IIDA ANNOUNCES 2012 NEOCON STUDENT EVENTS

April 4, 2012, Chicago, IL—The International Interior Design Association welcomes Student Members and recent graduates to Chicago to participate in key programs that offer job search strategies, networking opportunities and career advice at NeoCon 2012 at the Merchandise Mart.

This year IIDA is teaming up with ASID to offer students the chance to network with industry professionals and win prizes with the ASID/IIDA Student Destination Passport. The students with the most stamps on their passports from attending events will be entered into a drawing for prizes from participating sponsors including the Grand Prize—a Student Membership and swag bag from both IIDA and ASID. Passports can be picked on Wednesday, June 13 at the NeoCon registration area, Student Program area or at the IIDA and ASID booths.

IIDA will be hosting a “non-tech” Design Charrette that will make its debut this year at NeoCon 2012 for select Student Members nominated by their schools. Visitors can stop by 9:30-3 p.m. Tuesday, June 12 on the 7th Floor exhibition hall in the Merchandise Mart to see the students in action. A jury of prominent designers, architects and industry leaders will critique design solutions and select a First Place and Second Place winner. Biographies and resumes about the participants as well as their final projects will be displayed in designated show space on the 7th Floor exhibition hall in the Merchandise Mart for the duration of NeoCon. This event is by invite only for participating students. For more information, contact Monica De Angelis.

IIDA wants to help students jumpstart their job search with Career Bootcamp that will be 8:30-10 a.m. on Wednesday, June 13, 2012. IIDA presents a stellar panel of recent grads to share their stories on how to succeed in the industry. Students will learn about the journey from classroom to dream job and all the stops along the way. Gain insider advice on that all-important process of finding your first job including tips on resumes, cover letters and portfolios. Register online.

The NeoCon Student Keynote Speaker will be Ian Schrager, founder of the Ian Schrager Company and creator of the boutique hotel concept. He will speak 12-1 p.m. Wednesday, June 13 at the Holiday Inn Mart Plaza Chicago in the Sauganash Ballroom. Schrager has achieved international recognition for
concepts that have revolutionized both the entertainment and hospitality industries. He is currently working on launching two new hotel brands in various 24 hour gateway cities around the world. Register online.

Find out more information on IIDA’s Student events and all of our events as NeoCon 2012.

###

**About International Interior Design Association**

The International Interior Design Association (IIDA) is a professional networking and educational association with more than 12,000 Members practicing worldwide in more than 50 countries. IIDA is committed to enhancing the quality of life through excellence in Interior Design and advancing Interior Design through knowledge, value and community. IIDA advocates for Interior Design excellence; nurtures a global Interior Design community; maintains high educational standards; and supports its Members and the Profession with visionary leadership. For more than 38 years, IIDA has helped reveal new Design talent through a variety of education initiatives and Interior Design/Architecture competitions honoring local talent, including the Interior Design Competition, Global Excellence Awards and Sustainable Leadership Awards. [www.iida.org](http://www.iida.org).