

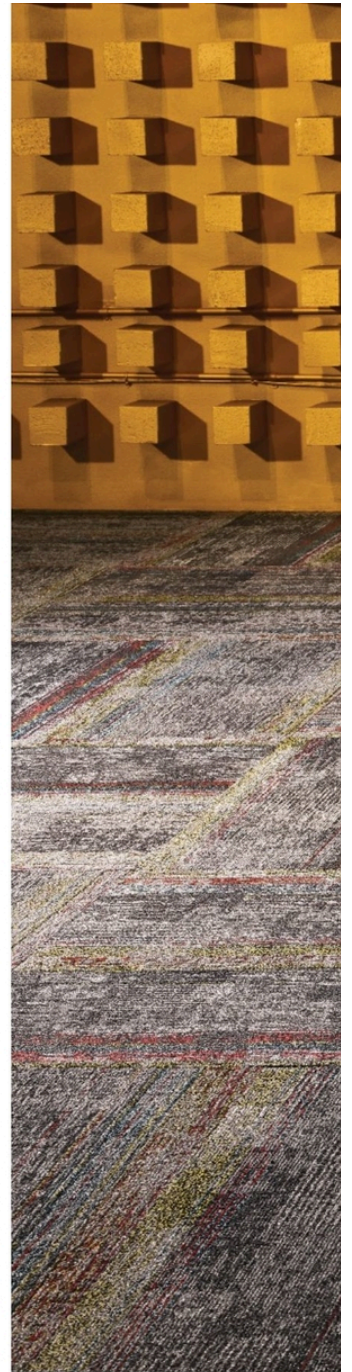
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AUGUST 2019

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The Power of Color
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in Vancouver, how color makes
interiors work

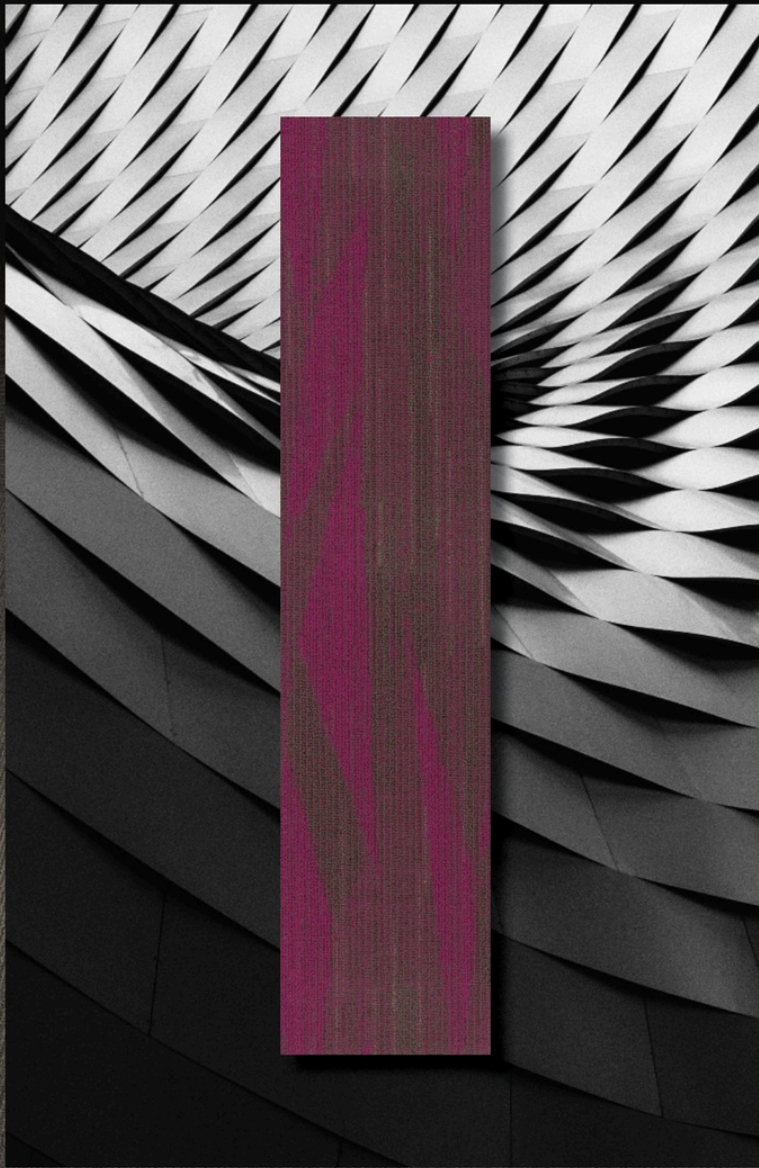




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PHOTOGRAPHY: DMITRY TSYRENCHIKOV (TOP LEFT); LAUREN ZBARESKY (TOP RIGHT)



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The advertisement features a minimalist white desk against a vibrant red background. On the desk sits a laptop displaying a colorful abstract pattern of yellow and red lines, a small black and silver object, and a white water bottle. The word 'Sky' is written in white in the top left corner. The word 'VERSTEEL' is written vertically in large, outlined red letters on the right side. At the bottom left, the text 'Sky is the limit | Made in America | Versteel.com' is displayed.

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AUGUST 2019



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EDITORIAL

The Power of Color and Design



This month, for our international issue, we take a trip around the globe to investigate how one important aspect of design—color—can both inform and improve an interior space. We kick off our exploration of where color is headed by asking seven designers and industry experts—from Dorothy Cosonas, creative director at KnollTextiles to Martin Kesselman, interior designer and owner of INCOLOUR—to weigh in on what colors they think will be most important in the following year and why.

Then, we set off on a global journey and head to Belarus where we visit a bold workplace where vibrant color combinations make for an unconventional, fun office. The headquarters of Appodeal, a company that monetizes ads for app publishers, is truly unlike anything you have seen before. The designers, local architectural firm Studio11, were careful to make the space comfortable, soft, and thoughtful, yet also intriguing, by way of colorspotting with bold shades of red (the brand color), blue, yellow, and mint.

Next up, we cross over to Vancouver, British Columbia, where we visit Bella Gelateria. Inspired by the original gelaterias of Italy and the soothing colors of the cool treat, and designed by local practice Studio Roslyn, the pastel-clad interiors practically beg passersby to come indoors and cool down. A stark contrast from

the dated ice cream parlors we're so accustomed to seeing, the space still embraces existing features of the building, like original millwork—which now creates a fun contrast of past and present.

Then, it's over to Melbourne, Australia, where we visit the headquarters of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) designed by Woods Bagot. The fit-out is colorful and bright, but the most impressive aspect of the design is that it provides accessibility for all people with special consideration of the visually and hearing impaired. By integrating numerous features, the workspace exceeds the country's current disability design criterion with just the right amount of color to indicate transition of spaces and promote wellbeing.

Don't forget to check out the results of two of our favorite competitions: We feature all the winners for the Best of NeoCon—a handy reference to the best contract designs in the industry today—in addition to the winners of our annual Inspirations Awards, sponsored by Tarkett, which recognize a commitment to social design. Ranging from a community center in Rwanda to a hotel and coworking space in Hong Kong that is a platform for social impact, they are all truly Inspirational!

Finally, just a friendly reminder: our deadline for entries for the 41st Annual Interiors Awards is Sept. 11. Remember to enter. The winners will be honored at our 41st Annual Interiors Awards Breakfast in New York on Jan. 31, 2020. Learn more and enter online here: contractdesign.com/interiorsawards.

Sincerely,

Paul Makovsky
Editor in Chief

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fabrications

The Fabrications Collection, inspired by the beauty in textures, patterns and colors of fabrics, is comprised of three styles. Stria, a 12"x48" plank, has a linear application of color with space-dye striations interrupting the continual lines, giving it a unique pattern and texture. Twill Weave and Fractured Plaid, both 24"x 24" modular tiles, are abstract translations of patterns with a soft tip-shear, giving them a rich high end feel to any space. jjflooringgroup.com



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INDUSTRY NEWS

IIDA and Contract Announce NeoCon 2019 Showroom and Booth Winners



Hightower took home the Best in Competition award and won the small showroom category (this page, bottom left and right). The winner of the large showroom category was Herman Miller (opposite page). The booth design awards went to Baresque (this page, top left) in the large category, and Framery (this page, top right) in the small booth category.



PHOTOGRAPHY: COURTESY OF IIDA



The International Interior Design Association (IIDA) and *Contract* announced the winners of the 24th annual Showroom and Booth Design Competition at NeoCon 2019.

"Each year, this competition offers us exciting and beautiful ways to both effectively present products and enhance attendee experience through spatial innovation," says Cheryl S. Durst, Hon. FIIDA, executive vice president and CEO of IIDA. "The winning showrooms and booths made both visual and experiential impacts."

Hightower took home the Best in Competition award and won the small showroom category (under 4,000 square feet) for its space designed by the Hightower in-house team in collaboration with Casey Keasler. The winner of the large showroom category (4,000 square feet or larger) was Herman Miller. The booth design awards went to Baresque, designed by Daniel Powell, in the large category (400 square feet or larger), and Framery, designed by the Framery design team, in the small booth category (less than 400 square feet).

Winners were chosen based on originality in design, visual appeal, effective use of materials, and remarkable use of color, texture, lighting, and graphics. This year's jury panel included Mari Ansera, IIDA, senior interior design and senior associate at HGA; Meaghan Kennedy, IIDA, senior interior designer for Bergmeyer; Annie Lee, IIDA, principal of interior design for ENV; and Angela Ryan, IIDA, studio manager of interior architecture and design for Ware Malcomb.

"This year's showrooms and booths were both evocative and deliberate in their executions," says Ansera on behalf of the jury. "We appreciated the cohesiveness of the designs and that the designers allowed for each piece of furniture, accessory, or smaller detail to have its own moment of celebration." —WILL SPEROS



contract

INDUSTRY NEWS

IIDA Honors Award Winners

The association named its 2019 Member of the Year, Student of the Year, and Anna Hernandez/Luna Textiles Visionary Award winners during its annual meeting in Chicago.



Sydney Gunty, Student IIDA, recipient of the 2019 IIDA Student of the Year Award (top left); Ming Thompson, IIDA, AIA, and Christina Cho Yoo, IIDA, AIA, recipients of the Anna Hernandez/Luna Textiles Visionary Award (top right); and Susanne Molina, FIIDA, recipient of the 2019 IIDA Member of the Year Award (bottom).

IIDA made many announcements during its annual meeting held on June 9 at Venue SIX10 in Chicago, including its 2019 Member of the Year and Student of the Year—recognizing an IIDA Member who has demonstrated outstanding volunteer service and a student member who has significantly impacted his or her school's design program, respectively.

The association named Susanne M. Molina, FIIDA, principal, ONE design collective in Los Angeles as Member of the Year—awarding her a \$7,500 cash prize sponsored by *Contract*.

With over 30 years of industry experience, Molina focuses her practice in commercial interiors with an emphasis on workplace innovation. She chairs the IIDA SoCal Advisory Committee, was an advisor to the Interior Design Coalition of California, and served as vice president of advocacy for the IIDA Southern California Chapter and as vice president on the International Board of IIDA. She has also participated in the IIDA Student Mentorship program. "Through hands-on professional advocacy and the unique ability to form strong client relationships, Susanne has proven to be the true definition of an industry leader," says Cheryl S. Durst, Hon. FIIDA, executive vice president and CEO of IIDA.

The association named Sydney Gunty as the 2019 Student of the Year—awarding her a \$5,000 cash prize, sponsored by OFS.

Gunty recently graduated Purdue University with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in interior design and minors in construction management and building information modeling. She was the president of her university's IIDA/ASID chapter among many other leadership roles and held internships at major companies like Tesla, Holder Construction, and Marc-Michaels Interior

Design. "Sydney demonstrates the kind of ambition and tenacity that is synonymous with design excellence, and she is on track to become a design leader of tomorrow," Durst says.

IIDA, in partnership with *Contract* magazine and Teknion, also announced Christina Cho Yoo, IIDA, AIA, and Ming Thompson, IIDA, AIA, of Atelier Cho Thompson as the recipients of the Anna Hernandez/Luna Textiles Visionary Award, during the annual meeting. The association gave Karin Liljegren, IIDA, of Omgivning an honorable mention.

Omgivning is a Los Angeles-based firm founded by Karin Liljegren, IIDA, that strengthens urban communities through architecture and interior design, emphasizing reuse of materials and existing spaces.

"Every day, empowered women are driving the design industry and changing the way we approach the profession," Durst says. "We are honored and privileged to celebrate two women-owned design firms, both of which demonstrate unique ways of engaging with architecture and design that provide enhanced environments for their communities."

Yoo and Thompson, founders of Atelier Cho Thompson, received \$5,000 from the IIDA Foundation. Their multidisciplinary design and concept firm, located in San Francisco and New Haven, Connecticut, engages in the arts of architecture, interiors, graphics, brand strategy, furniture, installations, and exhibitions.

Entries were reviewed by Tina Barnard, IIDA, founder and owner, Tina Barnard Designs; Jennifer Busch, Hon. IIDA, vice president, A&D, Teknion; Karen Donaghy, publisher, *Contract* magazine; and Felice Silverman, FIIDA, principal, Silverman Trykowski Associates. —LAUREN VOLKER

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Contract Design Forum 2019 Focuses on Wellness at Carmel Valley Ranch

Registration is open for architects and designers to attend.



PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY OF CARMEL VALLEY RANCH

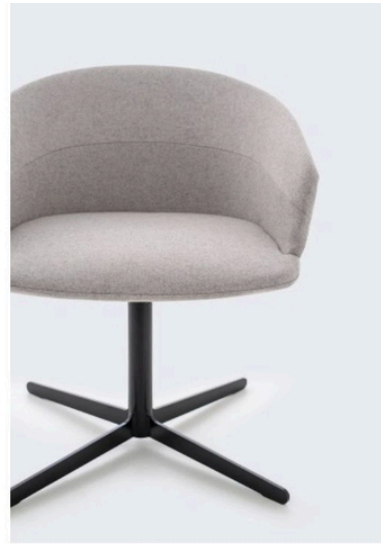
The 15th annual *Contract Design Forum*—a two-day gathering of the *Contract* Editorial Advisory Board, invited guests, and representative sponsors, hosted by *Contract* magazine—will be held at Carmel Valley Ranch in Carmel, California, Oct. 23–25, 2019.

This year's forum will focus on the theme "a spa for the brain," taking place at one of the most scenic parts of the country—on California's Monterey Peninsula—where visitors will be greeted by powdery white beaches and an abundance of wildlife. With programming centered around the relevant theme of "wellness," guests can expect to feel stimulated and rejuvenated at the conclusion of the two days.

The 500-acre Carmel Valley Ranch is a luxury Hyatt resort found just a few miles outside of town. Featuring a 15,000-square-foot spa with 11 treatment rooms, a par-70 golf course designed by legend Peter Dye, culinary demonstrations from oyster shucking to ice cream churning, a variety of yoga and fitness classes, and a range of outdoor adventures, there is no shortage of wellness-facilitating activities.

Confirmed speakers for the 2019 *Contract Design Forum* include Francesca Birks, associate principal at Arup. Additional speakers for this year's Forum will be announced shortly.

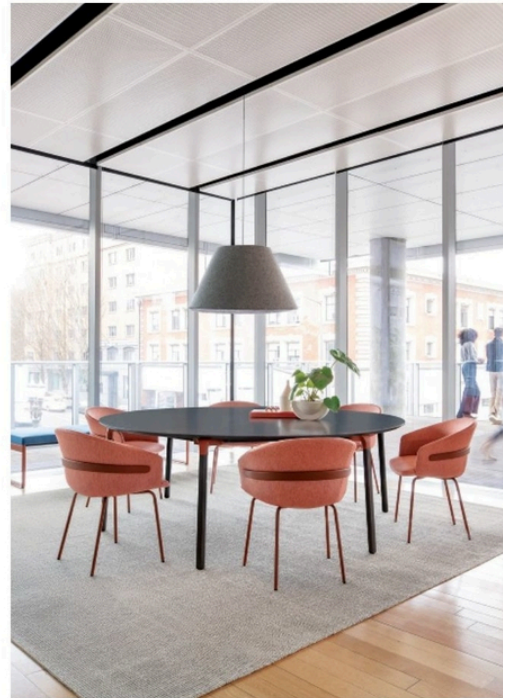
Contract welcomes a limited number of qualified practitioners—architects and interior designers who are engaged in the commercial design profession—to attend and participate in its annual Forum. Prospective attendees can visit contractdesignforum.com to learn more about travel, fees, and registration.—MEGHAN DWYER



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AGENDA



Marking the 100th anniversary of the school's opening, "Bauhaus Beginnings" investigates its early commitment to spiritual expression, its innovative first-year curriculum, and its use of diverse media to introduce the work of students and masters to international audiences. This watercolor and graphite on paper "Durchdringung," which means penetration in German, was completed by Léna Bergner (German, 1906–1981) for Paul Klee's Course at Bauhaus.

AUGUST

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São Paulo Design Weekend

August 18–25
Various locations
São Paulo
designweekend.com.br

Design Biennale Zürich

August 29–September 1
Various locations
Zürich
designbiennalezurich.ch

SEPTEMBER

Helsinki Design Week

September 5–15
Various locations
Helsinki, Finland
helsinkidesignweek.com

Maison et Objet

September 6–10
Paris Nord Villepinte Exhibition Center
Paris
maison-objet.com

Seoul Biennale of Architecture and Urbanism

September 6–November 10
Various locations
Seoul, South Korea
seoulbiennale.org

Furniture China

September 9–12
Shanghai New International Expo Center & Shanghai World Expo Exhibition and Convention Center
Shanghai
furniture-china.cn

Tallinn Architecture Biennale

September 9–15
Various locations
Tallinn, Estonia
tab.ee

London Design Festival

September 14–22
Various locations
London
londondesignfestival.com

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September 17–19
Dubai World Trade Center
Dubai
indexexhibition.com

Porto Design Biennale

September 19–December 8
Various locations
Porto and Matosinhos, Portugal
portodesignbiennale.pt

Chicago Architecture Biennale

September 19–January 5
Various locations
Chicago
chicagoarchitecturebiennale.org

Beijing Design Week

September 23–30
Various locations
Beijing
bjdw.org

Oslo Architecture Triennale

September 26–November 24
The Oslo School of Architecture and Design
Oslo, Norway
oslotriennale.no

Vienna Design Week

September 27–October 6
Various locations
Vienna, Austria
viennadesignweek.at

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PRODUCT BRIEFS

Textiles & Wallcoverings

Boasting an array of entrancing details—from bold geometric patterns to Bauhaus-inspired prints—the latest textiles and wallcoverings make a statement.

1. Wolf-Gordon: Felted

Felted, an addition to Wolf-Gordon's acoustical materials line, can for the first time ever be engraved as well as laser cut and/or digitally printed. Available in 25 colorways, the soft acoustic material is fade-resistant and made from 95 percent post-consumer recycled plastic bottles. Combining superior noise absorption with durability and ease of maintenance, Felted is the ideal solution for a range of environments—and at the end of its lifecycle, the product can be recycled back into fiber.

wolfgordon.com



1

4. Maharam: Water Pebbles

Designed by William J. O'Brien—a Chicago-based artist known for exuberant ceramic sculptures and abstract drawings, paintings, and collages—Water Pebbles is based on an original composition depicting variously sized ovals rendered in colored pencil and ink-wash overlay. The wallcovering features a prismatic spectrum of hues that meditates on the way water reflects, refracts, and absorbs the illumination of a sunset.

maharam.com

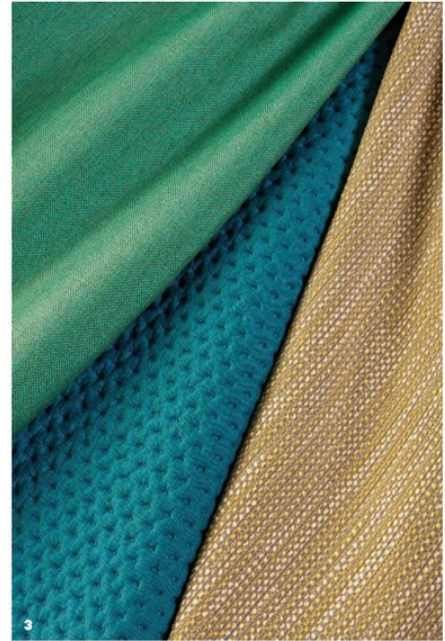


2

2. Flavor Paper: Mirage

Flavor Paper's Mirage wallcovering is a reimagination of its Age of Aquarius archives for today's interiors, providing an intricate and captivating geometric pattern to enliven interior spaces. Rich with refractions of light and color, the pattern subtly reveals palm trees among a myriad of shapes and layers. Mirage is pictured here in White Heat on Gold Mylar.

flavorpaper.com



3

3. Unika Vaev: Bond Street Collection

Inspired by traditional English menswear tailoring, Unika Vaev's Bond Street Collection features a blend of elegant textiles. The collection comprises six different fabrics including Zoom, combining technical construction with a quilted appearance; Agile, combining filament yarns with a two-tone dyed boucle for subtle color and weave; Genre, a classic hard-wearing staple; Handsome, combining the structure of a worsted wool with durability; Luxe Mohair, woven with Angora goat wool for a pleasing shimmer; and Origin, featuring a rich nubby texture for luxurious tactility.

unikavaev.com



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5. HBF Textiles: Lost & Found

Designed in collaboration with Christiane Müller, HBF Textile's Lost & Found collection fuses past and present for a timelessly beautiful collection. Speaking to the human connection between textiles and the handiwork techniques from previous eras, reinterpreted in present day through trusted mill partners, the 48-colorway collection seeks to bring back the intricacies of fabric making. Each of the line's seven patterns showcases the culture and craftsmanship behind its unique production, while still feeling inviting for today's interiors.

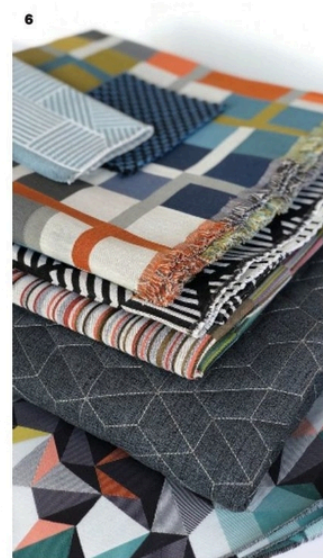
hbftextiles.com



6. CF Stinson: High Line

Featuring a wide range of performance fabrics, the High Line collection by CF Stinson combines geometry, modern aesthetic, and a palette of vibrant colors into one completely coordinating collection. Giving designers diverse options for upholstering spaces from the modern office to lounge furniture and education environments, each fabric delivers in performance while featuring bold colors and intricate weaves.

cfstinson.com



7. Pallas Textiles: Transformations

Transformations by Pallas Textiles is a collection of bold fabrics featuring complex linear elements, designed to transform any interior space. Featuring five designs—Axis, Reflection, Tessellation, Translation, and Vertices—the high-quality textiles blend the art of weaving with modern yet timeless aesthetics.

pallastextiles.com

contractdesign.com

AUGUST 2019



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www.tuohyfurniture.com

PRODUCT BRIEFS



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201
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APCO
apcosigns.com

388 Grant Street, SE
Atlanta, Georgia 30312
Web: www.apcosigns.com
Email: sales@apcosigns.com
Phone: 877-988-APCO

8. Designtex: The Bauhaus Project

In homage to the women weavers of the Bauhaus—the short-lived but influential German design school celebrating its centennial this year—The Bauhaus Project comprises eight upholstery textiles and eight digitally printed wallcoverings. With designs by Gunta Stölzl and Anni Albers—two of the most significant textile designers of Bauhaus schooling—the line honors the women who were given the limited options of weaving and ceramics upon arrival at Bauhaus but nevertheless immersed themselves in the craft and discovered the possibilities of the loom.

designtex.com

8

**9. Innovations USA: Divine Proportions**

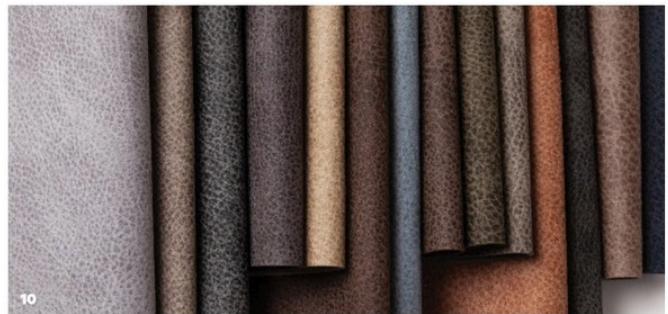
Divine Proportions, the newest wallcovering collection from Innovations USA, was inspired by contemporary shapes and unexpected textures. Each of the 11 different patterns analyzes the connection between natural surroundings and mathematical proportions. Mazarin, pictured here, features calming limes on a metallic cork.

innovationsusa.com

9



10

**10. Architex: Rebel**

Appropriately named Rebel, this polyurethane and nylon fabric by Architex challenges fabric construction. Innovative in design and durable in performance, the sophisticated fabric comes in 15 colorways, all named after historic icons, from Tubman to Malala. The faux leather features a suede pattern while its soft matte hand features exceptional capability and wearability.

architex-ljh.com



EXPLORE REEFS

Inspired by the infinite variety of underwater worlds where no reef is like the other, Reefs creates inviting collaborative areas with screens that optimize acoustics and offer visual privacy. Configure Reefs modular benches into traditional face-to-face meeting areas, informal lounge spaces or quiet island units for focus work. Color and pattern options are as diverse as the coral reefs themselves.

DESIGNER: Jessica Englehardt

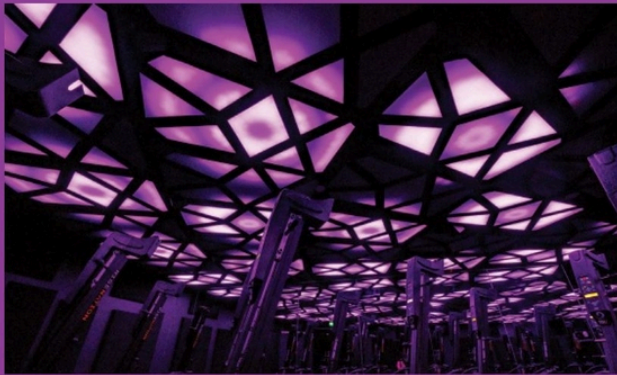


DAUPHIN
www.dauphin.com

FEATURE

Color Trends

“Man needs color to live,” the great modernist painter Fernand Léger once said. Color is an important component of our design-driven lives. So much so, that forecasting the next “hot” color is big business, with textile, automotive, furnishings, and housewares companies all investing heavily for trend directions that can eventually translate into successful products. Here we ask seven designers and industry experts to highlight the colors they think will be important in the next year and to tell us why.



COLOR: Heliotrop

PRODUCT: Heliotrope Ceiling at Rise Nation Gym, Denver, CO

Heliotrope is a pinkish-purple color with rich historical significance. A signal of wealth in many historical contexts because, like many purples, it was traditionally very expensive to produce. It's a signal of mourning in Victorian culture, and its etymology refers to “turning towards the sun.” It is vibrant, electric and psychedelic. In contemporary context, it feels futuristic and almost unnatural/synthetic. Even a bit scary or dystopian because of how non-organic it looks at large scale. Perhaps this is because we are so divorced from the rich historical context of the color. Purples went out of fashion after the 80s love of bright tints. Now, purples are interesting again, in general, because they were traditionally such a gendered color range, and as gender becomes more fluid, and androgyny more important in physical spaces, fashion and technologies, heliotrope has a chance to be re-invented by creative minds. Heliotrope is so vibrant that it demands your attention.

The ceiling at the new Rise Nation group fitness gym in Denver, CO reacts to music, the instructor and the individual guest working out below by changing color. Heliotrope was used in one of the sequences to add motivational heat.

EXPERTS: Noah Waxman, Head of Strategy, Cactus, and Lucas Wertheim, Head of Technology and Production, Cactus



COLOR: Emerald Green

PRODUCT: Orior Michael Sofa

“The green color nods to our heritage as an Irish company which we thought was important on such a statement piece like this sofa, which was designed with the idea to push materials and textures. We really wanted to create a statement piece which would push buttons. As a brand that is new to the scene in Tribeca, New York, it would be amazing to create a conversation around a solid brass sofa in green silk velvet and matte leather, which is something we haven't really seen before. The arms also create a hollow channel all the way through the sofa to give it more of a weightless feel, which created a great dynamic between the extreme weight of it and the weightless aesthetic.”

EXPERT: Jordan Trinci-Lyne, Senior Designer, Orior



COLOR: Pink Ground #202 & Tallow #203

PRODUCT: Farrow & Ball Paint

“Pink Ground #202 & Tallow #203 are two Farrow & Ball paint colors that I think represent “circadian colors”—higher temperature colors that add an element of ease. If I use cool, awake colors, it is only in touches in an understated way—and outside the bedroom. I am looking for the settling, calming experience that colors like Pink Ground and Tallow bring. I have been specifying, creating, and curating colors and palettes that my clients respond to subconsciously. The nuances may not be obvious to them, but I see a significant difference in both emotional responses as well as aesthetic results. One doesn't have to be a color aficionado to appreciate it.

I try to fine tune the experience. Sometimes colors have warm undertones that you don't necessarily see but you experience. The spirit is disguised in the color and it reads true and consistent. My hope is for an appreciation of the energy it brings.

Pink ground #202 & Tallow #203 by Farrow & Ball are two packaged colors that have this vibe. Although they are numbered in sequence, there is no relation. They actually don't even sit near each other on the color chart fan. The similarity is that they are not sharp; they don't slant anywhere near blue or green. There is no chill to them at all. They have sunnier qualities that supports wellness.”

EXPERT: Martin Kesselman, Interior designer and Owner, INCOLOUR



COLOR: Equator

PRODUCT: Knoll Color Collage Upholstery

"Color Collage upholstery in Equator is less about a specific color inspiration, but more about color theory and the impact of combining unexpected tones. The challenge of developing Color Collage was combining unexpected colors into dynamic and bold large-scale pattern. But it is difficult to speak about color without also considering the construction of the fabric. Color Collage was woven on a tapestry loom with 5 colors in both the weft and warp directions. This complex set up directly impacts the relationship of the colors. Color Collage in Equator combines traditional hues of navy and brown with pops of orange and plum. Interludes of ivory provide a rest. The result is a multifaceted mixture of color that allows the eye to travel across the fabric. Overall, the pattern commands attention without overwhelming the environment."

EXPERT: Dorothy Casonas, Creative Director, KnollTextiles



COLOR: Waterborn - Poudre 603

PRODUCT: Ligne Roset Astair Armchair

"The new Astair armchair is upholstery in this powdered rose color to embody a "Néo Memphis" spirit. We took the geometric shapes used to build the chair's silhouette and, instead of showing them in bright, saturated colors, we modernized them with a soft, subdued shade found most often on rose petals. Ligne Roset designs are meant to be creative, in concept and shape, yet must remain usable every day. This color is a desirable hue across many lifestyles. It's a new version of neutral, with enough personality to stand out, while still being calming to the eye."

EXPERT: Simone Vingerhoets-Ziesmann, Managing Director Americas, Roset USA Corporation



COLOR: Black

PROJECT: The Chen Agency, Weehawken, NJ

"Black represents versatility. It can stand on its own, provide depth and drama, form a striking color combination (who doesn't love a classic black-and-white look?), create one intense accent wall, and/or act as a neutral. Each manner in which it is applied can translate to a different design style—filling a growing need in today's market. Today more designers understand the dynamic, versatile tendencies of this particular hue, so its popularity will continue to grow. Black signifies elegance and luxury. Although I prefer to see things through rose-colored glasses, I do love seeing black hues in my commercial designs."

EXPERT: Vanessa Deleon, founder and owner, Vanessa Deleon Associates



COLOR: Fustic Wood

PRODUCT: Shaw Contract Dye Lab Contract

"Inspired by the natural dye of the same name that mostly yields bright clear yellows but can at times produce deep saturated greens, Fustic Wood, a deep and lush shade of green takes on a unique and natural appearance, mimicking variations in saturation and organic marbling found in hand-dyed fabric. The irregular application of color is achieved through an innovative technique in our manufacturing process and offers more depth than the standard level use of color."

Naturally-inspired colorways in interior elements are more important than ever since the average person spends 90% of their time indoors. As designers and end users select materials that bring authenticity and warmth to their spaces, Fustic Wood offers restoration in a shade that's comforting and familiar."

EXPERT: Ashley Olson, Design Director, Workplace Studio

contract

FEATURE

Appodeal, a company that monetizes ads for app publishers, hired Studio11 to create an eye-catching space for its Minsk headquarters. Working off Appodeal's brand color (red), the designers infused the office with bold hues, unexpected materials, and whimsical touches.



Vibrant combinations of color and materials, playful wayfinding, and innovative collaboration solutions create a stylish office space for Appodeal.



Appodeal isn't a Silicon Valley company with a household name. The business monetizes ads for app publishers—a niche business that doesn't directly impact most consumers. But for its headquarters in Minsk, Belarus, it wanted to go high profile with workspaces that would be visible to everyone walking past its five-story office building. So, it commissioned local architectural studio Studio11, known for its use of bold colors, to design a space that would be as eye-catching from the outside as it would be cozy in the inside. After all, in a competitive talent market, a comfortable, well-designed, and fashionable office is an attractive perk that recruiters can use to lure in-demand engineers.

"The brief we received from Appodeal was detailed and elaborate," says Studio11's Maksim Vavinski, "and reflected the needs of its employees, who required comfortable and well-thought-out workplaces, soft and even lighting, and lots of surfaces for writing." To satisfy Appodeal's last demand, Studio11 scattered marker boards throughout the space—even incorporating them into the furniture and equipping luminous glass partitions that employees can write on—to encourage impromptu collaboration. Spontaneous discussion of a fresh idea can happen anywhere, according to Vavinski. "The goal was to inspire the employees to move, change their position during

bringing work to life

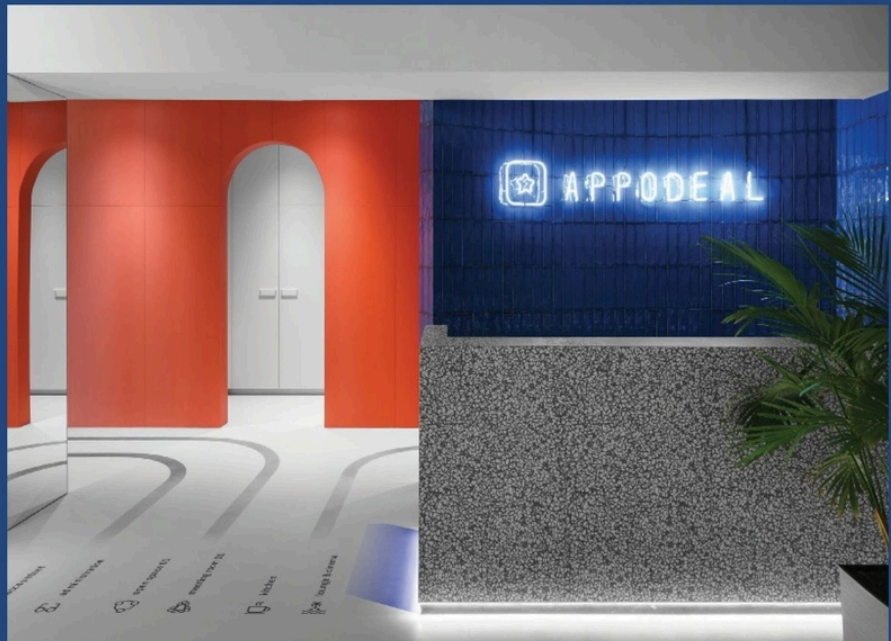
By Belinda Lanks
Photography by
Dmitry Tsyrencshikov

contract

FEATURE



Seating niches (above) perform double duty: They provide a feeling of seclusion in an open-plan office and fill in awkward spaces in the building's nonstandard geometry. Inspired by gaming, Studio11 designed a navigation system on the floor (right), directing visitors from reception to other areas in the 11,604-square-foot space.





the working day, change the angle of view, and feel free in the office, both physically and mentally," he says.

Although collaboration is essential at Appodeal, as it is at any tech startup, Studio11 also provided an antidote to the open-office gripes of endless distractions and lack of noise control by providing seating niches, coffee stations, and lounge areas where employees can sit, chat, and decompress.

"Whenever the employees wish to get a feeling of seclusion, such need is answered by an abundance of soft niches with tables, meeting rooms, and the option of separating some of the tables with curtains." Niche seating spaces were also a strategy for filling irregular spaces in a building with nonstandard geometry.

Appodeal asked that its brand color—red—appear prominently in the space. That request led the designers to choose an intense accent palette that includes blue, yellow, and orange, which not only catches the notice of passersby, but also responds to Minsk's famously overcast weather. "We wanted to balance a lot of cloudy days with rich, bright spots," Vavinski says. At reception, the company's logo appears in neon—the light bouncing off a dark-blue tiled background. The communal kitchen, also on the ground floor, features canary-yellow cabinetry and polished stainless-steel counters. Upstairs, the first floor is awash in mint and emerald hues, while

APPODEAL

Interior Designer **Studio11**

Client **Appodeal**

Where **Minsk, Belarus**

What **11,604 square feet across five floors**

Cost/sf **Withheld at client's request**



contract

FEATURE



A soft blue curtain wraps around a flexible meeting area and offsets a wall of glossy tile (top). "The meeting room inside the curtains is very popular," says Studio11's Maksim Vavinski, who used curtains elsewhere (above) to provide the option of privacy. A wall with a Mondrian-esque pattern in mint and sea blue acts as a room divider.

the second floor features yellow highlights along with mint and sea blue.

To help navigate the 11,604-square-foot space, Studio11, inspired by gaming, designed a wayfinding system of thick lines that decorate the floor. The stripes aren't just a practical element, Vavinski, notes; they "emphasize the plasticity of shapes and the nature of movement." In one spot, a stripe playfully circumvents an existing column. "Moving along is like a little adventure," the designer says.

An assortment of residential materials, such as velvet upholstery and tile on the walls around a small meeting space, creates a less corporate, more relaxed feel for Appodeal's young, progressive team. "We tried to make the space diverse, and one of the ways to achieve this goal was using a variety of materials," Vavinski says. In a secluded meeting space, a soft blue curtain encloses the area and offsets a backdrop of glossy tile. "It may be noted that the meeting room inside the curtains is very popular," says Vavinski, who used curtains elsewhere as a way of giving the option of privacy.

Despite the stylish environs, the designers acknowledge that employees may need more than an endless coffee supply to combat the fatigue of working long hours. A few additional perks may do the trick: a pair of nap stations, a videogame arcade, and a massage room round out the basement level.



Project Credits

Interior designer Studio11

Selected Sources

Paint NCS
Interior lighting Arlight
Workstation/task seating Steelcase
Conference seating Profim
Lounge/reception seating IKEA
Conference tables Profim
Cafeteria/dining tables IKEA, customized
Training tables Steelcase
Reception desk Custom
Shelving IKEA, customized
Lockers/cubbies Custom
Closet systems Custom
Drawers/casegoods IKEA

contract

FEATURE

A cool palette of matcha green, powder blue, and millennial pink reinvigorates and brightens the gelateria while subliminally beckoning patrons on a hot summer day. Brass accents lend a classy touch.



Studio Roslyn envisions a modern sweet-treat shop inspired by the history and design elements of Italian gelaterias.

fresh flavor

BELLA GELATERIA

Interior Designer **Studio Roslyn**

Client **Bella Gelateria**

Where **Vancouver, British Columbia**

What **900 square feet across one floor**

Cost/sf **Withheld at client's request**



By Sheila Kim
Photography
by Lauren Zbarsky

Regularly competing in gelato-making competitions in Italy and serving artisanal flavors like Black Sesame, Earl Grey Tea, and Akbar Mashti, Bella Gelateria is anything but an ordinary frozen-treat shop. Yet its existing store at mixed-use development Fairmont Pacific Rim in Vancouver, British Columbia, read like a dated and clichéd ice-cream parlor, down to its old-fashioned black-and-white checkerboard floor. As its ownership was changing hands in 2017 to 2018, the time seemed ripe for a renovation. The new owner, as well as the Fairmont property developer, turned to local design firm Studio Roslyn to refresh and reinvigorate the store's 540-square-foot front-of-house space—but with a speedy turnaround of just one month.

REUSE AND RENEW

Studio Roslyn principals Jessica MacDonald and Kate Snyder explored the history and design elements of gelato and gelaterias in Italy, reinterpreting these in a modern vocabulary for the project. Given such a short window of time, the designers retained but updated certain existing built-in features, such as the main serving and transaction counter, which also doubles as a barrier to the back-of-house kitchen. A basic L-shaped construction, the counter had potential with its raised-wainscoting detail running along the front. They elected to keep the paneling and the counter's hygienic stainless-steel top but painted the wood a satin-finish soft white and covered the toe-kick in a brass tone, resulting in a more polished look.

In contrast, the designers spared original millwork on a backwall behind the counter to present an intriguing juxtaposition of old and new. While they didn't paint over the warm wood, they added small-yet-impactful touches such as brass hardware and a fresh coat of pastel

contract

FEATURE



green paint within the two niches framed by radiused openings. They used this same hue on existing crown molding throughout the space.

AN ENTICING PALETTE

New hues, in fact, played a huge part in refreshing the rest of the cafe. “The client wanted cooler colors so that on a hot summer day, you’d feel inclined to come in and have a scoop of gelato,” MacDonald explains. On the soffit of the dropped ceiling behind the counter, blue stripes abstractly reference awnings one might encounter at an old-school gelateria in Italy. Complementary powder-blue appears in laminate for new tabletops and a bar counter, as well as in vinyl upholstery for the seat of a custom banquette. The latter, constructed of plywood and veneer, features a brass-laminate toe-kick that matches the counter treatment and a light-green vinyl on the seat back to coordinate with the painted niches and molding. White powder-coated dining- and bar-height stools with blue seats mix in perfectly.

Wood-simulating tiles replace the old checkerboard flooring and help brighten and seemingly enlarge the space. Along the same lines, the bulk of the walls—which previously were beige with black-and-white stripes—were repainted a clean matte white.

TOPPED WITH WHIMSY

The walls were also previously used to sport the business’s media coverage and various accolades but mostly created visual clutter. Now, these surfaces display lovely artwork depicting fresh ingredients used in some of the shop’s flavors—chocolate, sprigs of mint, coffee beans, and pomegranate—on a soft pink background. Studio Roslyn composed the ingredients as still life and collaborated with local

photographer Lauren Zbarsky to capture the images and silhouette them for this purpose. Echoing the arches of the back-wall millwork, these radiused centerpieces are accentuated by brass framing brackets. (A similar brass-framed detail greets guests in the form of a simple blue panel, sans artwork, on the serving counter section closest to the entrance.) These graphics pop up again in custom-printed pink wallpaper, adding drama and flair to the existing restroom.

MacDonald explains that the gelateria is located in a major business center, amidst chain cafes and coffee shops. “By contrast, Bella Gelateria stands out for how unique, playful, and artful it is,” she says. “And the pale color tones work perfectly with the subdued colors of the store’s gelato flavors.”



The designers reused the existing counter, painting it white and applying a brass toekick, as well as the back-wall millwork, where they painted the niches green. A light blue-and-white-striped soffit evokes awnings of traditional Italian cafes (opposite). Still life shots of gelato ingredients serve as original artwork. The banquette sports wood veneer that matches the existing millwork and upholstery that reflects the new palette. Brass hardware refreshes the old millwork located on the back wall. Light-blue laminate covers tabletops and counters (clockwise from left).

Project Credits

Interior designer Studio Roslyn

Studio Roslyn project team Kate Snyder, Jessica MacDonald, and Emma Grant

Contractor Encore Projects

Graphics Glasfurd & Walker

Selected Sources

Wallcoverings Custom wallpaper by Studio Roslyn

Paint Benjamin Moore

Laminate Wilsonart

Hard flooring Zenith, supplied by Stone Tile

Pendants/chandeliers Gubi, supplied by Inform Interiors

Sconces Old Faithful Shop

Hardware Emtek, supplied by Bradford Hardware

Cafeteria/dining seating Division 12

Upholstery Naugahyde Vinyl (banquettes built by Encore Projects)

Cafeteria/dining table tops Wilsonart, built by Encore Projects

Custom table tops, banquette seating, and service station Encore Projects

Planters, accessories Uline, Cal-Mil, EQ3



contract

FEATURE

The NDIS office was designed to be accessible to people of all abilities. Employees and visitors have flexibility and comfort with tables and chairs in a range of sizes and heights. Lush foliage is placed throughout the space to add a natural element to the interior, while plenty of light envelops the space in a warm glow.



Woods Bagot designs an accessible office for Australia's National Disability Insurance Scheme that embraces people of all abilities.

all. inclusive

By Anna Zappia
Photography by
Shannon McGrath

NDIS OFFICE

Architect and Interior Designer
Woods Bagot

Client **National Disability
Insurance Scheme**

Where **Geelong, Victoria,
Australia**

What **150,700 square feet
across five floors**

Cost/sf **Withheld at client's
request**

It is estimated that 4.3 million Australians have some form of disability. The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) is the country's first national plan. When its rollout is complete in 2020, the NDIS will provide approximately 460,000 people with permanent and significant disabilities funding for support and services, including home modifications, personal care, and mobility equipment.

An integrated fit-out by Woods Bagot, the NDIS office in Geelong, Australia, provides accessibility for all, and empowers people with disabilities by promoting equality—regardless of gender, age, or aptitude, everyone can move comfortably throughout the interior. The architects worked with Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) consultants to create a workplace that exceeds the country's current disability design criterion, yet it looks anything but institutional. "We really focused on bringing design elements together with the accessibility standards and guidelines," says Stuart Paterson, Woods Bagot senior interior designer.

Traditional accessibility features like elevators and increased circulation for wheelchair users were at the forefront, but elements like tactility and tone were also masterfully incorporated throughout the building. "We had to go through all of the practical considerations, which were reviewed and

scrutinized. We then started thinking about how to introduce color and contrast to create all of these zones and spaces. So, that's what we explored, and we really took it to the next level," Paterson explains.

To encourage movement throughout the office, the team decided to incorporate collaboration hubs centrally located on each floor, linked by a stairway as well as elevators, which visually and physically connect teams across all of the floors.

However, there is not a sharp demarcation for differentiation of these office zones, but rather a softer transition between the spaces, achieved with just the right amount of color. "We looked to the natural landscape as a starting point to develop a palette to orchestrate a variety of experiences that might promote wellbeing," says Sue Fenton, senior associate at Woods Bagot. "What we observed in the natural landscape was a muted color palette that fades in a gradient as opposed to large singular colors."

Leveraging color, the design team established different spaces for a range of work styles and preferences. "The cool blues, grays, and natural timber were used to create a palette that encourages focus and calmness throughout the open plan in the workstation area, and then the warmer tones activate the central collaboration area. The green and blue tones,

contract

FEATURE



The mix of materials used in the NDIS office brings an added richness to the interior, with surfaces that beckon touch. Color enlivens every corner of the space, with the natural landscape serving as the inspiration for the sophisticated palette. The blues, grays, and natural timber create a serene environment that helps ease stress in a busy office. Open areas and wider pathways allow those with mobility issues and wheelchair users to move more freely throughout the space.

and the yellow in the breakout area, represent replenishment,” Paterson adds.

The mix of materials used in the workplace not only brings in an added richness, but also provides tactility that enhances the space, especially for the visually impaired. In the collaboration area, a stainless-steel mesh curtain acts as a translucent screen device that lets in natural light and doesn’t block out the views. “They wanted something that you could run your hand through and know that it is there as a guide, without having a solid wall,” Paterson notes. Even the handrails, normally an afterthought in a work environment, were crafted of timber, giving them a warmth not normally present when a metal railing is used. Each of these details were carefully considered to achieve a perfect interplay between the visual and tactile.

The seamless blending of office and domestic design at the site are what make it so appealing for employees and visitors alike. “We’re finding that the hospitality and residential work that we do is influencing workplace design more now because people want a greater sense of home and calmness. The NDIS project was about relating to the landscape and wanting people to feel comfortable,” says Bronwyn McColl, Woods Bagot principal.

The NDIS office is an equalizer—a place that functions for all and brings high design to all. “We really want people, regardless of their abilities, to enjoy the same spaces equally. You can have beautiful spaces that still have all of the functionality and make people feel included,” McColl adds.

For the NDIS office in Geelong, Woods Bagot integrated several features to make the workplace fully accessible.



Furniture for All

- Wheelchair-accessible counters
- Fully adjustable task chairs
- Electric sit-to-stand desks
- Customized table bases

For the Visually Impaired

- Braille signage and wayfinding
- Customized utility joinery to accommodate braille printers
- Color contrast on switches and general power outlets

For the Hearing Impaired

- Fire alarm system featuring strobe lighting
- Hearing augmentation systems in all meeting rooms
- High level of acoustic treatment throughout the space

Project Credits

Architect and interior designer Woods Bagot
Woods Bagot project team Bruno Mendes, Jordon Saunders, Rob Donegan, Stuart Paterson, Sue Fenton, Michael Groppo, Joyce Yang, Isabelle Colquhoun, and Fernanda Eusebio
Contractor Kane Constructions
Lighting Norman Disney & Young
Engineering Norman Disney & Young
Graphics Diadem
Acoustician NDY Norman Disney & Young
Access consultant Access & Architecture
Joinery Tenon Joinery

Selected Sources

Resilient flooring Spectrum Flooring
Carpet/carpet tile Interface Carpets
Architectural glass/glazing Glassworks

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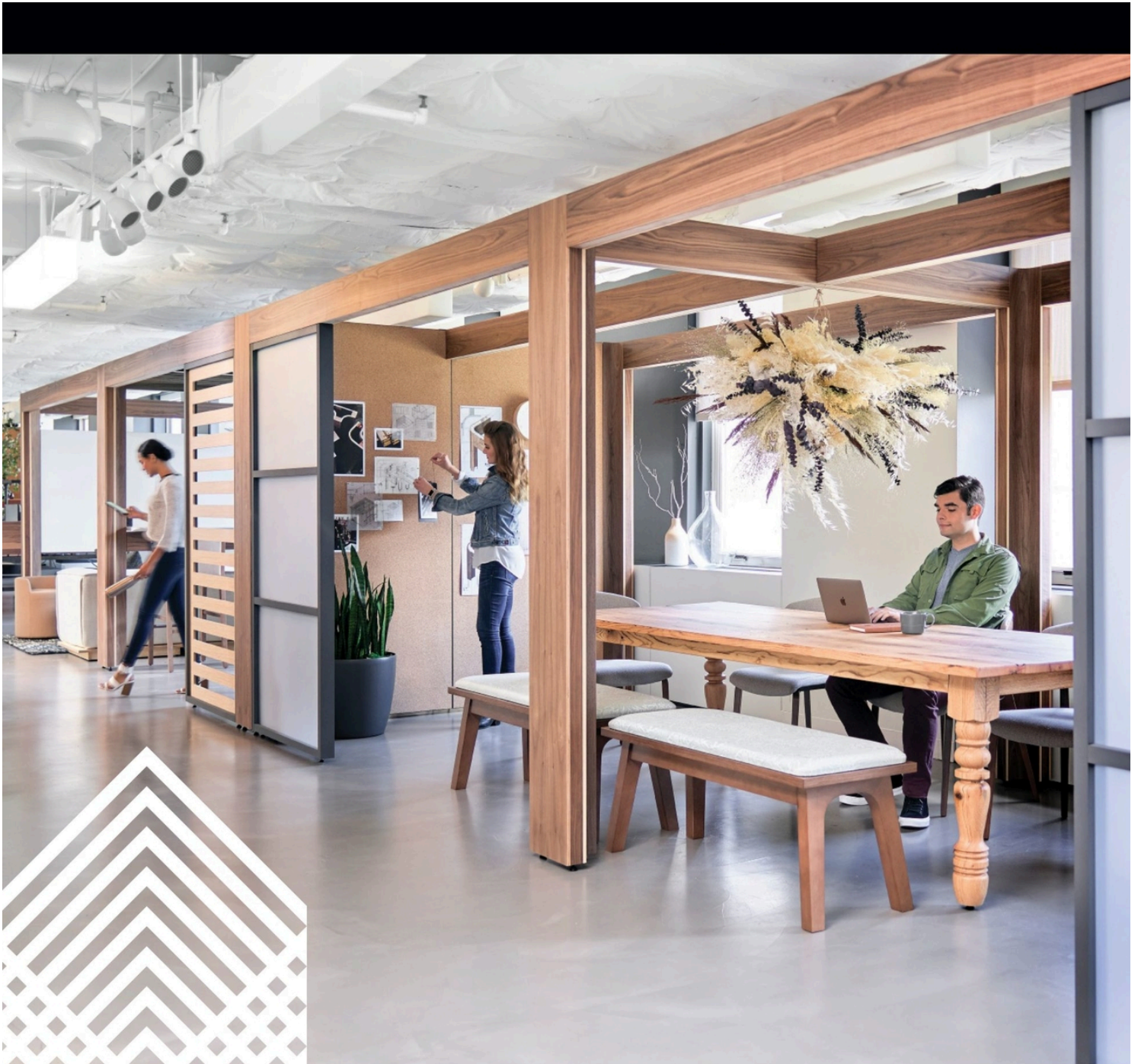
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You and your client will be honored at the 41st Annual Interiors Awards Breakfast in New York January 31, 2020. Your project will also be published in the January/February 2020 issue of Contract magazine.

Categories

- 01 Large Office (25,000 sf+)
- 02 Small Office (up to 25,000 sf)
- 03 Hotel
- 04 Restaurant
- 05 Healthcare
- 06 Retail
- 07 Education
- 08 Public/Civic
- 09 Showroom/Exhibit
- 10 Sports/Entertainment
- 11 Spa/Fitness
- 12 Historic Restoration
- 13 Adaptive Reuse
- 14 Sustainable (Green) Design
- 15 Lobby Repositioning
- 16 Student

Contract reserves the right to extend the deadline for entries and will promote any such extensions.



Best of NeoCon® 2019 Winners

BEST OF NEOCON® 2019

Best of NeoCon® 2019

Eighty-three awards were distributed in the 30th annual Best of NeoCon competition



Contract Editor in Chief Paul Makovsky (4) and Managing Editor Lauren Volker presented 83 awards during the Best of NeoCon Breakfast at the Best of NeoCon competition in Chicago on June 10. The Best of Competition distinction went to OFS for Obeya. In addition to Gold and Silver Awards, eight Innovation Awards and six Editors' Choice Awards were given.

A total of 340 products were entered in 42 categories in this year's competition. The 41-member jury was composed of interior designers and architects, as well as corporate, healthcare, and institutional facilities management executives who are responsible for selecting and buying furniture and furnishings for their organizations or clients. Seven jury teams viewed presentations on each product in person at showrooms throughout The Mart. Manufacturers and product designers discussed product details and answered jurors' questions.

The Best of NeoCon competition is presented by *Contract* magazine and sponsored by NeoCon and The McGraw-Hill Construction. Winners are featured on contractdesign.com, neocon.com, and mcmorrowreports.com.

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What's important to people is changing. We need to change with them and make products that meet their needs. The cheap way out isn't fair to the customer. People need something they can count on to last for years to come. Money is a factor. We need to convince the person in charge that this will last and will make a positive difference for the people in their spaces. Our customers have to make decisions every day. We aim to make products that help streamline the selection process. Providing people with a safe, pleasing, comfortable place to do business isn't just a priority, it's a passion. Making a space that people want to work in starts with the flooring. The right flooring sets the tone for the rest of the space. For the people in charge, it's about function and form. We have to be the best at both. Companies and their employees have high standards. We strive to live up to them. They don't speak our language. But we have to speak theirs and help their vision come to life. It's our job to make them look good. Flooring is what people use the most, but think about the least. To do it right, we have to talk to the people who use the floors. From the manager, workers, and the custodial staff - everyone matters.

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BEST OF NEOCON® 2019

Best of Competition

The jury honored OFS with the top Best of NeoCon award for Obeya





Through the richness of wood, Obeya's design was intended to simplify and define space. The architectural product is a framework that brings settings and people together accordingly, based on the human needs of privacy and belonging.

Intended to simplify and define space within the open office, Obeya from OFS was named the 2019 Best of NeoCon Best of Competition winner. The 41-member jury selected Obeya from 340 new products entered into the annual competition.

Designed for OFS by Webb Associates, the product was also honored with a Gold Award in the Architectural Products category.

"The vision of Obeya was to capture the needs of the ever-evolving workplace and to aid in sparking interaction and inspiring connection amongst the employees," says Molly Prior, director of marketing, OFS. "From small individual pods to full size conference rooms, Obeya sets the tone for a work environment designed for collaboration or concentration and everything in between."

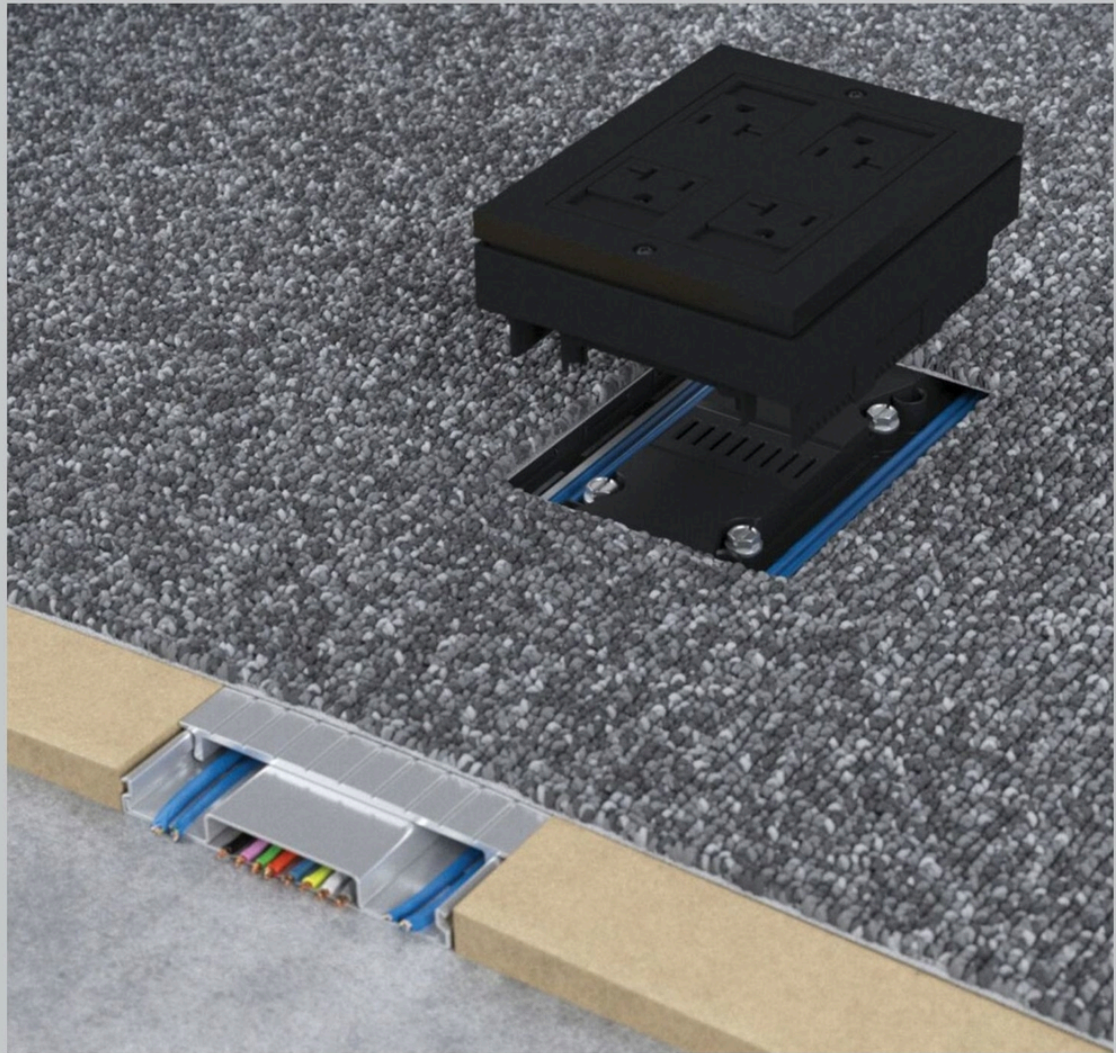
Made of wood, a material that is important to the company's foundation, Obeya is designed to bring a homey, warm feeling to spaces and harmonize with the products surrounding it. In addition, a wide variety of panel types and dressings make the structure highly customizable.

"Never before has there been a product that embodied OFS more than this one," Prior says. "We didn't want to shy away from or conceal the imperfections, but rather embrace the honesty and genuine nature of wood and what it naturally brings to a space. From the plywoods marrying up to the hardwoods and then faced with veneer, this product tells a beautiful story about sustainability and true authenticity." —LAUREN VOLKER

contract

BEST OF NEOCON® 2019 ADVERTORIAL

Winner Profile: CONNECTRAC®



Connectrac Flex™

Jurors' Comments

- » Highly supports current workplace trend of flexible/mobile furniture. It is easy to reconfigure. Data gets ganged with power.
- » I already spec the original product, so I like the new flexibility of the modules.
- » New generation of product with a nice system with snap-in-the-floor boxes.
- » Wiring UL 111 rated. Easy to adapt for future flexibility.
- » Very functional. Interesting approach to solving an everyday problem.
- » Great enhancement! Love the interchangeability!
- » Taking it to the next level. We love that you can interchange the power and furniture connection.
- » Fantastic, seamless solution for flexible connectivity.
- » Aesthetically, it is exactly what designers and end-users want.

Silver Award: Architectural Products

Innovation Award: Technology-Integrated Solutions

Connectrac® is the leader in connectivity solutions for commercial interior spaces. Our new Flex™ products provide invisible, movable power connections throughout a space via a unique floor-based raceway system. We are quick to install and change without disruption unlike core drilling, trenching, and power poles.

connectracflex.com



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BEST OF NEOCON® 2019 ADVERTORIAL

Winner Profile: takeform



Lucid Refined Interior Signage

Jurors' Comments

- » Beautiful, clean, seamless design. Wonderful that the screws and fasteners are hidden.
- » Very adaptable to a wide variety of design motifs.
- » The design options for this Lucid product are marvelous as well as the back rail for framing options.
- » Super clean design. Nice flexibility in design and application.
- » Very well designed system and the flexibility of the Plexi placement is interesting!
- » This product is simply beautiful and elegant.
- » Beautiful, sleek and clean product.
I like the elegant simplicity of each piece and easily can see my clients loving it, too!
- » Beautiful and adaptable system.

Gold Award: Signage & Wayfinding

Lucid is the highly-refined signage platform from Takeform created for spaces with contemporary, minimalist aesthetics. Every detail, an exercise in refinement. Mounting hardware concealed. Every line pure. Interplay with light creates diffused highlights and shadows that add depth to sign and space. Lucid is understated confidence. Quietly articulate, never overbearing.

Takeform.net

When minimal is optimal.



Conceived as the ideal complement to inspiring, luminous interior design, Lucid is as creative as it is refined.

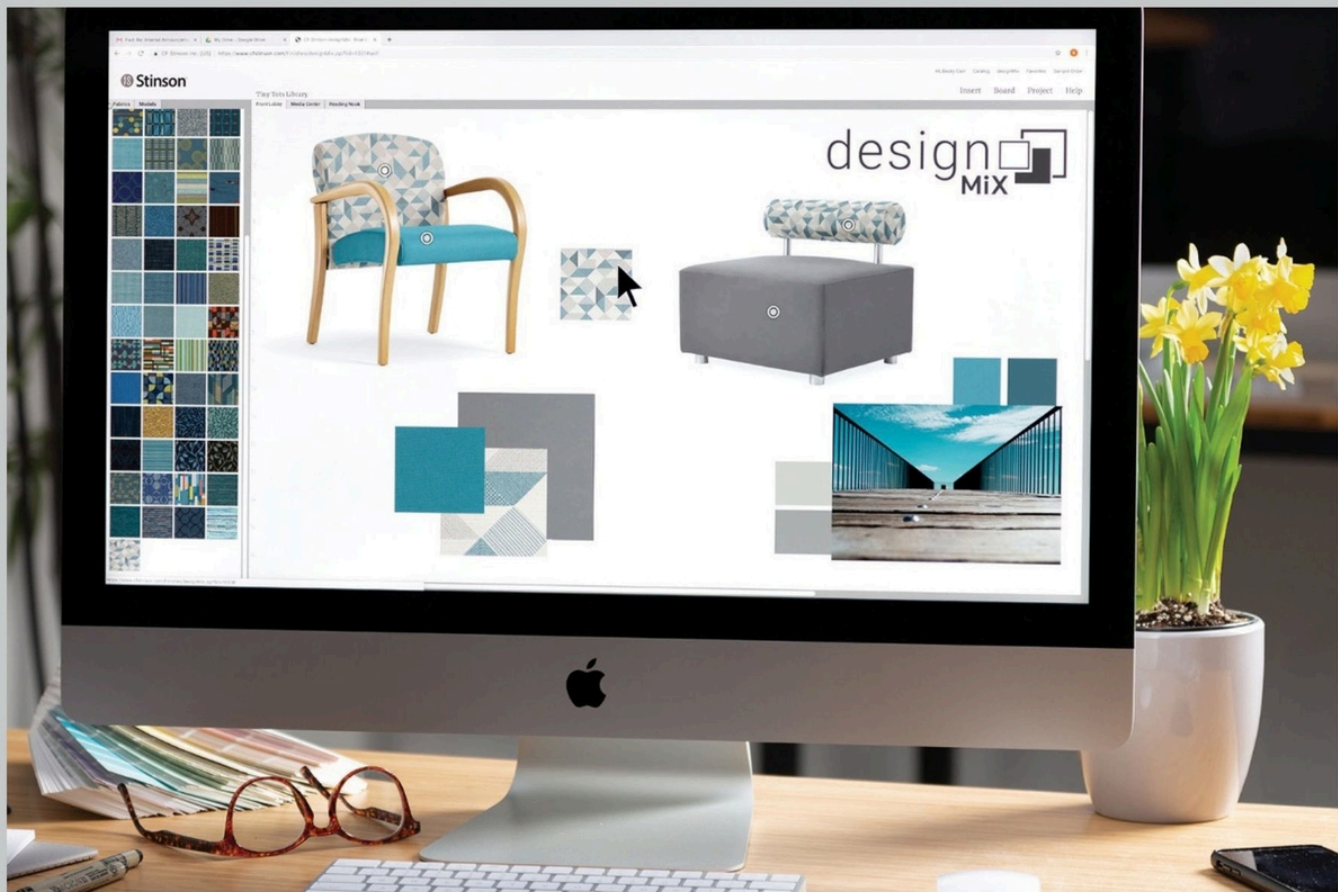
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BEST OF NEOCON® 2019 ADVERTORIAL

Winner Profile: Stinson®



designMix™ with colorAI

Jurors' Comments

- » A really great FREE tool for designers.
- » It really makes things easier for individuals to create image boards.
- » I see this being used a lot with designers. Love that it can pull colors from an image, lets you play with options and then save it.
- » It's nice that Stinson lets other products in to the tool as well.
- » Scale is helpful for rendering sake. Would be beneficial toward more corporate furniture.
- » This is pretty useful as an everyday application. Pantone colors linked to AI. User friendly.

Gold Award: Workplace Technologies

designMix with colorAI is an innovative visual design platform that makes specifying easy, fast and fun. The drag and drop interface allows you to create design boards with our fabrics, your own images, colors and labels. Visualization tools allow you to preview materials applied to furniture, instantly. Proprietary colorAI technology allows you to pull colors from inspirational images and immediately find fabrics that coordinate.

cfstinson.com

Winner Profile: H A L C O N



HALO Office

Jurors' Comments

- » The HALO edge is an innovative solution to an ongoing issue with office furniture—especially in smaller office foot prints. This is a subtle element that has been fully expanded into a very high-design solution for private offices and case goods.
- » Exceptional attention to detail has been given to the functional storage solutions for wardrobe and shoes, printers and shredders.
- » Integration of the height-adjustable control and soft edge is nice. The cantilevered sit-stand is seamlessly engineered, unique, and innovative.
- » Clean modesty view and veneer matching is great. Beautiful detailing. The thin shelf is great and can support a full load.

Gold Award: Case Goods

Silver Award: Furniture Systems & Enhancements

HALO Office brings lasting beauty and innovation to the workspace. Encircled by the HALO soft edge, unique protection is provided for both desk and chair with patent-pending impact-resistance. Cleanly integrated adjustable-height controls, smart cable management, and breathtaking cantilevered surfaces create functional, visually-stunning desking solutions. Thoughtful, modern storage components configure to meet every need and create perfectly-tailored solutions for your unique office.

www.HALCONfurniture.com

contract

BEST OF NEOCON® 2019 ADVERTORIAL

Winner Profile: kwalu.



Prizzi Lounge

Jurors' Comments

- » Love this chair! Kwalu has always gotten an A+ in performance, and it is nice to see them step it up with their design as well.
- » Kwalu has come up several notches in the past few years, now combining credible science with contemporary design; well done and worthy, keep going!
- » Terrific new frame composition material—using steel wool to buff out Sharpie marker is fabulous! The fact that it looks like a wood frame but is a more durable material certainly answers a need in healthcare environments.
- » I love the look of this chair. It has a great and comfortable sit. The rounded back gives a nod to residential without looking too trendy. The finish on the frames is something I'm excited to share with my clients. Well done! Beautiful shape and style with a unique construction at a great price point.
- » The Prizzi Lounge is elegant and will work well in most locations.

Gold Award: Healthcare Guest & Lounge Seating

Prizzi Lounge's patented steel-reinforced joint system uses over 20 pieces of steel to support smooth and independent ingress and egress. Prizzi features an upholstered back and seat with an integrated seat cushion, and concealed clean-out eliminates debris build-up behind the cushion. The arms are one piece and form the back support. Kwalu offers a strong "10-year looks like NEW" finishes and construction warranty for the chair frame, legs and arms.

www.kwalu.com

Winner Profile: National Lighting



Revive

Jurors' Comments

- » Well priced, very useful. Bravo! Well done!
- » Excellent with battery pack. Revive solves a very big issue of mobility.
- » Love the whole concept of wireless mobile charging.
- » Reasonable price point.

Silver Award: Technology-Integrated Solutions

Power without the cord! Charge smart phones, tablets and other 5V USB powered devices with the Revive battery powered charging station from National Lighting. Revive's rechargeable battery (PPB-20) and power tray (PPD-100) are paired with our innovative DOCK-150 wireless charging hub with pop-up USB ports to offer a convenient cordless, portable charging solution. www.nationallighting.com

contract

BEST OF NEOCON® 2019 ADVERTORIAL

Winner Profile: SANDLERSEATING



HDS 1.1

Jurors' Comments

- » Nice looking product. Great stacking ability. Would be even better if 'holes' were to be added to make moving and lifting chairs easier.
- » Impressive stack, capabilities, very nice color palette, plus it is ergonomic.
- » Great density in the stack—would like to see a few more poly options.
- » Overall comfortable and nicely designed.
- » Handsome chair. I appreciate the clean lines and details.

Gold Award: Seating: Stacking

Designed by Luca Fornasari, the HDS 1.1 seating series offers unparalleled stacking properties enabling up to 60 chairs to stack on a single trolley and up to 20 chairs on the ground. Optional ganging devices are also available. This sturdy BIFMA-certified collection features the HDS 1.1 with a seat and back in reinforced polypropylene sitting atop a solid steel rod frame. Six color options are available for the shell and four for the frame.

sandlerseating.com

Winner Profile: spec™



Tailor HD

Jurors' Comments

- » Nice addition to a very solid seating series. Well done!
- » Tailor HD hits the right market need. The styling is nice, introducing more of a residential look that is helpful in comforting patients and family members.
- » Nice addition to behavioral health product line!
- » Tailor HD provides a nicer looking option for behavioral health, which is very difficult to come by.
- » I like the less clinical look and feel of these pieces.
- » The overall design is a huge step for behavioral health furniture.

Silver Award: Healthcare Patient Seating

Where there is a sense of well-being and security, there is an opportunity to socialize and create favorable healing environments. Tailor HD has a rounded silhouette that creates a soothing appeal, and with careful design and heavy-duty build – it meets the needs of the most sensitive health-care spaces.

specfurniture.com

contract

BEST OF NEOCON® 2019 ADVERTORIAL

Winner Profile:



Metroforms with Attraxion Magnetic Attachment Technology

Jurors' Comments

- » We liked the moisture barrier and the new pattern geometry. The benefits of magnetic and fast installation will hopefully save money and time. The layered composition will give greater acoustical value.
- » Innovative idea to solve an installation problem, making complex patterning easy!
- » Very innovative.
- » Love the versatility of this product.

Innovation Award: Category: Flooring: Hard Surface LVT & Planks

Metroflor's Déjà New LVT provides the palette and the foundation for Metroforms with Attraxion Magnetic Attachment Technology. The Attraxion-branded LVT enables the rapid installation of flooring by creating a magnetic attachment using Magnetic Building Solutions' underlayment and eliminating the need for locking systems or adhesives. Metroforms couples the benefits of Metroflor LVT and the Attraxion system—installation speed, indoor air quality, performance and safety—with the ability to add a wide range of pre-cut shapes to achieve custom looks. metroflorusa.com

Winner Profile: TEKNOFLOR®



Teknoflor Coordination Collection

Jurors' Comments

- » Nice visual and color range. Like the smaller particulate and that it's chlorine-free!
- » With the ability to coordinate the same patterns and color ways in different areas and using different scale products—LVT and sheet—true continuity can be achieved.
- » Fantastic concept, beautiful patterns and color!
- » Nice series—well conceived.
- » This collection coordinates the sheet good with the planks and tiles, as well as offers heterogeneous vinyl, homogenous vinyl, and a non-vinyl line. It is truly all-encompassing.
- » This is just what we needed—a collective collection.

Gold Award: Healthcare Flooring

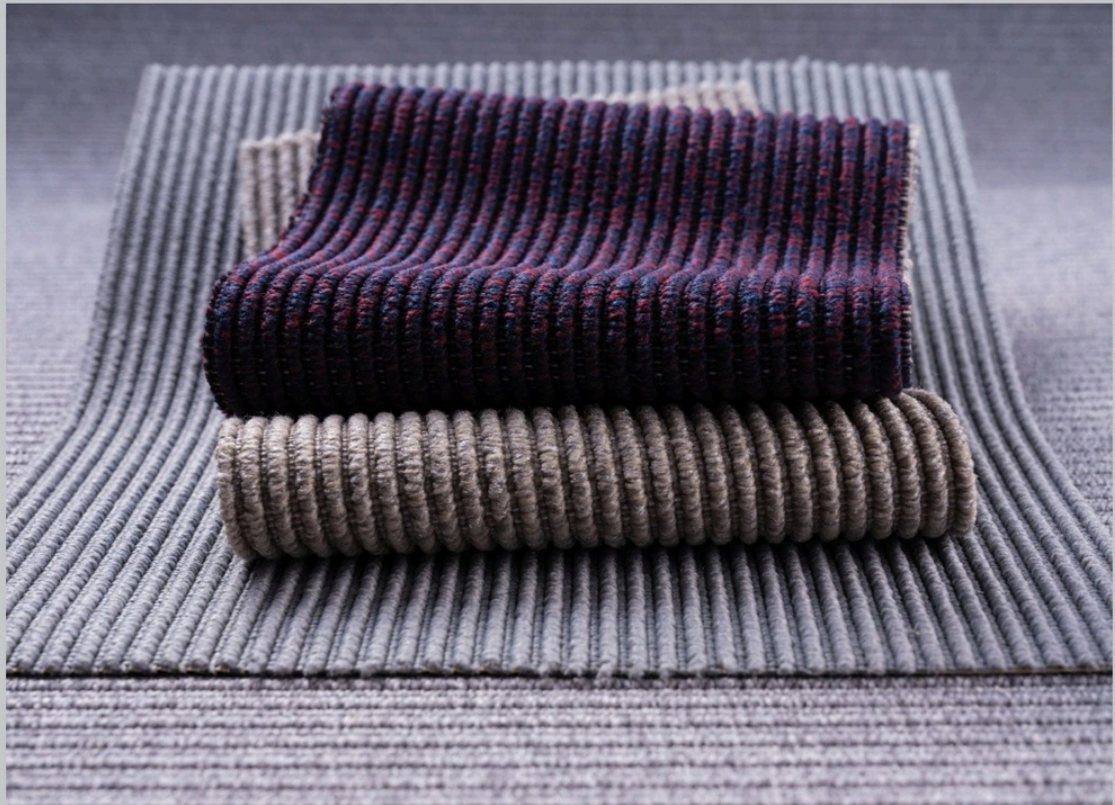
The Coordination Collection includes six products with unique yet collaborative visuals in compositions that make their integration efficient and beautiful through a new level of product flexibility within a project. The collection includes three visuals in both sheet and tile formats—offering the versatility of LVT and the durability of sheet vinyl, without having to switch between visuals, manufacturers or warranties. Each product is designed to transition between its sheet and tile counterparts without the need for bulky transition strips and worry of a tripping hazard.

Teknoflor.com

contract

BEST OF NEOCON® 2019 ADVERTORIAL

Winner Profile: Tarkett



Tatami System: “Broadloom Re-Defined,” featuring A-Line

Jurors' Comments

- » Finally there is a flooring solution designed to flex with today's workplace needs. I really like this system and am looking forward to specifying it.
- » I love the textures! You can have a lot of fun with this product. I love how easily you can define areas in a room. A very different and forward-thinking solution to broadloom.
- » This product is redefining broadloom for the modern contract market. It makes mobility and flexibility intentional and highly supports the current workplace trend of flexible/mobile furniture. It's a rug that's ADA compliant. No installation waste.
- » Great, agile, on-demand solution. It has a really nice tailored color palette and style.

Gold Award: Carpet Broadloom

Broadloom reimagined: Designed by Tarkett's in-house design team, Tatami System is a new flooring product that allows end users to reconfigure their spaces to support independent or collaborative work, while softening acoustics and providing comfort underfoot. Terry Mowers, VP Commercial Design for Tarkett North America, explains the thought process behind Tatami System's design; the functional, performance, and environmental attributes; and what makes the product so revolutionary.

commercial.tarkett.com



Opposite: The palette of A-Line includes eight colorways. Left: In concert with the geometric principles of ritual Japanese Tatami flooring, Tatami System modules are designed to be configured in compatible formats on the floor plane. Multiple sizes and shapes can be positioned to meet floor-plan requirements, covering as much of the workspace as needed or required, with zero waste.

What sets this product apart from other broadloom carpets out there?

The Tatami System Soft Surface Platform disrupts the conventional perception of broadloom carpets. Non-permanent, flexible, mobile, sustainable, and adaptable, Tatami System offers all the attributes of woven and tufted broadlooms—pattern fluidity, texture, volume, seamless visuals, textile warmth, and sound absorption—without the unsightly seams and utilitarian feel of carpet tiles.

How does the functionality of Tatami System add to its usefulness in commercial interiors?

Tatami System consists of four modules—a 6-foot-by-6-foot square, a 6-foot-by-12-foot rectangle, a 12-foot-by-12-foot square, and a large 12-foot-by-24-foot rectangle—that are designed to be combined, taken apart, and reassembled to fit the changing needs of the space without waste. An innovative connection solution allows for modules to be firmly held together as one configured unit, adding lateral strength and stability. And when the need arises, reconfiguration can easily be achieved, as the connection solution is releasable and requires no attachment to the sub-floor.

Each module is made with cationic nylon fibers that are highly durable, abrasion-resistant, and stain/soil-resistant, making them ideal for true high-traffic commercial installations. The tight, densely woven and tufted constructions are built to withstand multiple uses.

What's most noteworthy about the aesthetic?

The sophisticated, elegant, and graceful aesthetic of Japanese Tatami visuals are reintroduced for today's modern, flexible, and technology-infused workspaces, where "islands" of carpet give comfort, luxury, and tactility

for live-work activity. A new Tatami style, A-Line introduces an innovative, near flat-weave structure that in traditional broadloom rolls would show unsightly seams. Available in eight colorways, A-Line is deliberate in its linearity with a super-clean visual that's a natural choice for adding a fresh, yet classic vibe to a host of commercial applications.

In what commercial applications do you see Tatami System being most specified and most successful?

Tatami System modules can be easily configured to meet myriad specification requirements across workplace, hospitality, and learning environments. Simple and easy configurations can cover as much or as little of the floor as needed for acoustical benefits, personalization, wayfinding, and comfort. Given the wide array of textures, colors, patterns, and module sizes, Tatami System broadloom appeals to varied tastes and intended outcomes—from bold and bright to soft, luxurious, and quiet. Each module within a Tatami System can be specified as a different style, infusing a space with fun, dynamic creativity.

How were you environmentally conscious with the design of Tatami?

Designed to be easily reused and reconfigured and made with highly durable materials, construction, and fabrication techniques, portable Tatami System modules extend the life cycle of traditional broadloom floorcoverings by three times. And Tarkett's in-house sourced fiber reduces third-party waste and energy consumption. Installed with zero installation waste, Tatami System modules are treated with Eco-Ensure soil protection technology, a proprietary treatment made with naturally occurring elements, helping it contribute to better indoor air quality while maintaining lasting performance.

contract

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Winner Profile:



Obeya

Jurors' Comments

- » I love the curved edges and the exposed plywood edges. I appreciate the wide breadth of line. It's well thought out and very nicely detailed. I really like the collaborative table that spans "two" rooms. Beautifully detailed. Lots of options. A nice alternative to the metal framing systems on the market.
- » A warm solution to help divide open space that seems to have a lot of options for configurations.
- » I love the concept and execution. Some integrated lighting would be great.

Best of Competition

Gold Award: Architectural Products

Designed by London-based firm Webb Associates, Obeya offers an innovative solution for a workplace setting where hard walls are not preferred. Constructed of rich wood, Obeya's framework defines space based on human needs—creating alcoves that encourage interaction and collaboration or enclosed space for individual privacy. Roger Webb from Webb Associates elaborates on the creative process behind this award-winning product.

ofs.com



Obeya's freestanding, open-ended structures can be customized in a variety of ways to create spaces of different visual and physical functions, needs, and flexibility. Adding screens (left) can create a semi-private enclave, while leaving the structure open (opposite) defines space yet allows for collaboration.

What do you think stood out to the judges to make Obeya the Best of Competition Award-winning product?

Obeya was designed to simplify and define space—from personal pods to conference rooms. Obeya's architectural structure offers a suggestion of an enclave, which can be open or closed and creatively finished to form spaces of different visual and physical functions.

A key element that distinguishes Obeya is materiality. A pointed effort was made to work with wood, as wood is central to the culture of OFS and is a natural sustainable offering. Its rich, tactile properties elevate the atmosphere of a space, ensuring staff feel comfortable and at home. The construction of the crafted posts was technically very difficult to achieve; it would not have been possible without OFS's expertise working with the material.

What is especially unique about this product?

What's especially unique about Obeya is its flexibility and simplicity. The structure can be self-assembled on-site, eliminating the burden of traditional construction. Its knock-down design makes it easy to relocate with little disruption to the operation of the office. Modern businesses need to be responsive and reactive to change. Shorter leases are becoming standard and with it a desire for adaptable office solutions. Obeya is a cost-effective option against traditional office fit-outs.

How does the functionality of Obeya add to its usefulness in commercial interiors?

A new means of working—more casual and open, fueled by the growth in mobile technology—is changing the geography of the office to open plan. Obeya was designed to play an integral role in this evolving landscape by addressing concerns of acoustic and visual privacy. Obeya is dual skinned and can be dressed with both hard and soft surfaces to dampen sound. PET acoustical ceiling baffles and noise dampening curtains can also be added to further deaden sound. Obeya will be defined by the end user's needs.

What's most noteworthy about the aesthetic of Obeya?

From its plywood cores marrying up to the beautiful hardwoods, Obeya embraces the essence of what wood naturally brings to the feeling of a space. A wide variety of accessories can be applied to Obeya, enabling the structure to be customized in a way that reflects the culture of the organization. When required, it can be updated to maintain aesthetic relevance.

contract

BEST OF NEOCON® 2019 ADVERTORIAL

Winner Profile:

**Jurors' Comments**

- » This chair has a lot of highlights: It's comfortable, clean looking, and brings a residential feel.
- » So many options, so beautiful! Price point is fantastic. Stunning work of art for any space.
- » Nice scale and beautiful options for details. Love the inset wood at the back.
- » Very nice aesthetic and wide range of base options/applications. I really like the wood back.

Kasura

Gold Award: Conference Seating

**Jurors' Comments**

- » This is the most versatile and usable product I've seen.
- » The design is very intriguing and inviting. It beckons users to be a part of it. I can see it being used in higher education and office environments. Nicely styled, it has a design presence in the built environment.
- » I like how it can be ganged side to side and back to back. I am very impressed with this out-of-the-box thinking in solving acoustical issues for privacy. I would encourage its use for even private phone conversations in lieu of a phone booth type built solution.
- » Great solution with lighting and power integration. I like the tablet arms.
- » Looks like built-in. It's a smart solution for a non-permanent bench. Aesthetically amazing.

LeanTo

Gold Award: Acoustic Privacy & Modular Solutions

London-based Webb Associates also designed two other award-winning products for OFS: The beautifully upholstered Kasura chair embraces the contours of the end user's body to offer a comfortable sit for any conference setting. And LeanTo creates nooks for private, quiet workspace within today's less-private, open-plan office environment. Roger Webb from Webb Associates discusses the inspiration behind the two products and how they each contribute to the built environment. ofs.com

What were you hoping to accomplish with the designs of Kasura and LeanTo?

We designed Kasura to offer an array of aesthetics coupled with incredible comfort. With Kasura it's all about choice. Available in three different heights (low-, mid-, and high-back), five different base styles, and three outer back materials, Kasura provides options to create a cohesive feel throughout the office. The elegant surround that nestles into the back of the chair can be dressed with an exposed ash veneer in multiple finish options, 11 standard or studio paint colors, or any non-directional fabric.

LeanTo, on the other hand, was designed in response to today's open-plan office environment to create spots for seclusion and privacy. With multiple tablet

and shelf options, lighting, power, as well as color and texture selections, LeanTo creates individualized private space to adequately suit the needs of the end user.

How do the functionality of each product add to their usefulness in commercial interiors?

One of the key features of Kasura is its incredible comfort. This chair started with seating rigs that were adjusted time and again to get the correct ergonomic sit for the broadest range of body types and functions. In addition to comfort we wanted to give clients the freedom of choice. From paints to veneer or upholstery on the back to different base styles and heights, Kasura provides a host of options to satisfy aesthetic and functional needs.

Following in-depth observation and research for LeanTo, we arrived at an aesthetic for this product that feels as if it was built into the office, offering a respite within a bustling workspace. We don't want to specify how to use it for designers; we offer options so that designers can specify how they see it being used, though we do envision LeanTo working well in areas such as hallways, alcoves, and under staircases, where spots for quiet contemplation or private conversation might be useful.

Gold and Silver Awards

ACOUSTIC PANELS & SOLUTIONS

GOLD AWARD

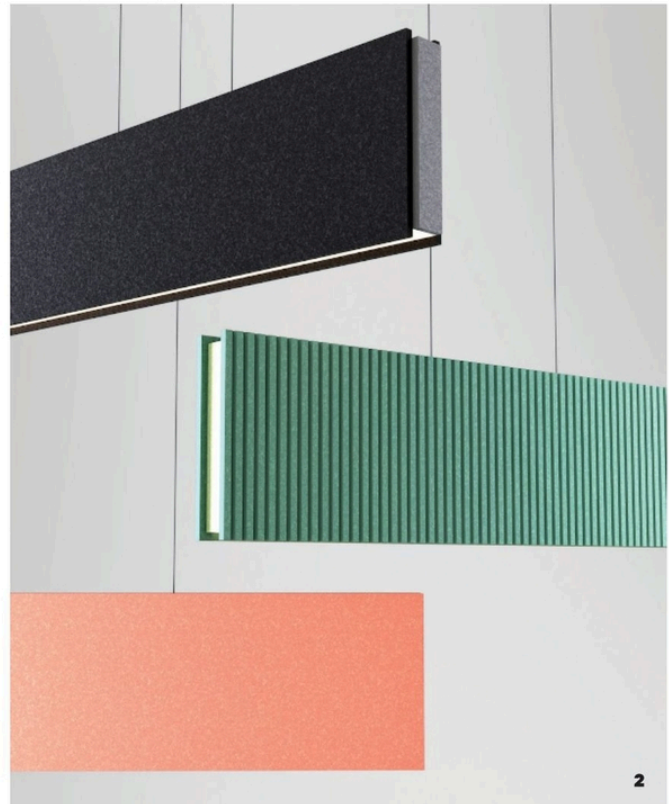
1. Snowsound: FLAT

Designers: Alberto and Francesco Meda

SILVER AWARD

2. Luxxbox: Linea Acoustic LED Lighting System

Designer: Jason Bird, Luxxbox



contract

BEST OF NEOCON® 2019

Gold and Silver Awards

ACOUSTIC PRIVACY & MODULAR SOLUTIONS

GOLD AWARD

3. OFS: LeanTo

Designer: Webb Associates

SILVER AWARD

4. Framery Acoustics: Framery 2Q

Designer: Framery Design Team

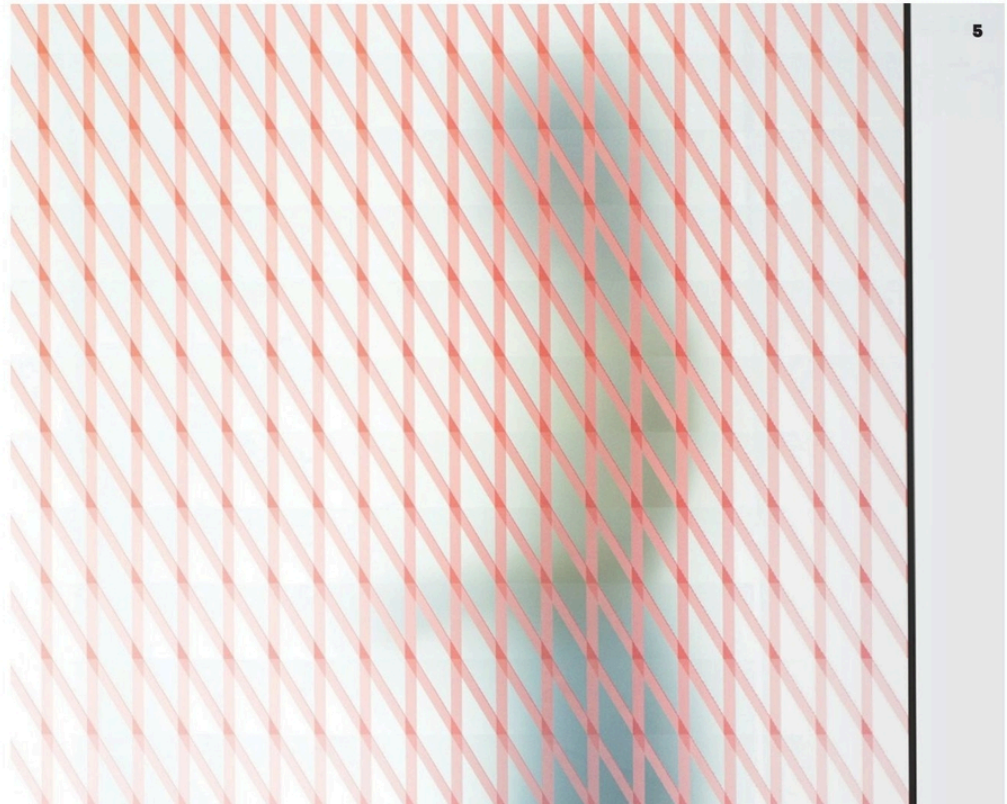


ARCHITECTURAL & DECORATIVE GLASS

SILVER AWARD

5. Skyline Design: Oblique & Chevron

Designers: Ronan and Erwan Bouroullec



ARCHITECTURAL PRODUCTS

GOLD AWARD

6. OFS: Obeya

Designer: Webb Associates

SILVER AWARD

7. Connectrac: Flex

Designer: Christopher Culley, Connectrac



CARPET: BROADLOOM

GOLD AWARD

8. Tarkett: Tatami System

Designer: Tarkett NA Design Team, Tarkett

SILVER AWARD

9. Mohawk Group: Textural Effects

Designer: Jeanette Himes, Mohawk Group



contract

BEST OF NEOCON® 2019

Gold and Silver Awards

CARPET: MODULAR

GOLD AWARD

10. Patcraft: Deconstructed Felt

Designer: Patcraft Creative & Design Team

SILVER AWARD

11. Shaw Contract: Suited

Designer: Shaw Contract Design Team



CASE GOODS

GOLD AWARD

12. HALCON: HALO Office

Designer: Gensler | Product Design Consultant

SILVER AWARD

13. Herman Miller: Geiger One Casegoods

12



13



contract

BEST OF NEOCON® 2019

Gold and Silver Awards



CONFERENCE ROOM FURNITURE

GOLD AWARD

14. Nucraft: Alev

Designer: Birsal + Seck

SILVER AWARD

15. Andreu World: Reverse Wood

Designer: Piergiorgio Cazzaniga



EDUCATION SOLUTIONS**GOLD AWARD****16. VS America: JUMPER**

Designer: Jean Nouvel

SILVER AWARD**17. Keilhauer: Buncha**

Designers: Aaron Duke

Tod Babick, Studio Babick



contract

BEST OF NEOCON® 2019

Gold and Silver Awards



FLOORING: HARD SURFACE LVT & PLANKS

GOLD AWARD

18. Patcraft: Handloom

Designer: Patcraft Creative & Design Team

SILVER AWARD

19. Milliken & Co.: Change Agent LVT

Designer: Laura Roman, Milliken



**FURNITURE COLLECTIONS
FOR COLLABORATION****GOLD AWARD****20. Steelcase: Flex Collection**

Designer: Steelcase Design Studio

SILVER AWARD**21. STYLEX: Free Address**

Designers: Jay Koback and Ehren Gaag, Gensler



contract

BEST OF NEOCON® 2019

Gold and Silver Awards

FURNITURE SYSTEMS & ENHANCEMENTS

GOLD AWARD**22. Watson Furniture Group: Cloud 9 Rail**

Designer: Ethan Pearl

SILVER AWARD**23. HALCON: HALO Office**

Designer: Gensler | Product Design Consultant



22

FURNITURE: BENCHING

GOLD AWARD**24. Innovant: Cross Benching**

Designer: INNstudio, Innovant



23



24



HEALTHCARE FABRICS & TEXTILES

GOLD AWARD

25. Designtex: Biophilia 2.0

Designer: Designtex Design Studio

SILVER AWARD

26. CF Stinson: Chiaroscuro Collection

Designer: Stinson Studio



contract

BEST OF NEOCON® 2019

Gold and Silver Awards

HEALTHCARE FLOORING

GOLD AWARD

27. Teknoflor: Coordination Collection
Designer: Robert Langstaff, Teknoflor

SILVER AWARD

28. Mohawk Group: True Hues
Designer: Di Anna Borders, Mohawk Group



27



28

HEALTHCARE GUEST & LOUNGE SEATING

GOLD AWARD

29. Kwalu: Prizzi Lounge
Designer: David Carlson, Kwalu



29

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AUGUST 2019

HEALTHCARE PATIENT SEATING**SILVER AWARD****30. Spec Furniture: Tailor HD**

Designer: Chris Panichella, Achella Design

**LIGHTING: DECORATIVE & HOSPITALITY****GOLD AWARD****31. Eaton: Shaper Sense Acoustic LED Luminaires**Designers: Sohana Arni and Alex Ross, Eaton Lighting Division
Roger Wall and Joe Carere, Spinneybeck-FilzFelt**SILVER AWARD****32. LightArt: Acoustic Wing**

Designer: LightArt Design Team

contract

BEST OF NEOCON® 2019

Gold and Silver Awards

LOUNGE FURNITURE COLLECTIONS

GOLD AWARD

33. Haworth Inc.: Cabana Lounge

Designer: Patricia Urquiola, Studio Urquiola

SILVER AWARD

34. Andreu World: Rap Sofa

Designer: PearsonLloyd



33



34

MOVABLE WALLS

GOLD AWARD

35. Teknion: Tek Vue

Designer: Teknion In-House Design Team

SILVER AWARD

36. Allsteel: Beyond Pavilion

Designer: Allsteel Design Team



35



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AUGUST 2019

OFFICE ACCESSORIES**GOLD AWARD**

37. Allsteel: Radii
Designer: IDA Design

SILVER AWARD

38. Watson Furniture Group: Cloud 9 Cart and Garage
Designer: Ethan Pearl



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BEST OF NEOCON® 2019

Gold and Silver Awards

SEATING: BAR STOOLS

GOLD AWARD

39. Davis Furniture Industries: Muse Barstool

Designers: Markus Jehs and Jürgen Laub,
jehs+laub



39



40

SEATING: BENCHES

GOLD AWARD

40. Green Furniture Concept: Nova C Perch

Designer: Green Furniture Concept

SILVER AWARD

41. Allermuir: Axyl Bench

Designer: Benjamin Hubert, Layer



41

SEATING: CONFERENCE**GOLD AWARD****42. OFS: Kasura**

Designer: Webb Associates

SILVER AWARD**43. Davis Furniture Industries: M75**Designers: Burkhard Vogtherr
Jonathan Prestwich

42



43

SEATING: ERGONOMIC DESK/TASK**GOLD AWARD****44. via seating: Yunique**Designer: Massimo Costaglia,
Massimo Costaglia Design**SILVER AWARD****45. Nightingale Corp.: NLC**

Designer: William R. Breen, Nightingale Corp.



44



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BEST OF NEOCON® 2019

Gold and Silver Awards

SEATING: GUEST**GOLD AWARD****46. Allermuir: Kin**

Designer: PearsonLloyd

SILVER AWARD**47. Andreu World: Gala**

Designer: Piergiorgio Cazzaniga



SEATING: OUTDOOR CONTRACT & HOSPITALITY**SILVER AWARD**

48. Andreu World: Nuez Outdoor
 Designer: Piergiorgio Cazzaniga

**SEATING: SOFAS & LOUNGE****GOLD AWARD**

49. Andreu World: Rap Sofa
 Designer: PearsonLloyd

SILVER AWARD

50. Green Furniture Concept: Nova C Recliner
 Designer: Green Furniture Concept



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BEST OF NEOCON® 2019

Gold and Silver Awards

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SEATING: STACKING

GOLD AWARD

51. Sandler Seating: HDS 1.1

Designer: Luca Fornasarig, Fornasarig

SILVER AWARD

52. SitOnIt Seating | IDEON: Mika

Designer: ITO DESIGN, in collaboration with SitOnIt Seating



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AUGUST 2019

SIGNAGE & WAYFINDING**GOLD AWARD****53. Takeform: Lucid Refined Interior Signage**

Designer: Kurt Lyons, Takeform

SILVER AWARD**54. 2/90 Sign Systems: SafeCare Signs**

Designer: Derek Benedict, 2/90 Sign Systems

**SPACE DIVIDERS/PARTITIONS/SCREENS****GOLD AWARD****55. Clarus Glassboards: Flex Wall**

Designer: Dony Dawson, Clarus

SILVER AWARD**56. Naava: Naava Flow**

Designer: Naava Design Team 2019

contract

BEST OF NEOCON® 2019

Gold and Silver Awards

TABLES: COMMUNAL & TASK**GOLD AWARD****57. Nucraft: Epono**

Designer: Dani Arps

SILVER AWARD**58. Davis Furniture Industries: Inform**

Designer: Davis Design Team





**TABLES: HEIGHT-ADJUSTABLE/
TRAINING/WORK**

GOLD AWARD

59. Watson Furniture Group: Cloud 9 Desk
Designer: Morten Nikolajsen, Mohoni Studio

SILVER AWARD

60. Senator International: Array

contract

BEST OF NEOCON® 2019

Gold and Silver Awards

61



TABLES: OCCASIONAL

GOLD AWARD

61. Nucraft: Alev

Designer: Birsal + Seck

62



TECHNOLOGY-INTEGRATED SOLUTIONS

GOLD AWARD

62. Steelcase: Roam

Designers: Steelcase Design Studio
in partnership with Microsoft Design

SILVER AWARD

63. National Lighting: Revive

Designer: Kerry Lee, National Lighting Corp.

63



**TEXTILES: UPHOLSTERY****GOLD AWARD****64. HBF: Lost & Found**

Designers: Mary Jo Miller, HBF Textiles
Christiane Müller van Tol

SILVER AWARD**65. Momentum Group: Architectural Textures Collection**

Designer: Sina Pearson



contract

BEST OF NEOCON® 2019

WALL TREATMENTS

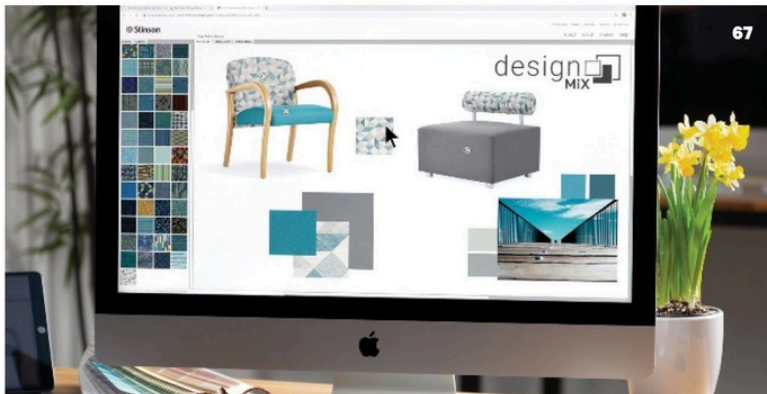
SILVER AWARD

66. **Designtex: Metallic Wallcoverings**

Designer: Designtex Design Studio



66



67

WORKPLACE TECHNOLOGIES

GOLD AWARD

67. **CF Stinson: designMix with colorAI**

Designer: Sample Technologies LLC

SILVER AWARD

68. **FreeAxez: Gridd Mobile**

Designer: Earl Geertgens, FreeAxez



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AUGUST 2019

Innovation Awards



TEXTILES: UPHOLSTERY

INNOVATION

69. Haworth Inc.: Haworth Knits

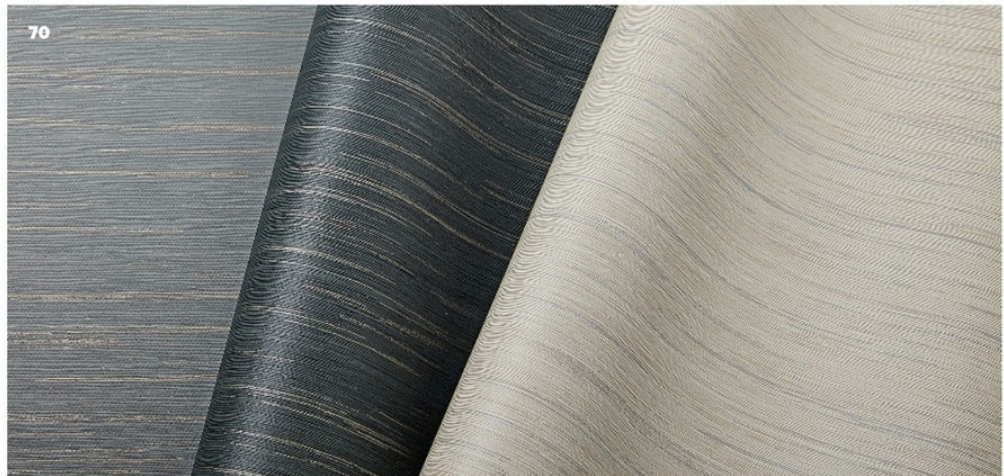
Designer: Haworth Design Studio, Haworth Inc.

69

WALL TREATMENTS

INNOVATION

70. Momentum Group: Woven Silica



70



71

TABLES: OCCASIONAL

INNOVATION

71. Davis Furniture Industries: Lift

Designers: Markus Jehs and Jürgen Laub,
jehs+laub

contract

BEST OF NEOCON® 2019

Innovation Awards

FLOORING: HARD SURFACE LVT & PLANKS

INNOVATION

72. Metroflor Corp.: Metroforms with Attraxion Magnetic Attachment Technology
Designer: Robert Langstaff, Metroflor Corp.



FURNITURE COLLECTIONS FOR COLLABORATION

INNOVATION

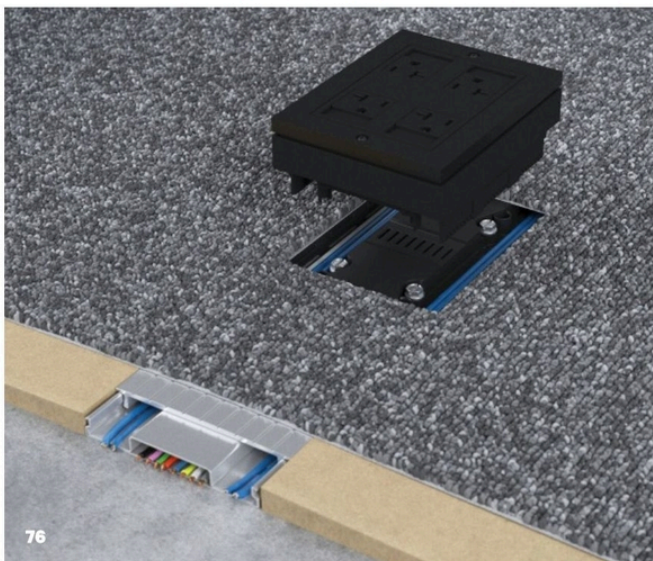
73. Teknion: Bene Box
Designer: Christian Horner, Bene Office Furniture

CONFERENCE ROOM FURNITURE**INNOVATION****74. Tuohy Furniture Corp.: Meich Tables**

Designer: Bernard Tuohy, Tuohy Furniture Corp.

**CARPET: CONTRACT AREA RUGS****INNOVATION****75. Mohawk Group: Connecting Neurons Definity**

Designers: Martin and Anastasija Lesjak, 13&9
Richard Taylor, Fractals Research
Jackie Dettmar, Mohawk Group

**TECHNOLOGY-INTEGRATED SOLUTIONS****INNOVATION****76. Connectrac: Flex**

Designer: Chris Culley, Connectrac

contract

BEST OF NEOCON® 2019

Editors' Choice Awards

**TABLES: HEIGHT-ADJUSTABLE/
TRAINING/WORK**

EDITORS' CHOICE

77. Versteel: Sky
Designer: Versteel

77



78

SEATING: BAR STOOLS

EDITORS' CHOICE

78. Martin Bratrud: Cumbia
Designer: Chris Adamick

TEXTILES: UPHOLSTERY

EDITORS' CHOICE

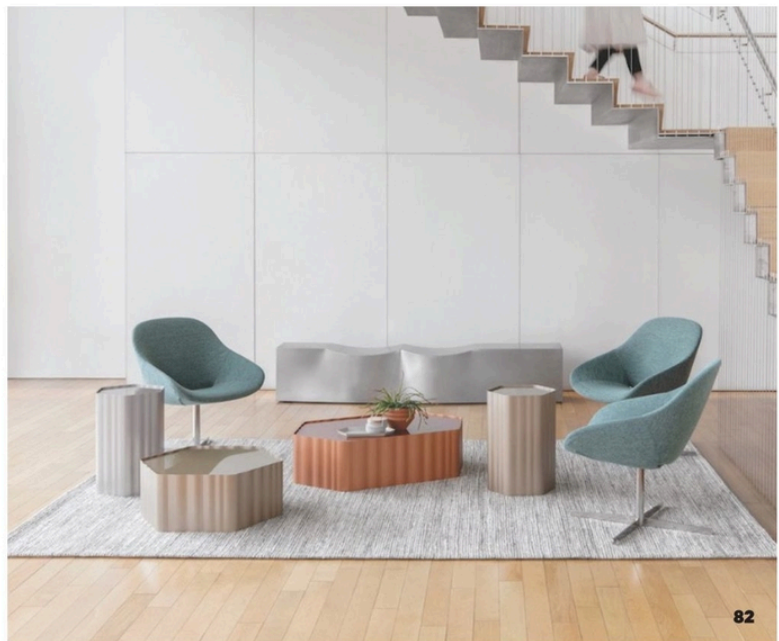
79. Wolf-Gordon: VEER
Designer: Alike van der Kruijs



79

**SEATING: BENCHES****EDITORS' CHOICE**

80. Nienkämper: Heartbeat
Designer: Karim Rashid

80**81****82****TEXTILES: UPHOLSTERY****EDITORS' CHOICE**

81. Luum Textiles: Future Tense Collection
Designer: Suzanne Tick, Luum Textiles

TABLES: OCCASIONAL**EDITORS' CHOICE**

82. Studio TK: Freehand Occasional Tables
Designers: Tom Lloyd and Luke Pearson,
PearsonLloyd

contract

COMPETITION: INSPIRATIONS AWARDS

2019 Inspirations Awards Winners



Serving a rural community in Rwanda (above), the Kegenso Worldwide community center includes a pharmacy and health clinic, communal kitchen, baths, gathering spaces, and classrooms for elementary education (above, right). The V-shaped configuration of the building opens up toward the village to welcome community members (opposite).



Contract is pleased to present the winners of the 11th annual Inspirations Awards, sponsored by Tarkett. The Inspirations Awards recognize a commitment to social responsibility in commercial interior architecture and design projects that improve the quality of life for those in need. Winners were announced during a ceremony in the Tarkett showroom in Chicago during NeoCon in June.

Through these awards, Tarkett provides generous grants to worthy causes. This year, the jury awarded three grants to the top projects. This year's competition jury consisted of Felice Silverman, principal; Silverman Trykowski Associates Inc.; Bill Bouche, director of design, interiors, HOK; and Lisa Adams, principal and senior designer, HKS.

The grand prize of \$10,000 was awarded to Kagenso Worldwide Inc., in Banda, Rwanda (this page and opposite), designed by SPG Architects. Two additional grants of \$3,000 and \$2,000 were awarded respectively to Spero Academy in Minneapolis by HDR Inc. and Eaton HK in Hong Kong by AvroKO.

GRAND PRIZE \$10,000 GRANT**Project** Kageno Worldwide, Inc.**Where** Banda, Rwanda**Designer** SPG Architects

The Rwandan genocide of 1994 resulted in nearly 1,000,000 deaths, and the subsequent societal disruption and generational loss affected family continuity and marked an ongoing period of economic hardship and upheaval, particularly for rural areas. Kageno Worldwide, a relief organization, chose the rural town of Banda as the site for a community center designed by SPG Architects.

SPG conceived a modern-yet-simple form that could be built with local labor. The V-shaped configuration of the building opens up toward the village to welcome community members into the facilities, which include a pharmacy and health clinic, communal kitchen, baths, gathering spaces, and classrooms for elementary education.

The Kageno project addresses improvement of quality of life by providing accessible healthcare facilities not previously available to the Banda community. It establishes a starting platform for the villagers to develop the local social fabric and economy, providing long-term benefit to the people of Banda.

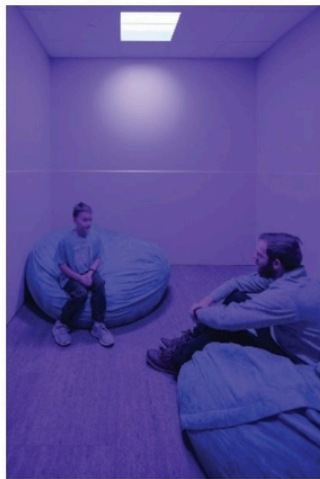
"We think that it's incredibly satisfying to have the opportunity to use the skills we learned in school and developed in our careers to better the lives of communities not always serviced by the design professions," says Eric A. Gartner, AIA, principal, SPG Architects. "This work expands our thinking beyond our typical day-to-day focus and broadens our connection to those people impacted most severely by societal disruption and climate change."

SPG started with a design that maximizes the beauty of Kageno's site in the best-preserved rainforest in Central Africa. "Using vernacular materials, they created a flow among the compound buildings that visually underscores the environment," says Frank C. Andolino, co-founder and executive director, Kageno. "It has realized its intent to be a place for the community to come together for healthcare, education, food preparation, and social events."



contract

COMPETITION: INSPIRATIONS AWARDS



The Spero Academy is designed to remove hidden sensory barriers through a carefully considered material palette (top). Dedicated calming rooms feature therapeutic color-tunable lights (above, left). Spaces accommodate a variety of behaviors from quiet study (above, right) to play (opposite, top). The building is LED lit with slightly warmer color temperatures than standard for this kind of institution (opposite, bottom).

WINNER \$3,000 GRANT**Project** Spero Academy**Where** Minneapolis**Designer** HDR Inc.

The Spero Academy is designed as a haven for students with disabilities, primarily those on the autism spectrum. These children are often more sensitive to lighting, color, acoustics, and indoor air quality, so the facility was designed to promote a positive sensory experience.

"We traditionally think of 'barrier-free' as tangible forms that impede a person's path," explains HDR Inc. designer Bethany DeLine. "For a child with autism, a barrier can be a poorly considered carpet pattern, a flickering fluorescent light, an echoing cafeteria, or the need to deal with overwhelming distractions on what may seem like a simple trip to the restroom. This school building is designed to remove the hidden sensory barriers that many students don't face."

In order to strike a balance between inclusivity and targeted support for individual needs, the design utilizes sensory zoning to separate high-stimulus activities from areas requiring high levels of focus. For example, dedicated calming rooms feature therapeutic color-tunable lights.

"Throughout the development of the design, [the design team] worked closely with our staff to address their needs, while utilizing research and inquiry to better understand the needs of our students," says Chipp Windham, director of Spero Academy. "The result is a design that thoughtfully responds to the needs of students, staff, family, and visitors, which when combined, makes up a very unique set of requirements."

Spero provides a safe and healthy space where children can focus, recalibrate, learn, and grow. This special space allows students to reach their true potential with a spirit of pride and dignity—setting a strong foundation for continued individual growth.



contract

COMPETITION: INSPIRATIONS AWARDS



AvroKO reinvented a hotel (above) in Kowloon, Hong Kong, to house Eaton HK, a hybrid of co-working and hotel spaces. Programming elements include a bar (top), lounges (above, right and opposite, bottom), and performance spaces (right). These spaces are visually connected by a massive open atrium (opposite, top) that serves as the social heart of the hotel and combines a lobby and various dining options.



PHOTOGRAPHY: LIT MA (CENTER, RIGHT); OWEN BAGGETT (ALL OTHERS)

PHOTOGRAPHY: OWEN BAGGETT

**WINNER \$2,000 GRANT****Project** Eaton HK**Where** Hong Kong**Designer** AvroKO

AvroKO was tasked with reinventing a hotel in Kowloon, Hong Kong, to house Eaton HK, which was envisioned as a hybrid of co-working and hotel spaces with the mission to create an authentic platform for social impact. It is organized as a series of community hubs which partner with thought leaders and nonprofits to provide diverse cultural programming with artists and activists for underprivileged and under-represented communities.

Eaton HK offers a radical approach to food and beverage as well as wellness and the arts via programming elements such as a radio station, co-working space, theater, music room, food hall, restaurants, bar lounges, and artist guestrooms. These spaces are visually connected by a massive open atrium—a multipurpose space which serves as the social heart of the hotel and combines a lobby and various dining options. The design team drew inspiration from the nostalgia of 1950s Hong Kong, which informed details such as vermilion red metalwork, neon lighting, and richly-colored tile.

Eaton HK serves as a testing ground for impact innovation and it demonstrates that the hospitality industry can be a regenerative catalyst for positive impact, not only for travelers who are seeking inspiration and innovation, but also for the local community.

“Eaton HK, right from the beginning, has been a brave and visionary experiment to create a platform for supporting progressive social activism and human progress—a fearless player in highlighting diversity and bringing different communities together,” says William Harris, co-founder at AvroKO. “We’re delighted to watch the space and brand live up to its fullest potential, not merely as a multidimensional gathering space, but also as a regenerative catalyst for positive impact.”



contract

COMPETITION: INSPIRATIONS AWARDS



The Jennifer and Jamie Children's Center includes a modern addition (above) that houses a dining room (right) and an open multipurpose playroom with adjacent playground (top two). Splashes of color throughout the interiors encourage children to play in this safe, spirited environment.



HONORABLE MENTION

Project Synergy Services

Where Kansas City, Missouri

Designer Helix Architecture + Design

The non-profit Synergy Services provides the full continuum of care to families and youth needing respite from violent situations. As part of a necessary expansion, it established The Jennifer and Jamie Children's Center, engaging Helix Architecture + Design to transform a nearly 100-year-old farmhouse to accommodate gathering areas, as well as to design a modern complementary addition to house a dining room, bathrooms, bedrooms, and an open multipurpose playroom with adjacent playground.

Throughout the interiors, colorful elements such as Charlie Harper wallpaper, filled with animals and brightly colored backsplash tiles, clearly communicate that this is a special place designed just for the children, encouraging them to unabashedly play in an environment that is both safe and spirited. Natural pine wood finishes and expansive windows provide a cabin-like feel and offer daylight and unobstructed views to the surrounding woodlands.

"This is the kind of project that we all wish did not have to exist, but creating a place where children feel safe and loved has been one of the highest honors of my career," says Erika Moody, IIDA, principal, Helix Architecture + Design.

"The premise of the design was to create an environment that conveys joy and encourages the kids to be hopeful," says Robin Shanberg Winner, co-executive director, Synergy Services. "The building immediately speaks to the kids. It shows them that they're important, they matter, and that this is a place where they can heal."





HONORABLE MENTION

Project Coastal Modular Housing for Climate Change

Where New York

Designer SPG Architects

SPG Architects asserts that climate change requires new approaches to coastal settlements at all scales. Super-storm Sandy ravaged New York's coastline and damaged many buildings, particularly single-family homes in middle- and lower-middle-class neighborhoods. Most of the vulnerable housing in this region and across the country was built before 1979, when coastal construction guidelines were instituted.

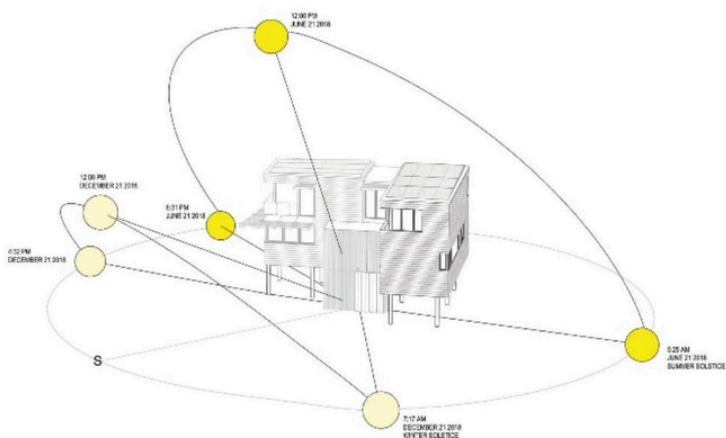
To that end, the firm conducted a study focused on the flood-prone coastal areas of Queens, New York, aimed at seeking an economical building solution to neighborhood housing concerns. The resulting design features modular units elevated on pilotis, so that it can be installed in flood-prone areas. The three-bedroom home offers 1,750-square-feet of conditioned living area, and also incorporates two outdoor covered areas.

Modular construction allows for economical, off-site fabrication, and results in structures better able to withstand horizontal wind loads. Climate-controlled conditions also limit water infiltration into construction. The addition of site-specific pre-designed and pre-fabricated components further pushes the adaptability of this design.

This house's construction costs are comparable to typical New York single-family construction costs, making re-construction more viable. It offers a safe, modern, and well-considered sustainable design solution for often overlooked demographics



Designed to be implemented in flood-prone areas along the coast (above), these modular units are elevated on pilotis (top).



contract

INSTALLATION

The Frick Collection presents “Elective Affinities,” the first museum installation in the U.S. by artist Edmund de Waal.

object lesson

PHOTOGRAPHY: CHRISTOPHER BURKE

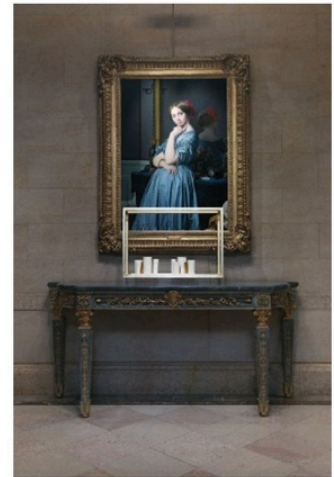


The “Elective Affinities” display at the Frick Collection in New York City features contemporary pieces by Edmund de Waal alongside the masterworks in the permanent collection, shown in the West Gallery, North Hall, and Fragonard Room, and other spaces throughout the museum. Made of porcelain, marble, and gold, the sculptures echo the materials used not only for the works of art in the collection but also for the mansion itself, which de Waal considers a sculpture in its own right.

Now on view until Nov. 17, the Frick Collection in New York City presents “Elective Affinities: Edmund de Waal at The Frick Collection,” a temporary display by acclaimed British artist and writer Edmund de Waal, designed specifically to be showcased in the Gilded Age mansion—and his first museum installation in the United States. Nine works are currently being shown in the main galleries of the museum, alongside pieces from the permanent collection.

Known for his family memoir “The Hare with Amber Eyes,” as well as his vessels housed in minimal structures, de Waal explores themes of diaspora, memorial, and materiality in his work, breaking new ground in the realms of ceramics, architecture, music, and dance. He often creates in response to archives or the history of a place, and now, after previous collaborations with the museum on other projects, de Waal has finally brought his site-specific objects to the Frick Collection.

Curated by Charlotte Vignon, the museum’s curator of decorative arts, the presentation features sculptures made of the artist’s signature white porcelain, as well as materials like steel, gold, and glass. The careful placement of these pieces invites a reconsideration of the museum’s spaces and the masterpieces housed



there. As Vignon notes, the installation is one that embodies de Waal’s “profound understanding of art, architectural spaces, and the history of collecting.”

Highlights include the works in the museum’s West Gallery, North Hall, and Fragonard Room, where the contemporary vessels can be seen alongside paintings by Van Dyck, Goya, and Ingres. These pieces by de Waal not only invite dialogue between viewers and the artist, and between contemporary and Old Master works of art, but they also allow visitors to see how traditional materials and metals have been used to create art throughout history.

“Elective Affinities” is more than a showcase of the artist’s latest work, it is “a result of a lifetime-long love affair with this collection,” de Waal says.—ANNA ZAPPIA

Faction Executive | Designed by 5d Studio



Faction brings a dynamic presence to the work scene with sporty design elements, a user-friendly weight-activated mechanism and an impressive lineup of arm styles and back height options. Its sculpted back effortlessly bends and curves to integrate seamlessly with the arms, creating one sinuous form that envelops the body and provides ongoing support.

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ARCHITECTURAL TEXTURES COLLECTION

