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The Fall Semester in Review

Interior Design by the Numbers

It typically takes a full time student taking between 15 and 17 credits per semester 4 years to complete the BFA program.

Student Attrition and Retention

In the Fall of 2018 we had 14 students in the freshman class. 43% of students (8) admitted in the fall of 2018 returned in the fall of 2019, putting attrition at 57%. In Spring 2019 two new students were admitted to that cohort.

Graduation Rates for the BFA program:

Of the students graduating in 2019, 100% graduated in 4 years.

Acceptance into Graduate Programs:

33% of students who graduated in 2019 applied for graduate school, and 100% were accepted.

Job Placement Rates:

100% of students who graduated in 2019 and did not seek graduate education are employed in interior design or a related profession.

Faculty News – IDEC Regional Conference

Villa Maria College hosted the 2019 IDEC Regional Conference held October 17 - 19. Highlights included our Guest Speaker, Viktor Jaunkalns, principal of MacLennan Jaunkalns Miller Architects in Toronto, Canada, a Cambria lunch and learn, a reception at the Barton House with tours of the Darwin Martin House and faculty presentations from Ryerson University, Thomas Jefferson University, Miami University, Wentworth Institute of Technology and more. Representing Villa with presentations were Renee Pratt, Veronica Ryskalczyk, Julie Zack and Sandra Reicis. Villa is very grateful to our Conference Sponsors, Interior Design Association of Western New York, DesignNY Magazine, Steelcase, Mannington Commercial, Cambria, Buffalo State College, Millington Lockwood and the IIDA Villa Maria College Campus Center. Thank you to Maria Schiltz, a student in Graphic Design for designing our conference program.



Viktors Jaunkalns, principal of MJMA, Toronto, Canada. Keynote Speaker IDEC East Region Conference



Recipients of the California Closets Scholarship Award are Taylor Grodesky and Emmalee Lowe.



Studio 2 at Kentucky Knob



Lee Joffa Showroom D&D Building



'Cochasaurus' on 5th Ave. NYC

California Closets Scholarship Award

The Interior Design program is honored to be the recipients of the California Closets Annual Student Scholarship Award, a Studio 2 Design Competition. This year's recipients are Taylor Grodesky '19 AAS and Emmalee Lowe '22 BFA. They were selected through a blind review by a team of external reviewers.

IDA Strategic Partners Events and Annual Meeting

Villa Maria College continues to host the Interior Design Association of Western New York for their Annual Members Meeting and a Strategic Partners Event. This is a wonderful opportunity for students to attend the presentations and the network with area professionals.

Out of Town Studio Field Trips

Students once again were able to travel out of town for studio based field trips. This year's Studio 4 trip to NYC, led by Veronica Ryskalczyk took students first to the Steelcase Showroom to prepare them for the Steelcase Design Competition. The weekend also included a visit to Paul Rudolph's House, a presentation and tour of the HOK offices, an AIA walking tour of Mid and Upper Manhattan and a visit to the Cooper Hewitt Design Museum. Students were also fortunate to have tours of several showrooms at the D&D Building, including Kravet, Lee Joffa and Brunschwig et Fils and a fun walking tour of retail spaces along 5th Avenue.

Studio 2 students visited Pittsburgh, where they experienced docent led tours of Fallingwater, Kentucky Knob, the Frick Museum, Phipps Conservatory and the Center for Sustainable Landscapes.

Box Lunch Lecture

The **Box Lunch Lecture** series continued with an informative presentation on sustainable design by Dennis Andrejko, AIA, Chair of the Department of Architecture at Rochester Institute of Technology.

Dennis Andrejko also discussed opportunities for Villa interior design BFA graduates to pursue a graduate degree in architecture at RIT.

In Club Activities

Fall 2019 Officers for the IN club, an IIDA Campus Center, are Emma Massimi, president, Emmalee Lowe, vice-president, Samantha Levreault, treasurer, Chastian Cowans, secretary. Samantha Levreault, also serves as the student representative to the IIDA Board.

Professional Development

During Thanksgiving break a group of volunteers from IND joined the IDA to decorate **Ronald McDonald House** for the holidays.

Taylor Grodesky was project leader for the themed Gingerbread House annual competition held at Millington Lockwood. The entire IND 208 Construction and Building Systems class participated in the construction and embellishment of our 'Around the World at Christmas' display. The houses were donated to the **Kevin Guest House**.

Professor Sandra Reicis, following her participation at the Paris Design Summit, was able to present a campus lecture on the new Fondation Louis Vuitton, designed by Frank Gehry.

Spain and Portugal Study Abroad

At the end of May, 6 students and 2 faculty from the interior design program participated in the 2 week study abroad. They spent time in Barcelona, Figueres, Valencia, Madrid, Toledo and Lisbon.

Highlights of the trip included Sagrada Familia, the Picasso Museum, flamenco dance lessons in Madrid, a Fado concert in Lisbon, the Prado Museum and so much more. It was two weeks filled with art, architecture, culture, food and fun.

Semester abroad is also an option for students. Spring 2020 Bridget Schiltz and Jenna Haring will be studying in Florence. Students interested in a semester abroad should contact Sandra Reicis and should plan to be away the spring semester Junior year.



Matty Barone, Lindsay Klaffka, Kendal Cavalieri, Bailey Boyer, Markisha Harris, and Sandra Reicis at Ronald McDonald House



Villa Maria creation for the 4th Annual Gingerbread competition



Travel group in Lisbon.



Flamenco Class in Madrid

2021 Study Abroad to Dublin, Edinburgh and London

Registration has begun for the next study abroad, departing in May 2021. The trip will start in Dublin and includes a visit to the Waterford Crystal factory, Edinburgh with a trip to Glasgow and will culminate in London. Participants will have tours of St. Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, Kensington Palace and a West End theatre production. Contact Sandra Reicis for additional information

Furniture Design Certificate Program

It is with pleasure that we can announce that New York State has approved the Furniture Design Certificate, which is part of the Interior Design Program. The certificate requires 5 courses and students can begin registration immediately. For further information about the program contact Jesse Walp.

Annual IND Student Exhibit

The Interior Design Student Exhibit will open on Friday, February 28th in the Paul William Beltz Art Gallery. We will honor our top students that night. This is a juried event. The IN Club is organizing a basket auction.

Interior Design

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Calendar of Events

- Jan 13 First day of classes
- Feb 20 Box Lunch Lecture - L2K
- Feb 28 Student Exhibit Opening Reception
- Mar 16-20 Spring Break
- Mar 24 Box Lunch Lecture - Todd Piotrowski and Lee Schlaterr
- Apr 7 NY11+ NYC opening
- Apr 14 Box Lunch Lecture - Ginny Gallersdorfer
- May 5 Thesis Presentations
- May 8 Final Critique
- May 17 Commencement

