WHO ARE WE?

The students of San Jose State University's Interior Design program are a group of individuals that aspire to become great designers. We are a group that recognizes that while individual accolades can be a driver in one's career, true growth and success comes from working with and learning from one another. Here at the San Jose State University Campus Center, we recognize other students in our program as close friends and family, and we work together to build each other up so that we can become as prepared as we can be for the professional world.

At the head of this family is IDSO - the Interior Design Student Organization at San Jose State University. IDSO is a student-led organization that works to promote the profession of interior design on campus and enrich students’ educations. The majority of IDSO members are also IIDA student members, and it is through membership advocacy from IDSO officers and members that new students are exposed to IIDA.
IIDA membership in IDSO at San Jose State University has been consistent throughout the past few years, often averaging between 50-60 students per year. Student membership is consistently advocated for by IDSO officers and program upperclassmen to new students, often citing the fact that having a tangible connection to the local design industry is extremely beneficial to a student’s growth as a designer and professional.
In 2018, Interior Design students from San Jose State University participated in the annual IIDA Western Regional Student Design Charette. Students were flown out to Portland, Oregon, where they competed in the second stage of this nationwide competition.

Students from the SJSU Campus Center entered in the 2018 IIDANC Culinary Challenge. Groups were tasked with creating a recipe and developing a cohesive experience between the food and presentation booth. We developed two recipes for cucumber rolls - one that had shrimp and one that had mushrooms. In addition to the rolls, we also developed two choices of sauces that the rolls were to be eaten with. The overall theme of our presentation booth was modeled on the "house of cards." Just as like how the individual components of a recipe come together to create a finished dish and how individual cards can hold each other up to create a structure, we also saw ourselves each as individual pieces that had to potential to create something bigger than ourselves when we worked together.
A large number of students participate in the annual IIDANC “Ice & Dice” event at Pivot Interiors in Santa Clara, CA. “Ice & Dice” is one of many events that give students the opportunity to network with industry professionals. Many students each year utilize the opportunity to develop their social skills and form connections with people who may be their future coworkers and employers.

In late 2018, students travelled from San Jose to San Francisco, where they participated in the opening stage of the annual IIDA Student Design Charette competition. Held at Studio O+A, the first place winning team had five members, four of whom were San Jose State students. Their design for a Lyft field office, titled “Lyft Loft”, received great reception from the four judges.
EDUCATION IN DESIGN

FIRM TOURS & PORTFOLIO REVIEW

Part of our Campus Center’s ongoing mission to provide the best learning experience for our students involves creating opportunities for students outside of the classroom to learn and develop their knowledge. Student IIDA liaisons for the San Jose State Campus Center assisted the IIDA Silicon Valley Chapter Student Affairs Committee with putting together several events that were aimed at student educational enrichment.

In Spring 2018, students from various schools participated in the annual IIDANC Silicon Valley Student Portfolio Review at SideMark in downtown San Jose. A large portion of these students were students from San Jose State University due to the persistent advocacy of the event by IIDA student liaisons. Students had their portfolios reviewed by a large number of different industry professionals, and were given tips on how to improve the presentation of their work to better prepare them for their entry into the design industry.

In Fall 2018, students participated in a multi-firm tour that exposed them to different design offices and ways of working. At each firm, students were able to ask professionals questions about working in the industry, and as a result, students received a wealth of knowledge to better inform them about what to expect when working in the professional field.
HONORS AND AWARDS

STUDENT RECOGNITION

San Jose State University’s IIDA Campus Center produces a consistent history of success and recognition in the IIDANC chapter. Through hard work and involvement in IIDANC, our students have consistently produced work that has earned recognition not only in the IIDANC, but in the local design community at large.

LORENZO SALAZAR
In 2018, Lorenzo Salazar was one of the students from the SJSU Campus Center that entered the IIDA Local Student Design Charette. With his creativity and experience, he not only passed through the first and second phases of the competition, but he eventually reached the final stage of the Student Design Charette competition in Chicago as well, where he placed second.

JULIANO VIRAY
Juliano was one of three San Jose State students that was honored at the annual IIDANC Honor Awards in Fox Theater. His project, titled “Salad Bowl,” is a cabbage-inspired design for a salad bar that creates a unique experience between the users and the space.

STEPHANIE LEAMAN
Stephanie’s IIDANC Honor Award-winning project, titled “Nesting Pods: Sheltering Spartans,” addresses a potential solution for student homelessness on SJSU’s campus. Her project was proposed to be located on the fourth floor of the school’s library, in an open area, where 3D printed pods could be placed for students to sleep in.

VINH LE
Vinh’s project, Coffee Tree, was also recognized with an IIDANC Honor Award. His project was a complete interior redesign of an existing multi-story building in downtown San Jose. The goal of the project was to produce a multi-functional building that activated the surrounding street, creating a biophilic haven in the midst of a sea of urban structures.
OUR BEST THING EVER

LEE MATHSON MIDDLE SCHOOL

Our program’s crowning achievement for the year of 2018 was a nonprofit design-build project that was aimed at creating a set of benches for a local middle school in San Jose, California. The existing benches on the campus have had a history of being vandalized, and exposed the students playing on the field and blacktop to rusty nails and broken pieces of wood. The goal of this project was to provide a set of safe seating areas for students that also activated the field for use as communal areas.

In April of 2018, students from our campus center were tasked with going through a stringent and thorough design process that included a site survey of the middle school and interviews with multiple groups of middle schoolers. Using our research and answers gathered from our interviews, we developed several bench designs that each went through several phases of iteration. Upon the selection of a final design, students then proceeded to start a month-long construction process. This process began with the procurement of materials, which was followed by the milling and painting of the wood pieces, and ended with the assembly and transportation of the benches.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION!