presently he oversees the designs of 6 Designers and 2 Interns to carry out the wide variety of designs that brews in the mind of Ryan Wayne. All properties are very diverse and no two are alike. Studio Rouge Interiors doesn't have one favorite property because every finished project is loved as much as the others when the "Rouge family" sees their sketches become realities.

"Do you love your job? Most people would not be able to answer this question with an honest yes. Not only do I love my job, I love my career. I eat and live and breathe Interior Design. We are extremely grateful and honored to receive NEWH Atlanta's top 3 I.D. Firms. I think that the success of Studio Rouge Interiors is solely based on my passion for creating budget friendly, highly detailed works of Hospitality Art. I figured out how to bring glamour and functionality to clients with small timelines and even smaller budgets, during a failing economy. We have a very diverse office that works well as a family through all of the stress and grief, to think outside the box, break industry norms and still deliver the best overall package to all of our clients, Even though we are a design firm we offer purchasing services in order to carry out our design without altering its dynamic. We believe, staying current with technology and the times helps us move forward into the world of tomorrow." - Ryan

Kayla Ingalls



I am a Developer of Design at Studio Rouge. My responsibilities include project development- from the beginning stages of design development, to design and construction documents, as well as ensuring that the design comes to life.

From: I am originally from upstate New York, but I moved to the Atlanta area when I was about 13

School: Valdosta State University

Rouge: As a recent college graduate, I do not have a vast amount of experience- however I am learning something new every day, and I know that I will continue to do so in a field that is always changing and growing. I am so happy and blessed to be working with such a fantastic and talented group of peers and co-workers!

Favorite Project: As for my favorite project, I'm still new to the design world, so I can't say yet. I think that Studio Rouge is always looking to push interior design to a new extreme. The teamwork, creativity, and innovative thinking that occurs behind every project is astounding and I am excited to be able to be a part of it all!

Kyle Hamilton



Title: Design representative. I assist all designers with different elements of their projects. From working on CAD drawings to ordering samples I get to experience every step of the design process.

From: I am from Saint Simons Island, GA

School: I graduated from Valdosta State University with a Bachelors of Arts in Interior Design.

Rouge: After graduating school this May, I started out in the Residential field of design and soon discovered that I wanted to pursue the Hospitality design field. So I have been interning at Studio Rouge since.

Favorite aspect of design: I love working at Studio Rouge because every day brings something new and exciting. Here we are encouraged to think outside the box and bring something different to every project. Being able to do custom design allows every project to have it's unique look. When people work with Studio Rouge they can count on getting a one of a kind design that will turn heads.

Lisa Parr



Title: Creative Director

Role in Firm: Design development and Project Management from conception through completion including: FF&E selections, Specification writing, Creating construction documents in Auto-CAD, Design presentations to clients, Brand approval coordination, Shop drawing approvals, Troubleshooting construction issues and managing installation of materials and furnishings.

From: I grew up in the Atlanta area

School: DeKalb College - Computer Science Degree, Gwinnett Tech - Interior Design Degree
Job experience: My original career was in Computer Programming working for the Government sector before transitioning into Real Estate Appraisal. Eventually, my strong passion for all things Design lead me back to college to obtain an Interior Design degree. I began my Interior Design career as an Intern with Design Continuum in 2005 where I was quickly hired full-time before just before completing my Degree. With a strong 2 year foundation in Hospitality Design, I accepted a Senior Designer position with Design Directions International in Marietta in 2007.

In 2011, I joined Studio Rouge as Developer of Design while the company was growing and gaining momentum as a major player in the Hospitality Design world until Design Directions wooed me back in 2012. Missing the highly creative atmosphere and flexible work environment of Studio Rouge, I rejoined the SRI team in June as Creative Director and am very happy to be here once again!

Natalia Panagopoulos



Title: Director of Design

Originally- Johannesburg, South Africa

School: Spring 2012, Valdosta State University

Rouge: My professional experience with Studio Rouge began in July 2012, and I have the opportunity to work on various projects ranging in all sizes. Before beginning with Studio Rouge I completed internships during school with RCP in Sandy Springs, where I was able to work on a variety of restaurant projects.

As a director of design I am responsible for space layouts and development of interior planning and design direction, coordination of lighting, selections, specifications, documentation, architectural plans, as well as project and client management.

Favorite: My favorite aspect of working for Studio Rouge is the people I work with and our ability to produce a custom design for each hotel. Everyone I work with is so talented and as a team we help each other grow and make every design unique. We really strive to work as a team because everyone brings something different to the project and by working with everyone's strengths; we are able to produce an incredible design.

Allison Vandiver



School: BFA in Interior Design from the University of Georgia Part in Studio

Rouge: I am a Developer of Design and one of the many intricate pieces that make up the very detailed puzzle of SRI! We each bring our varied backgrounds, experiences, & visions together to create one of a kind designs for each client.

Experience: I have been fortunate to experience many sides of the industry from design, manufacturing, & marketing furniture, to A & D sales of

laminates in the Southeast., but I love to be in design!

Favorite element of designing hotels: I most enjoy witnessing it all come together from the inside out. You implement the back bones from selecting materials & finishes to developing documents, and in the end you see what all your hard work created. It is very rewarding!

Katie McClintock



Director of Design
Seattle, WA

School: Fall 2012, The Art Institute of Atlanta

Rouge: My professional experience began with Studio Rouge last December and is continually growing and developing with every new project and opportunity. The enormous amount of creativity here at Studio Rouge has allowed me to expand my viewpoint of design and further define my design style.

Experience: As a director of design I am responsible for space layouts and development of interior planning and design direction, coordination of lighting, selections, specifications, documentation, architectural plans, project and client management. While closely working with vendors and clients to develop the best customized solution for hospitality projects.

Favorite element of designing hotels: My favorite aspect of working for Studio Rouge is the design freedom, as we do custom design packages for each and every property, this allows us to create bold, daring, and over the top designs that wow our clients and the brands, and in some cases win awards. As every project is different it also offers the great opportunity to continually learn and grow, which is something I strive for personally and professionally.

Rose Marshall



Title: Developer of Design

Role in Firm: At Studio Rouge we all work as a big team. I am a part of the group, helping to lead some of the newer designers and still learning every day from those more experienced than myself. We see projects from concept to completion and every member of the group is involved in the entire process.

From: Tipp City, Ohio

School: University of Cincinnati, DAAP 2006

Job Experience: I started my career as an intern at Sims Patrick Studio in Atlanta. I also completed an internship at Too, Inc designing Limited Too & Justice stores. I returned to Atlanta as a designer for Sims Patrick Studio from 2006 to 2009. In 2009 I moved to San Diego, CA and spent a year working at Robin Wilson Interior Design. My next move was to Los Angeles working in design and sales for MIX Furniture. Upon recently returning to Atlanta in 2013 I have joined Studio Rouge Interiors under the guidance of my college peer, Ryan Partin.

Fav Project & Why: My favorite project to date is a small tattoo shop in San Diego, CA called Buju Tattoo. This was a freelance project I did with the owners of the tattoo shop and it was so much fun to dig through architectural salvage and re-invent old things into new again. We created such a fun mix of opulent crystal chandeliers, architectural salvage and local art while getting hands-on with can after can of gold spray paint. It was one of the most rewarding projects as I was involved from concept to completion, and it turned out gorgeous and unique!

Contact Studio Rouge at ryan@studiorougeinteriors.com or by phone 678.505.8059

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Curtis Norton



Title & what role you play in firm: Director Of Operations- Sales Support and Management, Budget Development, Accounting, Project Management, and all other tasks assigned by Supervisor.

From: The East Coast.

School: Downingtown High School Downingtown, PA

Job experience: Hotel Operations, Hospitality/ Multi Family Design and Procurement management, Entrepreneur

Favorite project & why: Hilton Garden Inn Center City, Philadelphia, PA-

This project was interesting, first and foremost, because it was early on in our groups' history and it provided great opportunities to learn about every aspect of this business. However, it was also very a very unique property with challenges due to its location and structure.

Katie Moulder



Title & what role you play in firm: Interior Designer

From: Stone Mountain, Georgia

School: I graduated from The Art Institute of Atlanta with a Bachelors of Fine Art in Interior Design in December of 2010. While there I was a member of the IIDA Student Chapter where I won an award for a Gold LEED project at the BOB Awards. Before The Art Institute I earned my Associates of Fine Art from Gainesville State College.

Job experience: I've been at US Hospitality Group since January 2012.

Prior to USHG I worked full-time in the automotive industry while I was a full-time college student. During that time I also interned at Interior Motives in Alpharetta which is a Kitchen and Bath Showroom.

Favorite project & why: My favorite project is Hampton Inn Flemington, NJ lobby renovation. The owner was very open minded and allowed me to have free reign over the project. The property should be done with the remodel soon and I can't wait to see it.

Mark Duncan



Title & what role you play in firm – Business Development Manager / New Market Segments

From: Chattanooga, TN

School: University of Tennessee at Chattanooga – Bachelor of Science in Business Marketing

Job experience: I have been in business development for over 22 years

Favorite part of the job: Networking with our vendors & working with the great people here.

Suzanne Knight



Title & what role you play in firm – Procurement Coordinator, oversee our preliminary budget process, product quoting, and sourcing and project management

From: Savannah, GA

School: Kennesaw State University

Job experience: Worked in commercial construction for drywall and acoustical ceilings prior to coming to USHG.

Favorite project & why: Hampton Inn – Elkhart, IN, liked the design with fabrics, table tops, and custom tables

Jeremy Rice



Title & what role you play in firm: Project Manager

From: Cheboygan, Michigan

School: Saginaw Valley State University

Job Experience: I've been at US Hospitality Group since March 2012, prior to USHG I worked for a hotel management company for 5 years traveling and managing different properties all over the Mid-West.

Favorite project & why: My favorite project is the Holiday Inn Danbury, CT. This was my first project as a project manager for USHG that I began start to finish for the entire hotel renovation.

Ken Jones



Title & what role you play in firm – I try to not worry about titles and roles but rather how can I do something tremendous today for the great group of people I work with.

From: It all started with my mom

School: Hard Knox.

Job experience: Father of 4. That prepares you for everything.

Favorite project & why: The next project. The one that will help define the next step in our FF&E dominance!!! Cue evil laugh here.

TOP ID /// Van Dresser Company



The Van Dresser Company is a full-service interior design firm providing comprehensive services for distinctive design projects globally. Our innovative and talented team brings thirty-plus years of design and management experience to new construction as well as renovation and repositioning of hotels, resorts, luxury adult living and retirement centers, condominiums, restaurants, gaming facilities and conference centers, hotels, resorts, luxury adult living and retirement centers, condominiums, restaurants, gaming facilities and conference centers.

Jillian Van Dresser



As founding principal of Van Dresser Company, Jillian's sense of style, unwavering focus and attention-to-detail underscore the culture of the firm. "Listening carefully to our clients, in order to surpass their expectations, is what my job is all about." She is involved in all levels of the design process ensuring refined design with current dialogue. Through her leadership, the firm's reputation has been built on strong, long-lasting relationships centered on mutual respect, creativity and delivery. Jillian is also enthusiastic in her support of the hospitality industry. She is a member of NEWH and has served in many capacities locally and internationally. Her extensive travels and love of art and music strengthen the design experience she shares with her clients and her design team.

When she's not traveling on business, she can be found with her husband and two dogs at their vacation home in Sante Fe.

Glenna Greene



As Creative Director, Glenna's passion for design and creativity sets the design process in motion. Her focused determination and boundless enthusiasm ensures that clients' visions are realized. She is charged with inspiring a team of designers throughout the entire creative course - from schematic design through implementation.

"I find inspiration is all around us - from the most ordinary things to the most extraordinary. You just have to open your eyes and your mind to all possibilities!"

Glenna came to Van Dresser with 25 years of business experience, having worked in marketing for a Fortune 500 company and magazine publishing prior to becoming a designer. She holds degrees in Communication from Randolph-Macon Woman's College in Virginia and in Fine Arts from Breneau University in Georgia.

Several of her projects have been featured in various publications, most recently in Hospitality Design and a regional magazine highlighting the Bretton Arms Inn, an Omni property on the grounds of the prestigious Mt. Washington Hotel in NH. She is nationally certified and is licensed in several states.

On a personal note, she is an avid, amateur equestrian and combines her love of horses with international travel.

Amy Williams



As a Senior Designer, Amy plays a superior role on Hotel and Time share projects in which she is involved. She displays amazing creativity through the design and presentation process, ability to organize complex projects and great client interface.

She moved frequently as a child spending most of her time in Memphis, Tennessee where she also attended the University of Memphis. She has lived in Atlanta for over 12 years continuing her design career within several architectural and design firms. She has been involved in a variety of projects ranging from Hotel, Medical, Assisted Living and Timeshare properties.

Amy has passion for design, grasping the details and enhancing the design with unique details and local flavor. "Design is like a complex puzzle to me. Analyzing and designing each piece ensuring it has a special place and in the end working well together as a whole."

In her free time, Amy enjoys spending time with her husband and two boys in the outdoors. They enjoy trips to the lake and beach several times a year.

Rima Abdallah



Rima Abdallah has been a Designer at Van Dresser Company for 2 ½ years. A rigorous worker, Rima's role focuses on producing conceptual designs, generating design documentation, and seeing the projects' integrity is carried through to installation.

A native Atlantan, Rima graduated from Georgia State University with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree with a concentration in Interior Design. After college, she dove into single and multi-family design for 4 ½ years. From there, she decided to pursue Hospitality Design. Getting a taste

of her first vacation club project, Marriott's Kaua'i Beach club, has made her passionate for hospitality. To Rima, working through the conceptual process and seeing it come to life is the most gratifying experience.

In her personal time, Rima enjoys photography, traveling, and spending time with her friends and family.

Caroline Foster



As a Designer at the Van Dresser Company, Caroline has worked on a wide variety of vacation club properties. Visiting the property for site visits and installations are always exciting to Caroline; she enjoys the chance to see potential opportunities and final transformations. She also enjoys pulling together a cohesive design to present to clients. "I think that collaboration is the best way to grow, in all aspects of life. I really enjoy working with others to see a new perspective." Caroline is most excited about upcoming projects in Spain!

Caroline received a BFA degree in Interior Design from Savannah College of Art and Design and is currently pursuing her NCIDQ. She is a long-time resident of Dunwoody, where she recently finished a full renovation of her childhood home. When not in the office, you will find Caroline lounging by the pool or enjoying a movie with her husband and pups.

"I am passionate about designing with a unique and timeless perspective that both aesthetically and functionally responds to the user's needs. I view each design as an opportunity to create a truly memorable moment in an interior."

Kelli Hagood



Kelli Hagood, a Designer at the Van Dresser Company, enjoys working collaboratively with the other designers through all phases of a project. She gets involved at the conceptual design level and is heavily engaged in coordinating contract documents. Once construction starts, she plays an integral role in the construction administration until the property is ready for close out.

As a native to the city of Atlanta, with a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the University of Georgia, Kelli brings seven years of hospitality experience to the Van Dresser team. Since joining Van Dresser, her favorite project has been the Crowne Plaza Ravinia at Perimeter Mall. She notes, "It's always a treat to bring the latest design ideas we're using all over the country and in international markets back to our home base. I'm very proud to say I was born and raised here, and as a creative professional, I have been able to give back to the city and its surrounding metro area." Kelli has also worked with Hilton, Kimpton, and Omni brands locally, and is thrilled to add IHG to her Atlanta-based efforts.

When she describes the world of interior design to people outside of the industry she likes to say that "it's our job to reinvent the wheel every day. You need the wheel to get from A to B, but it has to look new and special every single time." In the early stages of a design, she loves to search images of runway fashion and gourmet food for new inspiration in color and texture. "You have to think outside of the box."

Kelli and her husband, also a fine artist, often collaborate on personal projects to push creative boundaries. To keep her ideas fresh, she loves painting, dabbles in culinary arts, and explores the world through the eyes of her two and half year old son.

Christy Bell



Christy Bell, Senior Designer, has returned to the Van Dresser Company for the second time. She worked with Jillian 9 years ago on hospitality projects across the country before leaving to explore design opportunities in Charleston, SC. Since she's been back, she has worked on hotel and timeshare projects.

Christy is an NCIDQ certificate holder with a degree from Michigan State University. She has acquired more than 14 years of experience in the hospitality design industry, working with clients such as Hilton, Marriott, Westin, and Sheraton. Her experience also includes boutique hotels and restaurants.

"I enjoy working with clients that trust in the creative process and allow us, as designers, to really be creative."

In her downtime, Christy loves spending time at her beach home with her dog, Cooper.

Kathryn Root



Kathryn Root joined the Van Dresser Company earlier this year with seven years experience in the design industry. As a part of the team, she works on everything from construction drawings to presentation materials. Since coming on board, she's worked on renovation projects across the country; including properties in Lake Tahoe, CA and Mt. Washington, NH. Kathryn is recently married and just arrived home from a honeymoon in Thailand.

Laurie Lee



Laurie returns home to Atlanta after a ten year absence and is very happy to have found a place with the Van Dresser Company working on such exciting projects as the 'new build' boutique Hotel in Sarasota, Florida.

Laurie has 25 years of experience as an interior designer specializing in the hotel and restaurant industries and as a hotel brand representative for Intercontinental Hotels and Marriott Hotels. She was recruited by Exclusive Resorts, a luxury vacation club based in Denver, Colorado, to be Director of Interior Design. While there, she worked on multiple International and US based new-build and renovation projects.

Laurie started her design career in Atlanta working with several prominent firms. During her career, she designed projects in the US and the Caribbean with clients that included Hyatt Hotels and Ritz Carlton. She also gained experience in restaurant design, working with restaurant brands such as Houston's Restaurants as well as many custom conceived restaurants throughout the US.

Laurie has been published in "Hospitality Design" magazine and in the book, "Bar Excellence Designs for Pubs and Clubs".

A graduate of Ringling College of Art and Design, Laurie also completed her Master's Degree at Colorado State University in 2010 in order to attain a long-standing goal of teaching Interior Design. While in Denver, Laurie taught at the Rocky Mountain College of Art and Design, continuing her passion for teaching which began over 15 years ago as an adjunct instructor for the Atlanta College of Art.

"Many things in my career are coming full circle, and I couldn't be happier about it!"

Heidi Van Dresser



Heidi, Van Dresser's Office Manager, brings over 25 years of business and technology experience to the firm, having worked in the airline, insurance, restaurant and staffing industries. Recently arrived to Atlanta from Maui, Heidi spends her free time traveling.

PROJECT/// Hilton Garden Inn and Homewood Suites

Dual Brand Atlanta

Design Continuum, Inc. crafts the first new-build hotel project in Atlanta since the onset of the recession; the dual-branded property of the Hilton Garden Inn and Homewood Suites in Midtown



unique first impression as guests enter the porte cochere shared by brands

With the economic changes of the last few years, hotel developers have begun to think differently about the type of projects they pursue. Many have chosen to develop limited service properties in lieu of more costly full service hotels. Prime locations necessitate higher rooms counts to make the project financially feasible. The characteristic lower room count of limited service properties resulted in the birth of the dual-branded structure. In this way, savvy developers, like North Point Hospitality Group, have evolved with the hospitality industry by making smart decisions and have begun to redefine the specifications of successful hotels.

Placing two distinctly different limited service hotels within one structure in a premier location in Midtown, Atlanta was a smart business move by owner-developer North Point Hospitality Group. The first new-build hotel project in Atlanta since the onset of the recession was the dual-branded property of the Hilton Garden Inn and Homewood Suites. Interior designer, Design Continuum, Inc. was charged with the challenge to create two unique hotels that shared common function space and back-of-house areas.

Taking inspiration from their location, the concept for the two hotels focused on the past and present of Atlanta. Hilton Garden Inn is a reflection of the new Atlanta: sleek and contemporary, a place of travel and business. The same Atlanta lush with greenery and nature. The design for this hotel features sleek, tree-like columns in the lobby and a bright, modern palette throughout. The columns converge in the bar, where they



a bright palette and mix of materials creates an energetic lobby at Hilton Garden Inn

DESIGN CONTINUUM, INC.

The two hotels design took inspiration from the Midtown Atlanta location

create a graphic forest ceiling, complemented by the mix of materials and shape of the bar itself. The light floors and ceilings elevate the spaces while the textures and textiles create a comfortable environment.

The Homewood Suites reflects the Atlanta of the past: an industrial hub of railways and cotton lofts. Guests are greeted by a lobby and dining area dominated by a fireplace with walls clad in rough hewn woods. Furnishings are transitional and the color palette soft and surrounded by found artifacts and artwork reminiscent of the industrial Atlanta of old.

These two hotels in their function and design are redefining successful hospitality projects. Maximizing location and resources and featuring striking, innovative, fully custom public areas once reserved for up-scale properties, developers and guests are getting the best of both worlds.



warm, rustic tones and materials create nostalgia and a home-like environment at the Homewood Suites lobby



modern tree trunk pilasters create height and interest over the intimate seating area at the Hilton Garden Inn bar & lounge



industrial elements and natural materials give a nod to historic Atlanta in the Homewood Suites dining

FF&E

Uttermost – all the mirrors in both properties

Valley Forge

Schumacher

Fabricut

MDC wallcovering

Wolf Gordon

National Wallcovering

Daltile – both properties

Brintons – Axminster carpet in public areas and guest corridors

Durkan/Merit – Guestroom carpet (both hotels)

Ashley Lighting – guestroom and guest corridor lighting (both hotels)

I-Works – Public Area decorative lighting (HGI Lobby and shared function areas)

Charter – HGI guestroom lounge chair and sleeper

sofa – Meeting room stack chairs

Corn Upholstery – lobby & restaurant/bar banquettes and sofas for both hotels

Dedon – pool furniture

Marietta Drapery – all drapery fabrication for both hotels

Kimball – guestroom casegoods for both hotels

Arteriors – HWS lobby chandeliers and misc lamps

Astoria – dining chairs and barstools for both hotels

Soho Myriad – majority of artwork at both hotels

Regency House – majority of framing at both hotels

PROJECT///
Cook Hall Restaurant
W Hotel-Buckhead

Re-imagined Restaurant

Blackdog Studio along with Cooper Carry created a cozy, warmly decorated new gastropub style look for Cook Hall Restaurant in the W Hotel-Buckhead

Hotel owner: Noble Investment Group

Restaurant Management: Starwood Hotels and Resorts and Culinary Concepts

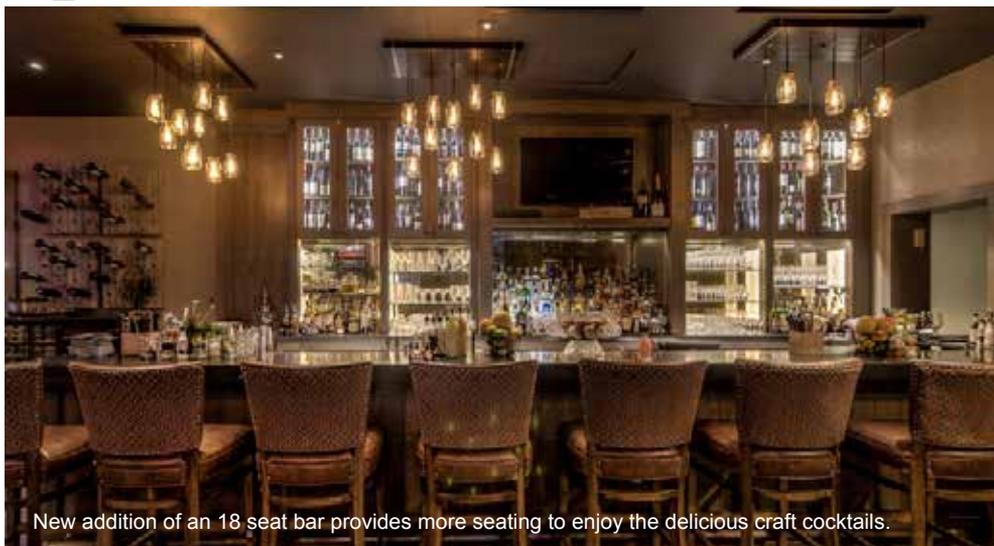
Purchasing Agent: Martin Stringfellow Associates.

General Contractor: Catamount Construction

Blackdog Studio and Cooper Carry broke the traditional hotel restaurant mold by designing Cook Hall as a unique and modern take on the America gastropub. The restaurant serves as the main public eatery and watering hole for the W Atlanta-Buckhead location. The inviting warm palette and cozy atmosphere encourages others not staying at the hotel to come in and dine.



The cozy hardwoods and warm palette creates an inviting atmosphere for patrons to relax and enjoy specialty cocktails and small plates



New addition of an 18 seat bar provides more seating to enjoy the delicious craft cocktails.



Eclectic “found objects” decorate the walls



FF&E

Table tops: Vic Cochoff /Georgia Cabinet and Supply Company and Kevin Scanlon/Atlanta.

Table bases: Kevin Scanlon as well as “found/vintage” bases.

Patio Picnic tables and Benches: Steve Slater/Slater Woodworking.

Upholstered Chairs and Barstools: Astoria Wooden Chairs: Andreu World America/Nancy Suitt-Main Solutions

Schoolhouse chairs: Restoration Hardware Lighting: William Brian Rose /Maudlin.

Artwork, glassware, Vintage signs and Accessories: Art Initiative, Kudzu

Antiques, Chamblee Antique market, Paris on Ponce Antiques, Scotts Antique market, Cheshire Bridge Antique Market.

Wood Flooring: DeChateau Floors/Martin Planas Wall covering: Anaglypta antique wallpapers.



Education in Hospitality Design

Amy Boyett, Assoc. Professor and
Program Coordinator of Interior Design
Georgia Southern University speaks on
Education in Hospitality Design



Pursuing a degree in interior design exposes students to the many areas of design including Residential, Hospitality, Commercial/Corporate, and Healthcare. With so many career options available, students are advised to explore their individual design interests by joining a professional organization, attending networking events, job shadowing a professional designer, seeking an external mentor, or pursuing an internship (for credit or not for credit). Design educators are typically a student's first link to professionals and can provide guidance on how to pursue a specific design area.

Full time or adjunct design educators often come from practice and have direct connections to industry professionals and real work experience. As Associate Professor of interior design at Georgia Southern University, my specialty and experience is in restaurant design. In my Studio III, Hospitality, course, students design a 6,000 sf. restaurant from back to front. I have taken students inside working restaurants to explore their unique needs as well as planned annual trips to Las Vegas for the Hospitality Design Expo and Conference where students who attend have the opportunity to learn about new products, attend workshops, and meet hospitality professionals. The variety of experiences in and out of the classroom provides a detailed look at a segment of hospitality design. GSU alumni and interior design graduate, Memorie Farmer, commented that the specialized nature of the studios in the design program helped her to narrow her interests. Hilary Garner, a graduating senior in the interior design program at GSU who completed an internship with Hirsch Bedner Associates (HBA) this past summer stated, "...I honestly do not think I would have ever known about the hospitality industry if I had never entered the (interior design) program, and definitely would not have known what it entailed. Taking Studio III really opened my eyes to the industry." There are also many other experiences that school provides which are important in helping students focus their design interests.

Education in Hospitality Design

Students greatly benefit from required internships that allow them to experience a real work environment. These internship experiences (many of which lead to job offers) give students a broader view of a specific area of design. Though not all design programs require internships, all students are encouraged to actively pursue them. Ms. Farmer provided this suggestion to students, “Do as many internships as possible, even the free ones. Don’t wait until you have to do one for school credit, go out there and learn from actual professionals.” Part of the responsibility of a design education is to help students prepare for internships and future jobs by providing training in professional skills such as interviewing and resume/portfolio creation. Educators connect students directly to professional organizations which host networking events and educational workshops that help students in internship and future job placement. Many organizations, such as NEWH, also work hard to provide opportunities for students to apply for financial assistance and receive special recognition through scholarship competitions.

The interior design program at GSU has been fortunate to have many students receive regional NEWH scholarships and one student who was honored with the Icon of Industry Scholarship. NEWH provides a unique experience for scholarship recipients by recognizing them in special award ceremonies that are highly attended by industry professionals. The support and encouragement students receive at these events is overwhelming and gives me great pride to see the industry that I am passionate about support the future generation of hospitality designers that I am privileged to teach. A majority of students who have won these awards go on to pursue hospitality design in their careers. Ms. Farmer, who first began in hospitality after graduation, remarked “...a huge factor in my decision to pursue hospitality was winning a NEWH scholarship...The scholarship director for NEWH was actually the connection that recommended me to my first hospitality job and resulted in my desire to ultimately become the Atlanta NEWH Scholarship director.” Ms. Garner will begin full time work with this spring after graduation, achieving her goal of working in hospitality.

Though the responsibility ultimately lies with the individual student to determine his/her future, education is a key factor in not only teaching the necessary skills, but also in helping to make important connections to the industry that will shape a future career in interior design.

Atlanta
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Helen's Top Twenty-Three of 2013



Helen Bissell, a Project Director at Design Continuum Inc. gave us her random list of Twenty-Three things she loves about design and life of 2013.



Photo by "Tim Evans"



Photo by "John Weiss" The NYC HighLine



Photo by "Roger Schultz" - Teatro Colon



A hostel kitchen rendering from a senior student thesis



Photo by "Paris on Ponce & Le Maison Rouge"



Photo by "Wickerfurniture" - Scraplights



Photo by "Nicole Beauchamp"



Installation by Atlanta artist Mike Black

1. Infusing the new and celebrating the old
2. Industrial chic – raw and rustic spaces
3. Adaptive reuse of vacant spaces – Urbanauts
4. Historical restorations
5. Innovative and creative reuse of salvaged objects – taking the ordinary and creating something extraordinary
6. Use of rare, bespoke pieces
7. New trend in hostels upping their design game
8. Reconnecting a property to its city and creating a sense of place
9. The saturation of local artist appreciation and the variety and depth of artwork being found in hospitality settings is exhilarating
10. Local farm to table F&B concepts
11. Dual brand properties are on the rise
12. Cobalt blue is to be the hot color of the season this year

==== Helen's Top Twenty-Three of 2013

13. A huge scene right now is projected art installations and kinetic art installations



Photo by "Nicola"

14. The wide variety of new technology is pushing the artwork boundaries with digital art, reclaimed or "Junkyard" art, 3D printing



Photo by "The Bitten Word"

15. Love the use of old maps and/or topography maps as art to create a sense of place and gives an idea of history and evolution of a town



16. Huge trend in traditional patterns with fresh, contemporary color palettes and exaggerated scales



Photo by "Studio Roosegarde with Lotte Stekelenburg"

17. The understanding of human behavior and interaction has always been intriguing and how that can be incorporated into functional spaces is the fun challenge.

18. Huge fan of Airbnb, a new trending hospitality exchange network

19. Enjoy the kooky designs of Philippe Starck and Marcel Wanders

20. Very impressive and creative work going on in Singapore

21. Instagram

22. Art & Architecture on Facebook

23. The Hunted Interior blog



Photo by "Design Continuum"



Photo by "Creative Printing"



Photo by "Jinkazamah"

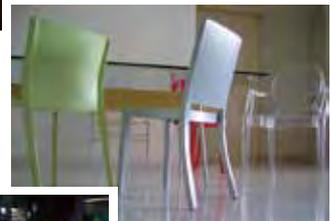


Photo by "Starck Ting"



Photo by "William Cho" - Changi Airport Singapore



Photo by "Chanka"

Bears on Patrol

NEWH donated many teddy bears to assist fire-fighters and police in comforting children when on calls

Kudos' to the NEWH Atlanta chapter for donating over 200 teddy bears for our recent community service outreach, Bears on Patrol. "We decided to host the collection process simultaneously with our annual Rock-n-Bowl event and it proved to be a great decision," stated Cathy Mansour, Community Service chairperson for the chapter and Director of Marketing for Aqua Hospitality Carpets.

"My heart was truly warmed as I witnessed bears piling up with each teams arrival and check in."

Bears On Patrol is a National Community outreach program where teddy bears are collected and distributed to police and fire departments to help distract and comfort small children in calls where they are involved. Having a teddy bear makes the uniformed person more approachable and friendly while providing comfort during traumatic situations.

After the collection, the bears were individually packaged and distributed to the Clarkston, GA police department, the City of Smyrna, GA police and fire departments and the Rome, GA fire department.



A huge
thanks
to our 2013 Board!

Each person's hard
work contributed to
the success we had
in 2013.

Here's to 2014!



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you **ARE** **the missing puzzle piece**

We would love for you to join us! Attend a meeting, join a committee, or volunteer at an event!

Contact atlnewh@gmail.com for opportunities



Atlanta NEWH CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2014

- JAN** Board Training Retreat
- FEB** Hotel Tour
- MAR*** **Scholarship Awards Gala**
- APR*** Tradeshow After Party + CEU
- MAY** "What Happens in Vegas"...
- JUN*** **Bowling Classic**
- JUL** Programming Event
- AUG** Educational Event (CEU)
- SEP** Programming Event
- OCT*** **Golf (Scholarship Fundraiser)**
- NOV** Community Service Event
- DEC*** **Holiday Soiree**

*Sponsorship Opportunities are available. All dates, venues, locations etc. are subject to change at anytime throughout the year.

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NEWH is the premier networking resource for the hospitality industry, providing scholarships, education, leadership development, recognition of excellence, and business development opportunities.

Contact the Programming Director of your Atlanta NEWH Chapter for more information and/or
 *Sponsorship Opportunities: atlnewh@gmail.com

| January | | | | | | | February | | | | | | | March | | | | | | | April | | | | | | | |
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Don't forget to check out the NEWH Atlanta Chapter website as well as our FaceBook page for the most up to date info on all of our events and to see more great pics!

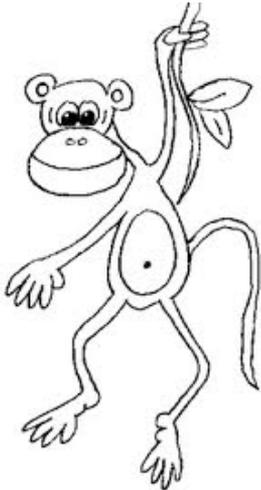
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