2019

IIDA Student Design Competition Project Showcase

This competition celebrates the talent and fresh design ideas of interior design students throughout the world who are currently enrolled in an interior design program or institution.
ABOUT THE COMPETITION

This year’s design problem solicited the design of an ambulatory surgery center for a physicians group specializing in gastroenterology, orthopedics, and urology in Charlotte, North Carolina. Our jurors closely reviewed and scored projects submitted by students from across the globe. The jurors convened on a conference call to discuss and determine the winners. Projects were judged on:

- Innovation and creativity
- Coherence and functionality
- Human and environmental impact
- Presentation
- Fulfillment of the program requirements and additional contributions above and beyond the basic program

This document presents compiled feedback from the jurors along with recommended tips to produce successful project design submissions.
FIRST PLACE

PROJECT
Embrace ASC

STUDENTS
Wan Ting Hsieh, Student IIDA
and Ying Zhong, Student IIDA

SCHOOL
New York School of Interior Design
EMBRACE AMBULATORY SURGERY CENTER

Embrace Ambulatory Surgery Center serves a physicians group and patients across multiple specialties. The ASC should not only provide professional space for physical treatments but also take good care of patients’ emotional state. The design concept for this project is to embrace. Patients, family members, nurses, and doctors, are all considered as a big community. People in this community work together tightly to get through the disease.

The ASC could be renamed the Embrace Ambulatory Surgery Center to communicate its mission to support patients and their family through treatment. A new logo of two hands reaching for one another, and a new slogan, “Together, Stranger”, conveys the message of support as well.

“This project demonstrated very cohesive design thinking, with a concept that unifies the experience of patients, visitors, and staff into one environment.” — Jury

TIPS

• Be sure that you are addressing all the submission requirements. From checking off the space requirements to submitting files in the proper format, every detail matters.

• Always have the end user in mind when designing the space.

“We appreciated the comprehensiveness of this design team’s presentation board and that it successfully reflected brief needs.” — Jury

CLICK HERE TO VIEW THE WINNERS GALLERY.
SECOND PLACE

PROJECT
Synthesis: A Fusion Between Nature & Adaptive Design Elements

STUDENTS
Aishwarya Rekha Gunta
and Kristianne Simeon

SCHOOL
Drexel University
“The design team expressed excellent space planning by using a thoughtful mixture of furniture and finishes to support the spa-like feel of the space.” — Jury

“Architectural areas such as lighting and flooring were also well addressed.” — Jury

TIP
• Don’t forget about the importance of using furniture and finishes that support the goal of the overall project.
THIRD PLACE

PROJECT
Ambulatory Surgery Center

STUDENTS
Anna Kathryn Russell
and Carlie Teffeteller

SCHOOL
Mississippi State University
“Renderings and images of this project and the design team’s overall presentation were very high-quality.” — Jury

“The space feels bright and uplifting with excellent use of color throughout.” — Jury

“The breakdown of furniture used shows a strong variety and incorporating seating in the hallways was an effective, creative solution.” — Jury

• It’s critical that things are easy for jurors to understand. When putting together your materials, think of the juror or client reviewing the project proposal.

• Be sure to follow the design brief requirements but don’t be afraid to think outside the box.

BIOPHILIC DESIGN
AMBULATORY SURGERY CENTER

People have always been drawn to the natural world around them. It becomes a place to evolve, revere, and heal what is so importantly important for healthcare environments. The Ambulatory Surgery Center (ASC), located in Charlotte, North Carolina, is an ideal clinic that performs exams and consults as well as a surgery center. Due to the diverse environments of North Carolina and the positive impact nature has on people’s wellbeing, the concept of ASG is known as biophilic design. Biophilic Design is about creating spaces that satisfy the need of being in contact with nature. Research shows that in healthcare designs, spaces that have views, both literal and representational, of nature have shorter patient stays, dispersion of patient medication is reduced, and overall conditions improved. Natural light, wood grains, living walls, and views and patterns are integrated throughout the space to bring the outside in. In the design there’s a representation of a forest which evokes calming, reduces stress and improves patient’s health. In design it’s also incorporated into the design of the space. Specifically, the exam rooms are all designed so that are views of nature and can be seen without having to leave the room to get to them. These elements provide positive distractions that animate wellness throughout the Ambulatory Surgery Center.
HONORABLE MENTION

PROJECT
NEST

STUDENTS
Amna Al-Hardan, Luma Mansi, and Yasamin Shaikh

SCHOOL
Virginia Commonwealth University School of the Arts in Qatar
Furniture & Material Plan shows the raw looking material selection.

Panels

private in certain areas.

The architectural details, including lighting and finishes, were carefully addressed and successfully implemented within the project.” — Jury

TIP

• Be sure to provide a strong written statement. Competition submission isn't entirely visual. You have to be able to explain your story and thought process concisely.
HONORABLE MENTION

PROJECT
Bear Woods Ambulatory Surgery Center

STUDENTS
Sarah Hersh

SCHOOL
Berkeley College
“This project has a light, airy quality with a thoughtful use of space and detailing.” — Jury

“The material palette was very appropriate for this brief and the designer’s renderings were high-quality.” — Jury

**TIP**
- It is critical that you thoroughly read the design brief. You can submit a fantastic, well thought-out project but if it’s not what the client wants or what the competition is asking for, your efforts will go unnoticed.
For 25 years, IIDA, the commercial interior design association with global reach, has been a leader in defining, supporting, and enriching the interior design profession. We support design professionals, industry affiliates, educators, students, firms, and their clients through our network of 15,000+ members across 58 countries. We advocate for advancement in education, design excellence, legislation, leadership, accreditation, and community outreach to increase the value and understanding of interior design as a profession that enhances business value and positively impacts the health and well-being of people’s lives every day. www.iida.org

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