



NEWH STUDENT UPDATES, NEWS & EVENTS

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The Hospitality Industry Network



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Welcome Messages from NEWH

WORDS FROM DEMI MELISSINOU, PRESIDENT

"Compared to all the other members of NEWH Toronto I am fairly new to Canada. I used to run my own design studio for 15 years before coming here and we had projects all over the world, from the UK to the UAE. That said, when I started my professional life here I felt like a student all over again, right out of university, with the exception that I now had 20 years of design experience on my shoulders. Problem was though, I knew no one. Seriously, absolutely NO ONE! I was lucky enough to discover NEWH almost immediately. That gave me a "place to belong" and eventually I was able to meet other designers, manufacturers, vendors and generally people in our industry. In a few months, I was able to "wet my feet". I established relationships in the local design community, got the chance to work as a design lead for a local Design firm for 17 months and find the people I could depend on to guide me when specifying a product or when I needed a material sample. Now I feel the least I can do, is to give back to this amazing organization by volunteering a bit of my time each week. One of my main goals, as the new NEWH Toronto Chapter President, is to bring in as many design students as possible. Today's students are, after all, our industry's future."

WORDS FROM JULIE NICHOLS, DIRECTOR OF STUDENT RELATIONS

"This position perfectly complements my role at Sheridan as Co-op Advisor/Job Developer for the Interior Design Students. Industry connections and events are an important part of student education and growth and NEWH is committed to helping students achieve their best potential. It is my job to develop student engagement in the organization. The portfolio reviews are being offered later this fall for 3rd-year NEWH student members, which is perfect timing for internships. We also encourage you to apply for the NEWH scholarships and attend events - we want to get to know you! I think it is fantastic that our students have access to the knowledge, encouragement and inspiration that NEWH members so willingly provide."

NEWH Student Representatives

MESSAGES FROM PAST & PRESENT STUDENTS

In this article, we ask Former Student Representative **Carly Board** about what she has gained and accomplished as an NEWH representative. We also welcome our Present Student Representative **Saba Ali** as she takes on this role for 2022-2023.



“

When looking back on my journey with NEWH, I was lucky to join as a student representative, providing all my fellow Sheridan students with important information and knowledge that I gained from this organization. I have made so many great connections with various board members of the Toronto Chapter as well as attended many virtual events. Though much of my time as a Student Representative was completed virtually, I learned many important aspects of the hospitality industry that will help me in my own personal design career. NEWH has been a great organization to be a part of as a student and I am so grateful to have been a part of this amazing network that has taught me how to present myself while networking, learn new knowledge of the hospitality industry and connect with my fellow Sheridan students by providing the newest information that will benefit them. As I start my professional design career I look forward to keeping in touch with NEWH and continuing to stay a member of this great organization.

-Carly Board

”

“

Hello, my name is Saba the 2022 Student Representative for NEWH. I am going into my fourth year in the Bachelor of Interior Design Program at Sheridan. Through this role with NEWH, I'm looking forward to building industry connections that will allow me to gain new perspectives and get inspired. Networking is a great way for students to enhance their knowledge and learn about new opportunities; hence, I'm excited to share the benefits of joining organizations like NEWH with others. Throughout my three years at Sheridan, learning about hospitality design has been one of my top three favourites for the high levels of creativity and innovation involved in creating memorable experiences for others.

-Saba Ali

”



NEWH Board of Directors

MEET NEWH TORONTO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

In this segment, we meet a group of our Board of Directors and hear about the best hospitality experience they had this summer!



2022 NEWH Board of Directors

Demi Melissinou , President

BIO



Demi is the principal designer of Demi Melissinou Design, a firm in Oakville ON, providing services worldwide. She received both her Bachelor's and Master's Degree from the Interior Design Department of Middlesex University in London, where she was stationed during her

first working years. Since the mid-nineties she has been extensively involved in residential, commercial and hospitality projects in Europe and the UAE region and since 2015 in Canada and the US. She was introduced to the organization NEWH a few months after her relocation to Canada and has been an active member ever since.

SUMMER HOSPITALITY SPOTLIGHT

"This summer I got the chance to travel home again for the first time after 2019. During my stay in Athens - Greece, I visited more than a dozen different restaurants and bars and to be honest, I consider this experience as a whole, to be the highlight of my summer. Athens has always been a city where one could find a lot of attractive spaces to eat and drink but now, a true hospitality oasis has been created. Designers have gone above and beyond, creating indoor and outdoor spaces with amazing ambiances. Hope I get the chance to visit even more next summer."

Terryl Nielsen , VP/Administration

BIO



After a decade as an educator and sportscoach, Terryl "jumped" into the business aspect of interior design, working for various showrooms servicing the hospitality & residential sectors. For the last consecutive four years, Terryl has been the marketing director for DesignerStone Panels.

WINTER HOSPITALITY SPOTLIGHT

"My favourite hospitality experience is to "apres ski" at the Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise, in Banff National Park. There is a spectacular cocktail lounge overlooking the frozen lake, with a view of the mountains, known as the Lakeview Lounge. There are typically people skating and playing hockey on the lake, ice sculptures, a horse-drawn sleigh ride and walking paths around the base of the hotel. After a day of skiing steepes with friends and family, we love to sit in the cocktail lounge and unwind, talk about our day skiing in the mountains and nibble on some great appetizers. It is a memorable experience that keeps us coming back!"

Kevin Barrington ,Treasurer

BIO



Kevin oversees Campus Relations for Accor, the most diverse Hotel Company in the world with over 40 unique brands. A hospitality graduate himself, his passion is now guiding students along their career journey to find a rewarding career within hotels.

SUMMER HOSPITALITY SPOTLIGHT

"This summer I got to experience Accor's lifestyle brand - Ennismore at the SLS Baha Mar in the Bahamas. This was my first time staying at Accor's luxury lifestyle brand and it did not disappoint. With a Vegas style casino, beach clubs, and more high end food & beverage outlets than you know what to do with, it definitely was my summer highlight."

Christine Tucker, Ad Hoc Advisor

BIO



Christine has over 30 years experience in the Design Industry beginning her career path at Fanshawe College in Interior Design and transitioning to the supply side of the industry. The years of experience have evolved by working closely with Procurement, Property Owners, Designers and Architects to

NEWH Board of Directors Cont.

meet the client and project specifications in product, price and service. Tucker enjoys the relationships that have been established throughout these years by providing excellent service in a market that is constantly changing how we approach business.

SUMMER HOSPITALITY SPOTLIGHT

"My most excellent hospitality experience this summer was at Grand Hotel Victoria Menaggio on Lake Como in Italy or AKA paradise!!! The NEWH Milano Chapter hosted their one-year anniversary of the NEWH Milano Chapter at The Grand Hotel Victoria 5-star hotel and restaurant with the uniquely outfitted wellness centre at the edge of Lake Como. The hotel features 24-hour room service, two on site restaurants, two on site bars, the extensive wellness spa that extends for 1500 square meters featuring rooms dedicated to specific treatments that surround a central courtyard. The recent renovation took several years to complete ensuring they had every detail addressed on this historic and unique property. When you look at this magnificent property the attention to detail of the main building which is historic and then the new architecture to match including guest rooms and the Wellness Centre all accessible through a glass tunnel to the historic portion of the property. The event in June at the The Grand Hotel Victoria part of the R Collection of Hotels with Ludovica Rocchi the Brand Director who provided our group with a personal tour of the property along with champagne and cake to celebrate the anniversary of NEWH Milano Chapter."

Jaymie Mistry , Scholarship

BIO



Jaymie Mistry is a University of Manitoba graduate where she completed a Bachelor of Environmental Design and a Master of Interior Design. She relocated to Orlando, Florida where she began a career in Hospitality with Design Poole; an award-winning firm specializing solely in hospitality projects including

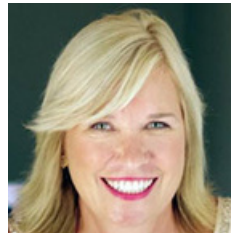
hotels, resorts, time-share, restaurants, bars & retail across the US, the Caribbean, and now, the Canadian market. After five years training directly with the US team, she moved home to Canada to open and direct the firm's new Toronto Studio. Her passion for hospitality design, ability to teach others and dedication to the growth and success of the firm make her a valuable member of both studio locations. Jaymie is also an active member of the organization NEWH Inc where she currently holds the position of Scholarship Director for the Toronto Chapter.

SUMMER HOSPITALITY SPOTLIGHT

"I had the opportunity to visit Malaysia this summer to attend the Malaysian International Furniture Fair (MIFF) with a group from the NEWH Milano chapter. We took some time around the conference to visit and tour a number of local hotels and restaurants. It is always incredible to experience hospitality environments from different areas of the world and learn about alternate materials as well as unique perspectives for space planning and design."

Julie Nichols , Student Relations

BIO



Julie has been with the Interior Design Program at Sheridan for over 20 years and now works part time focusing on preparing the 3rd year students for their internships and assisting them in securing their ideal job. As a job developer, she has formed countless relationships with industry that have

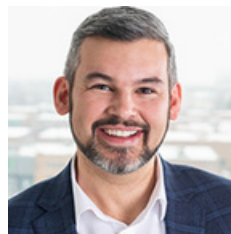
launched careers for many students. Julie is "living the dream" in Thornbury where she enjoys the four-season lifestyle of skiing, pickleball, hiking and paddleboarding.

SUMMER HOSPITALITY SPOTLIGHT

"This summer, I visited my family on Salt Spring Island, one of the Gulf Islands off the coast of Vancouver. The BC ferry ride from the mainland is spectacular and Salt Spring is a natural beauty with mountains, beaches, trails, vineyards, sheep farms and ocean views everywhere. All restaurants and businesses are owned by locals...and there is a thriving art scene as well. When on the beach you are joined by frolicking sea lions and during low tide, starfish are everywhere. It is also a haven for kayakers and paddleboarders. We had dinner oceanside at a great restaurant in Vesuvius Bay called The Seaside. Their menu boasts a wide variety of locally caught seafood and the venue is quaint and charming. Across the channel you can see Victoria on Vancouver Island. I'm looking forward to exploring more of this great country's hidden gems!"

Doug Amirault , Programming

BIO



Doug is the Senior Manager of Hotel Openings & Property Improvements at Choice Hotels Canada as well as the Fundraising Director at NEWH Toronto. Doug is the primary point of contact for hotel openings and transitions from coast to coast. He ensures hotels open on time and on brand. Doug is also a

dedicated resource for any hotel making capital improvements to its property.

SUMMER HOSPITALITY SPOTLIGHT

"A summer hospitality highlight for me was a trip to Vancouver Island. I travelled to and from the island on BC ferries which provided plenty of breathtaking views. But the highlight for me was having a Seafood Paella and local beer at the Flying Otter Grill, looking out at Victoria Harbour and the float plane terminal as the sun set in the background. The food was delicious, and the staff were very friendly and helpful, which made for a memorable evening."

NEWH Board of Directors Cont.

Nina Kandeil , Equity, Inclusion and Diversity

BIO



Nina is the Principal Designer for DEIL Studio as well as the Equity, Inclusion and Diversity Director at NEWH Toronto. Nina has taken part in many NEWH events such as hosting the panel discussion for NEWH Showroom Series Event at Durkan Showroom discussing all things carpet (see page.12)

SUMMER HOSPITALITY SPOTLIGHT

"This summer watching the hospitality world come back into the light from the challenges of the past two years has been enthralling. Once again seeing travellers and hotel guests come out of their seclusion to experience a design narrative other than one of their own making has been very rewarding. At DEIL, we are very much looking forward to weaving more threads to the hospitality design story that engages people in a gripping design conversation, one we feel they have very much missed."

Carly Board , Student Representative

BIO



Carly is a recent graduate of the Interior Design program at Sheridan College as well as a graduate of the Interior Decorating program. While attending and working for the Faculty of Interior Design at Sheridan she joined NEWH as a Student Representative allowing her to attend various events and grow her

network. Spreading the word of this great organization to fellow students has allowed her to understand how to present herself in a professional manner which will help her as she sets out to start her career in the interior design industry. She is grateful to Julie Nichols who allowed her to flourish in this position and is pleased to pass it on to Saba Ali, the present NEWH Student Representative.

SUMMER HOSPITALITY SPOTLIGHT

"This summer I took advantage of our beautiful province and took a trip to Niagara on the Lake. I stayed at the Moffat Inn which is part of Niagara's vintage hotels. The history and beautiful design of this beautiful town were such a great experience while travelling to various wineries and vineyards tasting many Ontario wines. Having high-tea at the Prince of Wales hotel was a memorable experience not only because of the amazing sandwiches, scones and tea but the beautiful design and Victorian style which adds to this experience. I encourage all to

visit Niagara on the Lake if they have not had the chance as it transports you to a different world while being only 2 hours away from Toronto."

Celine Marcotte , Membership Chair

BIO



With over 25 years of experience in the kitchen and bath industry, Céline has held key positions in sales and marketing management at global manufacturers. Currently working at GRAFF as Global Projects - Business Relations Manager, Céline holds a bachelor's degree in architecture along

with marketing studies and is fluent in four languages.

SUMMER HOSPITALITY SPOTLIGHT

"This summer experiencing Badis in Switzerland was my highlight. Badis are essentially public 'baths' or swimming areas, where you can come swim, cool off on grass or sandy beaches, or wooden decks over the water, sunbathe, socialize, eat, drink, and simply enjoy the warm weather. Every badi has restrooms, shower facilities, bar and restaurant facilities as well as areas where you can bring your own food and drinks. Zurich counts many Badis. Mid-June I visited Strandbad Kusnacht - one of the most beautiful badis on lake Zurich. It is a typical family bath with a long sandy beach, spacious sunbathing areas, a diving tower and various rafts to enjoy the cool and clear water of lake Zurich."

Meet the Rest of the NEWH Board



<https://newh.org/chapters/toronto/board-directors/>

NEWH

2 Designers & A Podcast

SEASON 2 OF SHERIDAN COLLEGE'S FIRST EVER DESIGN PODCAST

ABOUT

2 Designers & A Podcast was created by a dedicated team of Interior Design and Journalism students at Sheridan College. It is composed of interviews between students and industry leaders that question and dissect the future of Interior Design as we know it, and reach forward-thinking students and new graduates wanting to broaden their knowledge of design. In "Down to Business", the second installment in the podcast, we aim to understand how business and social media impact Interior Design.



Meet the Season 2 Team!



Dawn Huang
Producer & Co-host



Samar Ishaq
Producer & Co-host

SECOND INSTALLMENT GUESTS

Down to Business features NEWH President **Demi Melissinou**, **Sasha Harrison**, **Deborah Wang** and many more!

For more info visit:



<https://designpodcast.myportfolio.com/work>

More of the Team!

Cassandra Nicholls & **Taneal Lockstadt** join the 2 Designers & A Podcast Team providing support through their Journalism Skills and feature as co-hosts in a few episodes in this new installment.

NEWH Podcast Recommendations

In this Issue, our latest podcast recommendation is **The Decibel**. In the episode "The mixed emotions of going back to the office" we will dig what will we do with all the empty office buildings in cities, a great listen for designers.



2021 WIL Student of the Year

SAMANTHA MCNAIR PODCAST LEADER AWARDED WIL

Senior Podcast Co-host and Lead **Samantha McNair** in Series 1 of 2 Designers & A Podcast has been awarded the 2021 WIL Student of the Year (FAAD) - Internship & Inaugural 2021 Experiential and Work-Integrated Learning Ontario (EWO) Experiential Learning Student of the Year. McNair, who co-hosted the series, showcased exceptional leadership and organizational skills while guiding the podcast. Her work on 2 Designers and a Podcast has already begun to pave the way for future Sheridan students and industry partners to join the team and explore new topics.



For more visit:

sheridancollege.ca/newsroom/articles/career-development/celebrating-students-at-the-2021-co-op-and-wil-student-of-the-year-awards

NEWH Student Portfolio Reviews

ABOUT

NEWH (The Hospitality Industry Network) hosted another successful portfolio review session for 3rd and 4th-year students organized by Demi Melissinou, the Toronto Chapter President. Students who attended and presented their portfolios in small groups for feedback and tips received feedback from an industry professional's point of view. We heard from 3rd-year Student **Megan Fitchett** who participated in both NEWH portfolio reviews in the last year. This event allowed Megan to network and make connections with people within the industry. It gave her practice in talking about personal design work and how to present it through layout and composition.



If I could give any advice to students thinking about participating in a portfolio review, it would be this: do it! Don't be afraid to show your work. Be confident and proud. Nobody, except maybe yourself, expects you to have a perfect portfolio.

-Megan Fitchett



Introducing our Portfolio Review Team

MEET THE REVIEWERS FOR THE NEWH PORTFOLIO REVIEWS

Over the past year, we have offered portfolio reviews to our NEWH Student members from Sheridan, Humber and Toronto Metropolitan University. These were a huge success and students were provided feedback by prominent design professionals on their content, layout and presentation. The reviews are fun, informative and engaging...and we really appreciate the time devoted by our NEWH industry partners, who are committed to helping students succeed. Read ahead to learn about some of our reviewers and their valuable words of wisdom to get you started.

Bridget Bedard – CHIL Interior Design



Biography

"Hi there, I am the Design Director for CHIL Interior Design. CHIL is the hospitality studio within our parent Architectural firm; B+H Architects. Recently, CHIL has been ranked 23 on the INTERIOR DESIGN magazines 2022 Rising Giants List, being 1 of 4 Canadian firms. Our studio focuses on the hospitality design and strategy of hotels, high-rise residential developments and Food & Beverage. I bring more than 20 years of experience in project management, design leadership and client relationships. In my current role, I focus on business development, collaborating with clients to ensure that their visions are turned into reality; mentoring teams; and providing design excellence."

Bridget's Tip in Dealing with Feedback

"In dealing with feedback, one of the best pieces of advice I received was that it is okay to digest negative feedback and not give immediate responses. Whether positive or negative feedback, as long as you recognize that you have heard what people have to say, that is just as important, as your response itself."

Gordon Mackay- MacKay | Wong

Biography

"Gordon Mackay is a Founder and Principal of mackaywong, a Toronto headquartered creative consultancy that succeeds in bringing great ideas to life for the world's leading hospitality and entertainment brands. Along with his business partner Ron Wong, he has led mackaywong through three decades of steady growth by constantly challenging the talented team that surrounds him. Gordon is a respected veteran of the hospitality industry and his expertise has helped place the firm as one of Canada's most sought after creative resources. He is frequently called upon by hotel, restaurant and gaming industry publications to provide insight a current trends and innovations within each business sector. Gordon remains very hands on with the work that moves through each of the Creative Studio and his conceptual skills have been instrumental in developing the firm's approach to crafting public experiences that express the values and essence of a brand."



Gordon's Tips to Perfecting your Portfolio

- 1 Know your audience. Consider who will review your portfolio and think about what matters most to them.
- 2 You may not be able to judge a book by its cover, but like it or not, the cover really matters. It's a handshake and we always remember the ones that connect. You are in the business of marketing your potential.
- 3 Portfolios are an important way to introduce and express your unique POV to the world. They should be a thoughtful and professional expression of the author.
- 4 Great portfolio does not only showcase the author's technical proficiencies but also gives the reader some insight into what inspires them and drives their passion to create.
- 5 Your cover letter should clearly state your career goals and objectives.

Introducing our Portfolio Review Team Cont.

Jaymie Mistry- Design Poole



Biography

Jaymie Mistry is a former University of Manitoba graduate where she completed a Bachelor of Environmental Design and a Master of Interior Design. She relocated to Orlando, Florida where she began a career in Hospitality with Design Poole; an award-winning firm specializing solely in hospitality projects including hotels, resorts, time-share, restaurants, bars & retail across the US, the Caribbean, and now, the Canadian market. After five years training directly with the US team, she moved home to Canada to open and direct the firm's new Toronto Studio. Her passion for hospitality design, ability to teach others and dedication to the growth and success of the firm makes her a valuable member of both studio locations. Jaymie is also an active member of the organization NEWH Inc where she currently holds the position of Scholarship Director for the Toronto Chapter. Her energy on the board goes into initiating new local programs and events, marketing on social media, and engaging with students pursuing careers in hospitality through scholarship opportunities, networking with industry professionals and portfolio reviews.

Jaymie's Tips to Perfecting your Portfolio

- 1 Although many interviews are now being held over Zoom, this will not always be the case. It is important to consider the layouts of each individual page, but also compositionally across the entire 2-page spread as in-person, printed portfolios are typically reviewed in this manner.
- 2 Quality over quantity. Limit the total number of images on the sheets and focus on those that best represent the work. Don't be afraid of the white space. This provides the eyes a break from stimulation and can help in the overall composition of the spreads.
- 3 Ensure clear, concise language in your descriptions. Avoid run-on sentences as it is easy for a future employer to get lost in the abundance of words and lists of items. And with that being said, don't be afraid to use the text blocks as part of the visual composition of a spread.

Mahrukh Anwar - Design Link International Inc.

Biography

"Hi, My name is Mahrukh, and I work for Design Link International Inc. as a senior lead designer. I hold a Bachelor of Architecture degree from Punjab University, Pakistan. I started my career in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia as a Junior Interior Designer where I worked for 4 years on various hospitality and commercial projects. I joined the Design Link Team in October 2016. My experience allows me to overcome the challenges of interior design from concept development to the building stage. I am a natural team leader and respond greatly to the client's needs. I have worked in Hospitality Design for approximately ten years. Understanding my client's visions and getting to know them are the first steps in my creative approach."

Mahrukh's Tip for Students

"The best advice I can provide to the students is to present their portfolios with confidence, assurance and enthusiasm. A successful portfolio should showcase the individual's originality and unique skills."



Grad Spotlight

Q & A

Within this Grad Spotlight, we interview fellow graduate **Nicola Klahre** a Junior Interior Designer at **DEIL Studio**. Nicola provides her insight into the hospitality industry and advice to students embarking on their design path.



1. What attracted you to the hospitality industry?

"The hospitality industry creates such a wide range of design possibilities that arise within each project because of the complexity and scale of the interiors. It is not only the creation of a design aesthetic that interests me, but it is the spatial design as well that can transform a design concept into reality."

2. What have you discovered to be the most important aspects a design student should focus on for this industry?

"Since occupants of hospitality interiors do not stay in these spaces long term, it is important for designers to focus on user experience. The interior needs to have an immersive story for the occupant to enjoy & remember, along with the ease of use within the space."

3. What is your best source of inspiration when working on a project?

"When starting the design of a project, I enjoy taking inspiration from the project location. This helps support the local area and unify the project with the city that surrounds it. Doing this can also make a hospitality interior even more impactful as it is designed specifically for that one area with meaningful local design characteristics."

4. What do you wish you knew about when you were a student, that you have since discovered while working in the field?

"After experiencing the hospitality industry, I realize how many layers of detail get put into each project to make them so dynamic. It is important to design thoroughly, but also just as important to ensure the working drawings & specifications reflect the same level of detail to ensure the design intent is properly followed through to reality."

5. Any advice for students embarking on their career path?

"Take all opportunities that arise for you, and do not be afraid to search for your own! Put yourself out there and absorb as much knowledge as you can. This will benefit you as a growing designer."



Quote From Q & A

Since occupants of hospitality interiors do not stay in these spaces long term, it is important for designers to focus on user experience.

-Nicola Klahre



Top ID and Scholarship Awards 2022!

CELEBRATING TOP INTERIOR DESIGN FIRMS

On June 15 at the Park Hyatt in Yorkville, the **NEWH Toronto Chapter** gathered to celebrate our Top Interior Design Firm Winners – **Mackay/Wong, Design Link International and Moncur Design**. It was wonderful to meet so many people whom we have become acquainted with on monthly Zoom calls. It was great to see and reconnect with students, NEWH members, grads and industry professionals. The panel discussion during the event with Gordon Mackay, Ron Wong and Christine Link was enlightening and wonderful to hear their praise of the upcoming student group who is entering the industry – so full of determination, talent and resilience!



The panel discussion during the event with Gordon Mackay, Ron Wong and Christine Link was enlightening and so wonderful to hear their praise of the upcoming student group who is entering the industry – so full of determination, talent and resilience!



Visit the Winning Firms here:

Mackay/Wong - <https://mackaywong.com/>

Design Link - <https://designlink.ca/>

Moncur Design - <https://www.moncur.ca/>

DesignerStone® Panels Student Event

AN INSIDE LOOK INTO THE EVENT

As we emerged from the COVID cocoon this past March, **NEWH Inc.** Toronto, in conjunction with DesignerStone Panels, hosted a "soft" opportunity for interior design and architecture students to meet professionals from the hospitality industry. The focus of the evening was a long overdue presentation to one of two NEWH Inc Toronto scholarship recipients, Junior Wireko (University of Toronto, Architecture). In addition, Jaymie Borchardt Mistry (University of Manitoba, Masters of Interior Design), of Design Poole Inc., also shared her experience as a previous winner of one of the central NEWH Inc scholarships (U.S.A.). The evening celebrated students and provided an informal opportunity for hospitality industry professionals to meet Sheridan students who opted to attend the free event. The evening was a success and set the precedent for the June presentation of 2022 scholarship award recipients' evening, hosted at the Park Hyatt hotel.

For more info about this **NEWH** event please visit: <https://newh.org/chapters/toronto/event-recap/>



NEWH Showroom Series Event

CONCEPTUALIZING CARPET- A NARRATIVE

On May 12 NEWH hosted a Showroom Series Event at the Durkan Showroom. **Nina Kandeil** NEWH Equity, Inclusion & Diversity Board of Directors hosted alongside **Mara Ruffolo** as they discussed all things carpet design. The Showroom Series Event had a great turn out and NEWH cannot wait to host another exciting series event! A big thank you to Durkan for sponsoring this successful event.



For more information about Durkan Hospitality visit - <https://www.mohawkgroup.com/hospitality>

NEWH Attends Conference in Seattle!

STUDENTS REFLECT ON THEIR EXPERIENCE

Sheridan Students and recent graduates of the Interior Design program **April Metzner** & **Claire Martin** reflect on their experience at the **2022 Leadership Conference** in Seattle Washington. In this article, will hear about their perspectives on this exciting trip and the conference they attended.



"Attending the 2022 NEWH Leadership Conference in Seattle, Washington was an exceptional experience with benefits that are still prevalent months later. Even travelling to the conference, we gained insight into the industry and the organization that allowed us to take full advantage of our time at the conference. NEWH is divided into local Chapters, and while we cannot speak for all Chapters, it is apparent from the start that the Toronto Chapter is a welcoming, tight-knit community intent on sharing their experiences and expertise for the betterment of the members and the Chapter as a whole. A spontaneous rendezvous in the airport before the flight allowed us to meet and chat with both the 2022 President for the Toronto Chapter – Demi Melissinou – and the International President of NEWH – Chris Tucker, who is based out of the Toronto Chapter. Their enthusiasm for the industry was infectious, and they were incredibly welcoming and excited to share their relevant insights and knowledge with us. They were intent on giving us as many opportunities as possible in order for us to make the most of the Conference. Before we even flew out to Seattle, we were learning so much and making important professional connections. We were also given valuable tips for how to network efficiently and professionally once we arrived at the Conference; information that was incredibly valuable and well-timed."

“ This Conference provided an in-depth exploration of more niche areas of the sector – including the designing of hotels, cruise ships, and exotic resorts. ”

"The professional connections made and the information gained at the Conference were invaluable. As NEWH is a hospitality-focused organization, we were able to learn not only about the hospitality sector of the Interior Design industry, but about all of the industries that work alongside it; insight into the world of hoteliers, restaurateurs, suppliers, and manufacturers gave us a better understanding of how all fields must work harmoniously to complete a project. Each day entailed one or two group-wide informational sessions, as well as several "breakout sessions". These breakout sessions covered various topics specific to each hospitality-related industry; this allowed us to choose which topic would be of the most value/interest to us, customizing our experience and making it as beneficial as possible. As well, the Conference provided us with further comprehension of the hospitality sector of Interior Design; a sector far too complex and vast to be adequately covered in one semester. The base knowledge provided by Sheridan is a solid foundation, but for students particularly interested in the hospitality sector, this Conference provided an in-depth exploration of more niche areas of the sector – including the designing of hotels, cruise ships, and exotic resorts."



" The value of attending the NEWH 2022 Leadership Conference cannot be overstated. Not only did this experience afford us the opportunity to create strong industry connections and relevant industry-adjacent connections – such as with hoteliers, restaurateurs, suppliers, and manufacturers – it also gave us pertinent insight into related industries. This industry-adjacent insight will become critical to the success of future hospitality projects in one's professional work, as a basic understanding of related industries makes collaborating with them much more efficient and mutually beneficial. "

What I Wish I Knew...

VIEWS FROM A SHERIDAN COLLEGE GRADUATE

As a recent Sheridan graduate, in this article, we ask **Manar Alsoufi** to give a small statement on what she wishes she knew before starting the Interior Design Program, work survival tips and her highlights so far after graduating from Sheridan College.



As a graduate student that has completed the Bachelor of Interior Design Program at Sheridan College, I am very honored to have attended such an amazing school and could not have chosen a better program. After graduation, I was fortunate enough to land a position as a junior interior designer at Design Link International, a NEWH award winning hospitality firm. Transitioning from being a student to workplace is not as easy as some might think. Out in the real world, things are done differently from how we used to work as students. Each firm is unique in its own way of how they complete projects, which is one advice I can give to students currently in the program. It is very important to have an open mind, try different things, and always be open to gain experience from anything coming your way. One thing that has helped me gain a lot of experience in and out of the program is that if an opportunity is thrown at you, take it without hesitation, because you'll always learn something new. Also, the best way to do your best and succeed in the program, is to not leave things till last minute. Trust me when I say this, it will cause you more harm than good, because leaving things till last minute takes away from your learning and gives you less time to ask your professors questions because you are focused on the due date, which is not the main target of each project throughout your studies. As an NEWH member, I was very grateful to work at Design Link International, but after a few months of working at the firm, I have decided to take on a different path where I can focus on freelancing and more residential design work, which is something that I am very interested in, more than hospitality. I have gained an amazing amount of experience from working at a hospitality firm, and it definitely helped shaped the pursuing designer that I am today.

-Manar Alsoufi



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