



# NEWH STUDENT UPDATES, NEWS & EVENTS

JAN. 2022  
ISSUE NO. 1

The Hospitality Industry Network



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## Welcome Messages from NEWH

### WORDS FROM DEMI MELISSINO, PRESIDENT

"Compared to all the other members of NEWH Toronto I am fairly new to Canada. I used to run my own design studio for 15 years before coming here and we had projects all over the world, from the UK to the UAE. That said, when I started my professional life here I felt like a student all over again, right out of university, with the exception that I now had 20 years of design experience on my shoulders. Problem was though, I knew no one. Seriously, absolutely NO ONE ! I was lucky enough to discover NEWH almost immediately. That gave me a "place to belong" and eventually I was able to meet other designers, manufacturers, vendors and generally people of our industry. In a few months I was able to "wet my feet". I established relationships in the local design community, got the chance to work as a design lead for a local Design firm for 17 months and find the people I could depend on to guide me when specifying a product or when I needed a material sample. Now I feel the least I can do, is to give back to this amazing organization by volunteering a bit of my time each week. One of my main goals, as the new NEWH Toronto Chapter President, is to bring in as many design students as possible. Today's students are, after all, our industry's future."

### WORDS FROM JULIE NICHOLS, DIRECTOR OF STUDENT RELATIONS

"This position perfectly complements my role at Sheridan as Co-op Advisor/Job Developer for the Interior Design Students. Industry connections and events are an important part of student education and growth and NEWH is committed to helping students achieve their best potential. My goal is to develop student engagement in the organization.. In the past year, I have been introduced to so many great people in the Toronto Chapter and across North America. I think it is fantastic that our students have access to the knowledge, encouragement, and inspiration that NEWH members so willingly provide."

### WORDS FROM CARLY BOARD, STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

"Throughout this position with NEWH it has allowed me to understand the importance of getting involved in various organizations as a student and has allowed me to build industry connections. I have enjoyed attending various virtual events throughout the year and spreading the word of NEWH and the opportunities and knowledge that can be gained from joining this fantastic organization."

# 2 Designers & A Podcast

## SHERIDAN COLLEGE'S FIRST EVER DESIGN PODCAST!

### ABOUT

2 Designers & A Podcast was created by a dedicated team of Interior Design and Journalism students at Sheridan College. It is composed of interviews between students and industry leaders that question and dissect the future of Interior Design as we know it, and reach forward-thinking students and new graduates wanting to broaden their knowledge of design. In "Uncharted Territory", the first instalment in the podcast, we aim to understand how the COVID-19 pandemic has affected the design world and predict what Interior Design will look like on a global scale during the post-pandemic era.



**Samantha McNair**  
Senior Producer & Co-host



**Megan Sarmatiuk**  
Junior Producer & Co-host

### More of the Team!

**Daisy Kim** (Editor, transcriber & scriptwriter), **Nicole Botelho Simao** (Final editor, transcriber & scriptwriter), **Rohit Rana** (Final Editor, Video Editor), **Teriann Cadogan** (Marketing & Branding Coordinator), **Carly Board & Morgan Hodasy** (Branding - Graphics & weblink).

### EPISODE 7: HOSPITALITY DESIGN WITH GORDON MACKAY

**Gordon Mackay** of mackaywong is an NEWH member and featured in **Episode 7: Hospitality Design with Gordon Mackay** and provides insight on creating memorable guest experiences, creative outdoor dining solutions, and Instagram's influence on the hospitality design industry.

To listen to episode 7 with Gordon and other episodes from **2 Designers & A Podcast**, check them out on Spotify or click the link below!



**Spotify:** <https://open.spotify.com/show/30EXbWyZt47az0W7rAbR63>



**Website:** <https://designpodcast.myportfolio.com/work>



Some of our clients would love to have that 'single postcard moment within the overall experience and believe it's going to be the sort of instagrammable takeaway that will drive their business. That's just not the case. So, we're actually telling our clients that the entire experience has to be instagrammable. We have to have people walking away, being ready to, you know, take that image and then putting it into their feed.

**- Gordon Mackay**  
Episode 7



# Grad Spotlight

## Q & A

Within this Grad Spotlight, we interview fellow graduate **Hannah Metcalf** a Design Leader at **mackaywong**. She gives her insight into the hospitality industry and advice to students embarking on their design path.



### 1. What attracted you to the hospitality industry?

"Hospitality environments bring people together which is probably the most powerful thing in the world and often how great ideas and great relationships begin. It's a privilege to be able to create spaces for those moments to take place."

### 2. What have you discovered to be the most important aspects a design student should focus on for this industry?

"Creativity & detail – there are so many hospitality venues out there and you'll always be striving for new and innovative ideas. Never be afraid to flex those creative muscles, but don't lose sight of how your ideas might be executed so that you can truly sell them."

### 3. What is your best source of inspiration when working on a project?

"Getting out of my local bubble & experiencing what hospitality design looks like around the world – both physically and virtually!"

### 4. What do you wish you knew about when you were a student, that you have since discovered while working in the field?

"The importance of being on-site and seeing how things are really constructed and finished so that the things you dream up can be realised."

### 5. Any advice for students embarking on their career path?

"Don't be afraid to be pushed in the deep end, you'll learn to swim and will thrive for it... and by the way, I'll let you in on a secret -- nobody else knows what they're doing either."



### Quote From Q & A

Hospitality environments bring people together which is probably the most powerful thing in the world. and often how great ideas and great relationships begin.

-Hannah Metcalf



# Supplier Spotlight

## DESIGNERSTONE® PANELS

Within this Supplier Spotlight, we hear from **Terryl Nielsen** NEWH VP/Administration and Marketing Director for **DesignerStone® Panels**. She gives a history to her career path and her journey with NEWH.



### Biography

As a former high school math and science teacher, I had many hobbies and interests, one of which was design. Interiors, architecture, and industrial design always captivated my technical and aesthetic parallels but it took a couple of decades until I made the move into the industry.

After a decade as an educator and sports coach, I left to begin my own business in the mining and industrial sectors. Essentially, I established a consulting firm which tested for specific airborne carcinogenic particulates in these two work settings.

Both of these professional experiences would allow me to "jump" into the business aspect of interior design and turn my hobby into a career! Initially I established a showroom for a Canadian furniture manufacturer, servicing the hospitality and residential sectors. The company was sold and I joined a partner in establishing a Canadian import trade business, sourcing from

Scandinavian countries. It was during this time that I developed a strong relationship with a well-known Toronto interior design firm and joined their team shortly thereafter. For the last consecutive four years, I have been the marketing director for DesignerStone® Panels.

### NEWH

It has been during my time as DSP Marketing Director, that I have also been the Scholarship Director for NEWH Inc, Toronto. This year, I have moved into the role of Vice President. Personally, I would like to invite you to check us out, learn about the industry and get connected with professionals who are affiliated members. In addition to mentorship and scholarships, we offer the link to other industry related design opportunities. Reach out to myself or any other board members. NEWH membership is free for students and we always welcome you to our events.

### About DesignerStone® Panels



DesignerStone Panels is a Canadian company and manufacturer of natural stone panels (5' x 8'). What makes them unique? Their marble, onyx, travertine, and quartzite stone is sourced from around the world and cut super thin. The stone is backed with a translucent or aluminum substrate, making the panel extremely strong and not prone to breakage, unlike porcelain and natural stone slabs. Add led technology and a special natural stone product brilliantly suits luxury hospitality and residential applications. The only limit is your creative design!

For more information on DesignerStone Panels visit: <https://www.designerstonepanels.com/>

# NEWH Student Portfolio Reviews



## ABOUT

**NEWH** ( The Hospitality Industry Network ) is a global organization dedicated to education and fellowship throughout the hospitality industry, with students, educators and industry professionals alike.

Demi Melissinou, the Toronto Chapter President organized a portfolio review session for 3rd and 4th year students. We had 30 attendees who presented their portfolios in small groups for feedback and tips from an industry professionals' point of view. We would like to thank Hemen Modi, Nina Kandeil, Bridget Bedard, Melvin Constantino, Jaymie (Borchart) Mistry and Demi Melissinou for their time to review the portfolios and offer their expertise and advice. The photos of our students speak volumes. They found it fun, enlightening and very helpful.



### Quote From Demi Melissinou

Great to see that there are students out there thirsty for input from people of the industry and open to suggestions of how they can make both their portfolios and themselves more competitive in the design interview market.

-Demi Melissinou



### Quote From Student

Learning what employers are looking for and receiving feedback has allowed me to gain confidence in my work and to further develop my portfolio. I also enjoyed the networking aspect and meeting industry professionals.

-Carly Board



# NEWH Informational Interview

**BY: CARLY BOARD & MORGAN HODASY**

Interior design students interviewed members of the Toronto chapter board of directors to gain insight into the benefits of students joining NEWH. This interview allowed for each member to give their personal work journey, how they joined NEWH, club events and opportunities, and more. This interview video is available for all Interior Design students at Sheridan.



We also encourage students to become NEWH members..which becomes crucial when you are in fourth year thinking about what is out there, how do I network, how do I make connections. NEWH is a good conduit for that because it provides an opportunity for students to meet with other industry professionals.

**- Terry Nielsen**



Posted on SLATE  
Virtual Community Site!

# Upcoming NEWH Conference in Seattle!

**FEBRUARY 17 – 19, 2022**

**NEWH** is proud to present the **2022 Leadership Conference** at The Westin Seattle! Mark your calendars for February 17–19, 2022.

Learn to break boundaries at this educational three-day event that brings you together with local and international hospitality professionals. Key industry influencers will provide case studies, talk about emerging hot topics & trends along with strategies for success in both hospitality & professional development. This is one event where you learn and network with the best in our industry.

**To Learn More Visit:**

<https://newh.org/2022-leadership-conference/>



# The Top 10 Skills Recruiters Are Looking For In 2021

DO YOU SEE YOURSELF HERE?

As the world has changed within the last few years, so has what recruiters are looking for. In this article provided by **Forbes**, detail is given into what skills are needed to fit into this new work model. Professionals from Forbes Human Resources Council share the top skills and abilities they will be looking for in potential hires in 2021 and so forth.

Read more from this article here: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/forbeshumanresourcescouncil/2020/11/09/the-top-10-skills-recruiters-are-looking-for-in-2021/?sh=3c1f85d37e38>

## JOIN, BECOME INVOLVED & KICKSTART YOUR DESIGN CAREER!

As students, it is important to become involved and join events that will allow for your design career to flourish! NEWH offers a variety of educational programs which will help kickstart your design career and involvement within the industry and boost your knowledge.

With various programs such as **NEWH Green Voice** which is leading the hospitality industry by offering sustainable education and practices that achieve a balance between environment, health and social equity.

Be sure to tune into other educational programs offered by NEWH such as **BrandED, NEWH Cares, NEWH Chapter Chat, & NEWH Green Voice**...and you will be sure to feel empowered

To find out more visit: <https://newh.org/education/>

# Highlights of NEWH 2021 Events

## BEHIND SOME OF NEWH VIRTUAL EVENTS

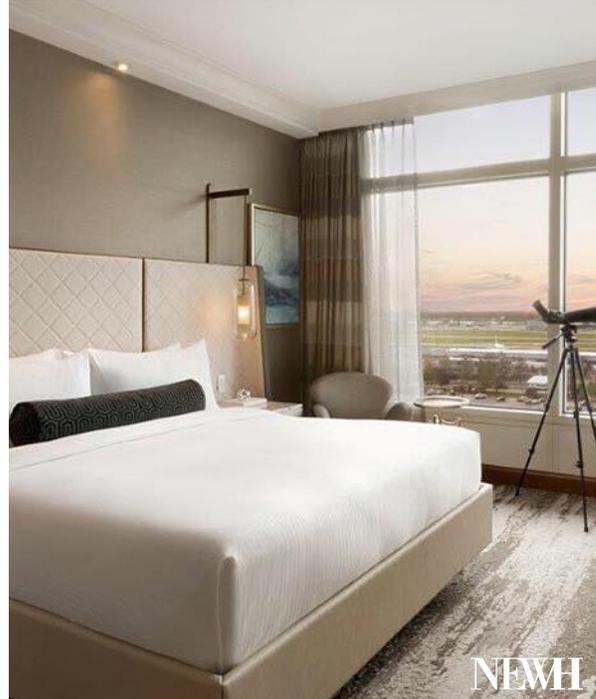
In 2021, NEWH hosted amazing virtual events that allowed for members to tune in, discuss and view new projects and products happening with the design industry.

One highlight was the **NEWH Vancouver Chapter** where a tour of the renovated Vancouver Airport Fairmont Hotel was shown. Panellists Adele Rankin, Patrick Gosselin, Ariel Grue Lee and Daniel Berman discussed the project, products that were selected and the journey behind the design, Elements of the project were inspired by the Vancouver airport, which was seen through the artwork and custom-designed pieces.

Another inspiring event was **NEWH Now: Let's Have Dialogue**. Davonne Reaves & Jessica Myers of Epiq Collective discussed how diversity has changed within the hospitality industry, They wanted to make a change within the industry and offer courses and encourage anyone to invest within the hospitality industry!

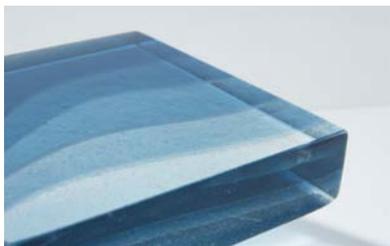
To view past events click here:

<https://vimeo.com/user7721697>



## Innovation Materials

### MATERIAL CONNEXTION AND SHAPING THE FUTURE ONE MATERIAL AT A TIME.



#### Durable cast glass

Solid block of glass, easy to clean, non-porous and needs no sealant.



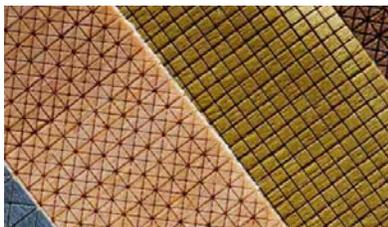
#### Sound Absorbing Panels

Made from natural, hand-picked Scandinavian Reindeer Moss.



#### Solid Surfacing Panels

Made from 60-80% post-consumer and post-industrial recycled glass.



#### Thin Wood Veneer

Provides new areas of application, such as the soft goods industry.

Founded over 20 years ago as a resource for furniture and architectural design, Material ConneXion is now a world-class materials library and consultancy. We're proud to be known for our innovative problem solving and thought leadership by the most influential brands across every industry.

Today, in addition to curating material libraries and collections around the globe, MCX helps companies source materials that enhance the performance, aesthetic, and sustainability of their projects. This resource is open to the public by appointment only!

Available to Sheridan students this database will enhance your design projects.

For more information visit:

<https://materialconnexion.com/>

# What I Wish I Knew...

## VIEWS FROM SHERIDAN COLLEGE STUDENTS

As their last year is coming to an end in this article we ask students to give a small statement on what they wish they knew before starting the Interior Design Program, survival tips and their highlights so far as they finish their final semester at Sheridan College.



When looking back on my journey at Sheridan it is crazy how fast time goes. I am so proud of the student I have become and I look forward to what the future holds. When I look back on my journey what I would offer to students entering the Interior Design Program is to not be afraid to ask questions and to always be researching. I think asking for clarification allows for a successful design and asking for a second opinion can help elevate your overall design and process. Researching too is extremely important, this can be done through viewing online articles about trends and also what materials are not only trending but will better the environment in which we are planning to complete our design within. Another piece of advice is to get involved within the design community. By attending events and getting to know people within the industry it will really help your design journey and you can learn some great tips and information from the experts in our industry. One survival tip would be to keep track of what tasks you are working on, creating a list really helped me to focus on what was due, and checking off a task was very satisfying! Sheridan is a great college and using the resources they provide and leaning on fellow classmates will help you in your success in your design career.

**-Carly Board**



Prior to starting the Interior Design Program, something that I wish became more involved in earlier is the clubs at Sheridan and organizations in the Field. The last two years in the program, I became a member of the Interior Design club, which lead me to become the club President. By becoming more involved, it has allowed me to get to know more of my peers in the program, as well as have an open space to discuss projects, portfolio's, career goals and more. This goes well with my survival tip of reaching out and collaborating with your peers. Due to recent events causing school to be online, being able to reach out and schedule time outside of class to talk to my peers has become essential. I have had many highlights in my Sheridan Collage journey, at the top of the list was being able to travel to Jaipur India to study textiles. Starting this program, I would have never imagined I would be traveling and collaborating with other programs at Sheridan. Experiences like that will forever shape my design process and I am very grateful to have that opportunity through Sheridan.

**-Morgan Hodasy**



## Join NEWH Today!

**JOIN NOW**

### Sign up for NEWH Student Membership

Student members will receive one year of free Associate membership upon graduation, in order to facilitate the transition to General membership. Please join the chapter/region your school is located in

Join here: <https://newh.org/join/>