NEWH ROCKY MOUNTAIN CHAPTER

TWENTY SEVENTEEN SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT HIGHLIGHT

HAUTE SEAT SPOTLIGHT EDITION

TOP ID HIGHLIGHT

MEMBER HIGHLIGHT

Q2 Newsletter
Kelli K. Schroeder  
Scholarship Amount Given: $4,500  
Major: Culinary Arts and Restaurant Management  
School: Metropolitan Community College Institute of Culinary Arts  
Graduation: Fall 2017

Kelli is a hardworking, single mother who works two jobs and goes to college full time. She is currently attending the Metropolitan Community College Institute of the Culinary Arts. She is currently pursuing two degrees. She is preparing to graduate this fall with a degree in Culinary Arts and Restaurant Management, and she will receive her second degree in Hospitality Management in May of 2018. Kelli is currently the President of her culinary fraternity, Tri Omega. She is also a proud member of the Honor Society.

What does this scholarship mean to you?

This Scholarship means the world to me. It has lifted a huge financial burden off my shoulders, and I don’t have to stress out and lose my hair as much now.

What is your plan on giving back?

My Plans for the scholarship are to finish both of my degrees, and continue in the field of hospitality with the goal of opening my own restaurant. I was born into the hospitality industry, at least that is what my family says, I am always ready to lend a hand and go the extra mile to make someone else’s day. I hope to be able to give back by offering money toward scholarship programs in the future, and to offer jobs to other hospitality individuals who need to be given a chance. I believe that anything worth doing is worth doing well. I am blessed with the time and the opportunity to make a difference in people’s lives, so why not strive to do just that on a daily, even hourly basis?

Amy Strunk  
Scholarship Amount Given: $4,500  
Major: Interior Design  
School: The Art Institute of Colorado  
Graduation: March 2017

Amy is a Colorado native who loves sushi, traveling and her dog. She received an Associates degree in Interior Design from Front Range Community College before finishing her college career at the Art Institute of Colorado with a Bachelor of Arts in Interior Design. Amy loves to travel and has had the opportunity to go all over the world as a tourist, a volunteer and as a resident. Throughout her travels she has found that she is passionate about learning about other cultures and seeing what unique aspects each one

What does this scholarship mean to you?

This scholarship allows me the opportunity to pursue my dreams and goals without the burden of student loans as I go into industry. This allows for me to take risks and pursue career options outside of just a purely financial need.

What is your plan(s) with the NEWH Scholarship?

The NEWH Scholarship will go towards my student loans. Unfortunately loans are a burden that many have to carry coming out of school and NEWH is giving me the opportunity to relieve myself of that burden.

Why are you interested in the Hospitality Industry/Design?

Unlike residential design, and even most commercial design, hospitality design allows for designers to meet the needs of not just one family or one hundred employees, but the thousands of people that come through their space. It reaches a more diverse group of people and must meet the needs of each and every one of them. Even on a local level hospitality design is a global endeavor.
I was born and raised in Walden, Colorado, a tiny mountain town about 100 miles from Fort Collins. After graduating (with my 11 classmates) I began my academic journey at Colorado Mesa University with the plan of becoming a graphic designer. During my freshman year I learned that I was creative, but not an artist - a relatively mandatory trait for a graphic designer. I came to Colorado State University intent on becoming a chemist. I quickly realized that I was too creative to pursue a career in science. When I chanced upon the interior design program like it was an oasis in the desert. Interior design, with the addition of a construction management minor, has been the ideal combination of creativity and analytics. I always knew I wanted to design, it just took a journey to discover my niche in the design community.

Carly Mansker
Scholarship Amount
Given: $3,500

Major: Interior Design
Minor: Construction Management
School: Colorado State University
Graduation: May 2017

What does this scholarship mean to you?

I’m not sure that I can even articulate the impact that this scholarship has had on my academic journey. I’m so incredibly grateful and honored to have been selected. It feels like an immeasurable weight has been lifted off of my shoulders; this scholarship is truly a life altering gift. It has allowed me to take valuable steps toward a future for myself that isn’t plagued by stress and worry.

What is your plan with the NEWH Scholarship?

Five years into earning my bachelor’s degree I see the looming start of the student loan payback deadline. Without these loans I would not be in college, but the debt is significant and places constraints on how and where I pursue employment (high paying versus gratifying) and whether I can continue toward a master’s degree. Beyond contributing to my student loans I plan to use a portion to pursue my LEED GA certification and aid in my ability to apply to a diverse range of graduate schools.

Why are you interested in the Hospitality Industry/Design?

In order to put myself through school I entered the restaurant industry which ignited my passion for hospitality design. At just 19 years old I led a kitchen brigade five nights a week. During my time cooking I took note of elements that were working and those that were not, from a back-of-house perspective. I found myself standing over a pot of soup daydreaming about design improvements to the commercial kitchen. I knew I was passionate about the culinary arena, but now I had the opportunity to look at it from the perspective of a designer.

What is your plan on giving back?

I’m really looking forward to getting involved with NEWH in the coming year. Giving back has always been a passion of mine, and through the scholarship process I was able to meet many of the fantastic NEWH board members who have really gotten me jazzed about being actively involved in the organization. Beyond that I plan on contributing as much as possible to the local design community through advocacy and professional involvement.
Delilah Collins
Scholarship Amount Given: $2,500
Major: Interior Design
School: The Art Institute of Colorado
Graduation: September 2017

I’m currently a student at the Art Institute of Colorado and will be graduating September with my Bachelors in Interior Design. I have over 15 years’ experience in the commercial flooring industry and looking forward to breaking into the commercial/hospitality design industry from a different angle. Originally from Chicago, I was raised in an architectural treasure of a city and have a deep respect for architectural history and design. When I’m not focused on homework I like to spend time with my fur babies and explore the mountains with my husband.

What does this scholarship mean to you?

The financial burden coming my way after graduation is quite daunting so the scholarship money will help us immensely. I have been fortunate to have my husband support my decision to go back to school both financially and spiritually and for that, I’m truly honored to be able to lessen the burden on us. Being a part of NEWH has been such a great experience; everyone has been welcoming and honest and I couldn’t be more grateful.

What is your plan with the NEWH Scholarship?

I plan to have the whole amount go towards lessening the total balance of my school loans. The $2,500 will go a long way!

Why are you interested in the Hospitality Industry/Design?

Having been in the flooring/tile industry for many years I had the opportunity to work on fun and exciting hospitality projects. Restaurants and Hotels were projects I found myself looking forward to becoming a part of. Any restaurant or hotel I visit I immediate geek out about the design and functionality of the space.

What is your plan on giving back?

I’m currently on the Student committee at school and helping fellow students become more involved in NEWH as well as other organizations because my experience has opened many doors for me and I want my colleagues to know about the opportunity. By continuing to volunteer for NEWH events, I’m looking forward to meeting new people and creating a path for other students.
This year, the Rocky Mountain Chapter took an old favorite – our Annual Scholarship Event known as Haute Seat - and gave it a new twist! Appropriately called the “Spotlight Edition”, design teams and vendors created a lamp shade during a live design competition. The evening, which also served as a chance to celebrate the 2017 NEWH Rocky Mountain scholarship recipients and local 2017 TopID award winners, was a great success!

By reinventing this popular design competition, we explored and celebrated our industry’s creative, collaborative, and quick-thinking minds with a charrette style evening of design!

Though it was a cool and rainy night, the Daltile Denver showroom was buzzing with energy as teams of designers and reps were given one hour to design and construct a light fixture during a live charrette-style design competition.

Color Cord Company donated the shade, a brightly colored wire structures, along with ten uniquely colored cords with a single LED bulb as the light fixture from which each shade was displayed. 3-Form’s LightArt division generously sponsored the trophy plaques for the winners. Guest judges - Jordan Vaughn / Owner, Von Design Inc + Vonmod LTD, Danielle Meyer / Interface, and Christine Nicolaysen / Gallun Snow & NEWH Scholarship Director – along with audience participation, then determined the 2017 Haute Seat Spotlight Edition winners.

1st Place - Contract Furnishings
Best Use of Materials - Emser Tile
People’s Choice - Vaughan Benz

Thank you again to our long list of Annual and Event Sponsors - your continued support is so imperative to NEWH’s mission, success, and growth as The Hospitality Network. A special thanks to all who participated in the successful Haute Seat “Spotlight Edition” event, and to Light Art, Color Cord, and Daltile for helping make the night possible!
The Rocky Mountain Chapter was pleased to showcase our local 2017 TopID design firms among an incredible audience of peers this year during the Haute Seat “Spotlight Edition” event held on April 20th.

TopID is a prestigious honor that promotes design excellence within our industry and is based on a firm’s quality of design work, specifically in the hospitality industry. Considerations are also given to a firm’s membership and continued support of the local NEWH Chapter. Each NEWH Chapter board was invited to participate in this exciting program to recognize and promote the best in our industry. This exclusive recognition is NEWH’s way of supporting and promoting our Designer membership.

Not only are design firms acknowledged by their local community as a leader in hospitality design, they are also celebrated internationally across the vast network of professionals in the industry.

From the entire Chapter, congratulations again to these exceptional and distinguished design firms! We thank you for the beautiful work, your continued support, and your fearless leadership within the hospitality industry.

Sara Harper
Sales Rep
Colorado
3form

Describe your current role and what drew you to the hospitality industry.

I am currently beginning a new journey as a sales representative for 3form! I am so excited about this opportunity to work with such a great company as well as continued work with the amazing Colorado A&D Hospitality Industry. For the last five years, I have been working as a sales rep for Daltile and before that, I spent five years as an interior designer in the hospitality worlds of hotels and senior living.

Describe your involvement with NEWH and why you have volunteered for the NEWH Rocky Mountain Chapter.

I spent three wonderful years volunteering on the board of the Rocky Mountain Chapter! And even after I left the board, I have continued to be on various committees and tried to be as involved as possible with events. It’s such a great group of people and I love the commitment the organization has to our community and interior design students!

Expand upon what you enjoy about the design industry.

I think my favorite thing about the design industry is that we have a true community of talented and inspiring people! It feels like being part of something bigger than just work! And groups like NEWH really embrace that and help keep us all involved!

Describe any hobbies or passions you have outside of work.

Outside of work, I love to ski, hike, spend time outdoors, watch movies and do lots of cooking while enjoying a nice glass of wine.)
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