IIDA ANNOUNCES SUCCESSFUL STUDENT MENTORING WEEK

February 18, 2004, Chicago, IL – The International Interior Design Association (IIDA) is proud to announce that nearly 100 professionals and 200 students participated in IIDA’s Annual Mentoring Week January 26-30, 2004. In its second year, the program is facilitated by Headquarters in partnership with local IIDA Chapters to give design students the opportunity to experience a day in the life of a design professional. This year IIDA experienced great participation from across the design industry, with almost twice the number of Students registered last year.

Students were paired with interior designers, architects, sales/industry representatives and manufacturers from all over the country. Professionals ranging from junior associates to CEO’s allowed students a chance to experience the “real world” of design and an opportunity to network within a specified area of practice. Following Mentoring Week, students had the opportunity to share their experience by entering the IIDA Foundation/Lloy Hack Memorial Essay Contest, which will grant a $1,000 prize to a winning student and their partnered firm. The winners will be announced in March.

“Finding a mentor or role model in any profession is an integral part of the education process. It is gratifying to know that we have such passionate professional Members who are willing to volunteer their time, knowledge and experience to Students of interior design”, stated Cheryl S. Durst, Hon. IIDA, EVP/CEO of IIDA. “Student Mentoring Week provides a curriculum for lessons in life and work not always found in the classroom.”

IIDA will hold its 3rd annual Mentoring Week January 24-28, 2005.

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The International Interior Design Association (IIDA) works to enhance quality of life through excellence in interior design and to advance interior design through knowledge, value and community.

IIDA is a professional networking and educational association of 10,000 Members in eight specialty Forums, nine Regions, and more than 30 Chapters around the world. Additional information is available on IIDA’s website www.iida.org.