

Atlanta  
**NEWH**  
The Hospitality Industry Network

**SPRING 2013**

Volume 5 April 2013

Meet the 2013 Scholarship  
Recipients and Judges

Check out the TOP ID Firms of 2013

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up to reFortify**



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MAYA ROMANOFF





# Letter from the 2013 president



Hello Atlanta! Spring is buzzing with new life, growth & networking opportunities! I am proud to say several familiar faces from the Atlanta chapter headed west earlier this year to participate in the NEWH Leadership Conference in San Francisco, CA. Including members of our chapter's executive committee, board of directors, general chapter members and student members! The conference was nothing less than inspirational and career motivating. I also expanded my professional network; some of whom are of the elite members of the industries' who's who. As always, NEWH delivered an unparalleled opportunity to bring the industry together to meet, greet and network. I personally returned from the conference with a new outlook on life

and career. 2013 brings a positive movement and growth within the hospitality industry!

We are all excited and proud of each and every one of this year's scholarship recipients. Each student is extremely deserving. We wish them well in their future endeavors and hope to see them again in the future.

Please join me in thanking the Atlanta chapter Board of Directors and dedicated volunteers. Without their continued support and efforts this chapter would not be possible.

Our chapter is working hard to provide an outstanding year of fun social events to keep you in touch with the hospitality community in your area. Check our Facebook page for upcoming events or by visiting our chapter's website to sign up for eblasts to our upcoming events at [www.newh.org/atlanta](http://www.newh.org/atlanta).

In the Spirit of Networking...

Meghan D. Bazemore  
DesignMORE International, llc.

**MEGHAN BAZEMORE, 2013 NEWH ATLANTA CHAPTER PRESIDENT**

# Letter from the editors



We move into the second quarter of 2013 wondering what happened to the first quarter. I would say "it seems" that things are back on track, but that would be putting it lightly. We are all busy as bees and the recent lean years are only a memory. As our chapter continues to grow in members and support, our opportunity to expand our personal knowledge grows too. We are not merely a networking group, but a great interstate of information. We all share the passion of design and through your support of our of chapter we are able to come together every second Tuesday, team together for a night of bowling or a day of golf, give service back to our community, and most importantly award a deserving student who will carry on our passion.

Please consider the Atlanta NEWH magazine be your sounding board. We welcome all of your announcements, pictures, article submissions, etc. You may already be a star, but we can help you broadcast it!

Submit info to [newhatmag@gmail.com](mailto:newhatmag@gmail.com) we will be checking in and getting ready for the fall edition before you know it.

Jennifer Wellman  
Director of Sales, SOHO Myriad

**JENNIFER WELLMAN , NEWH ATLANTA CHAPTER PUBLICATIONS  
CHAIR**



Hey Everyone! This is my first year being involved in NEWH and I would say I jumped right in by getting involved with the Publications committee. I am finishing up my last year of my BFA in Interior Design and through NEWH I have met so many wonderful connections and was even chosen as a scholarship recipient. This organization has given me great opportunities and I will continue giving back to this great community. With that said I hope you enjoy our 5th NEWH Atlanta Magazine!  
Thanks so much for reading!

Valerie Haase

**VALERIE HAASE, NEWH ATLANTA CHAPTER MAGAZINE EDITOR**



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# MEMBER NEWS



Goen + Associates, LLC is proud to announce that the firm now represents WillLight in the states of Georgia and Alabama. WillLight has been in business since 1968 and supplies lighting to many of the major hotel brands in the U.S. The company has both domestic and international manufacturing operations and offers guestroom lighting, as well as vanity lights, indoor and outdoor sconces, ceiling fixtures, and lampshades. Goen + Associates also represents Brand Standard Furnishings, WEL International, and Adriatic Outdoor Furniture.



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DesignMORE International will officially be Meghan Bazemore's independent Manufacturer's Rep Group! She'd like to announce she will be the Atlanta territory rep for Swavelle/ Millcreek and also Abbey Fine Art.



Tabitha Farr and Nicholas Erickson will be wed on 11/12/13 after seven years of growing together in love.

Email [newhatlmagazine@gmail.com](mailto:newhatlmagazine@gmail.com) with your member news to make it into the Fall Atlanta NEWH Magazine!

Sims Patrick Studio, Inc news: SPS, based out of Atlanta, GA, with Libby Patrick, Founder and Principal, has re-launched its website at [www.SimsPatrickStudio.com](http://www.SimsPatrickStudio.com). They are excited about the opening next month of the recently designed Sonesta Hilton Head Resort. The firm recently received commissions for the renovations of Sonesta Philadelphia, Sonesta Coconut Grove, Perimeter Mall Food Court in Atlanta, Bellis Fair Shopping Center in Bellingham, WA, Ronald McDonald House at Peachtree Dunwoody in Atlanta.

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# Sunny Days Ahead... Things Are Looking Up

By Morre McCollum

The lodging industry has been inching in an upward trajectory now for the past few years with high hopes for 2013. All indications show that this will be a better year than we have had in a while. Walk into any hospitality design firm, and you'll see it. There is a palpable difference. People are busy and energy is high and that is great news for an industry that has seen some tough days. Designers are heard saying things like, "I can't go to lunch. I have a huge deadline." or "We have a deadline every day lately." There is a lot going on, and everyone is feeling it, including our Atlanta NEWH chapter.

NEWH has 16 chapters in the United States, and Atlanta is the second largest chapter in the country with a total of 326 members. Our chapter is widely diversified with a variety of members from design and purchasing to vendor reps and construction. We have members renewing and joining for the first time constantly.

Ever since Kelly Bowen, student at GA State, has taken the Student Liaison position, we are thrilled to have numerous new student members adding to the chapter every day. Kudos to Kelly for getting our student community involved with NEWH.

Morre McCollum is a Representative for  
Interface Hospitality  
and NEWH Atlanta Membership Director





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# ATLANTA NEWH FALL MAGAZINE

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# Atlanta goes to San Fran'



Here's a snapshot of NEWH Atlanta at the 2013 **NEWH** Leadership Conference in San Francisco. Keynote speakers included Chris Conley, the founder of Joie De Vivre Hotels and Roger Thomas the Executive Vice President Design, Wynn Design and Development.



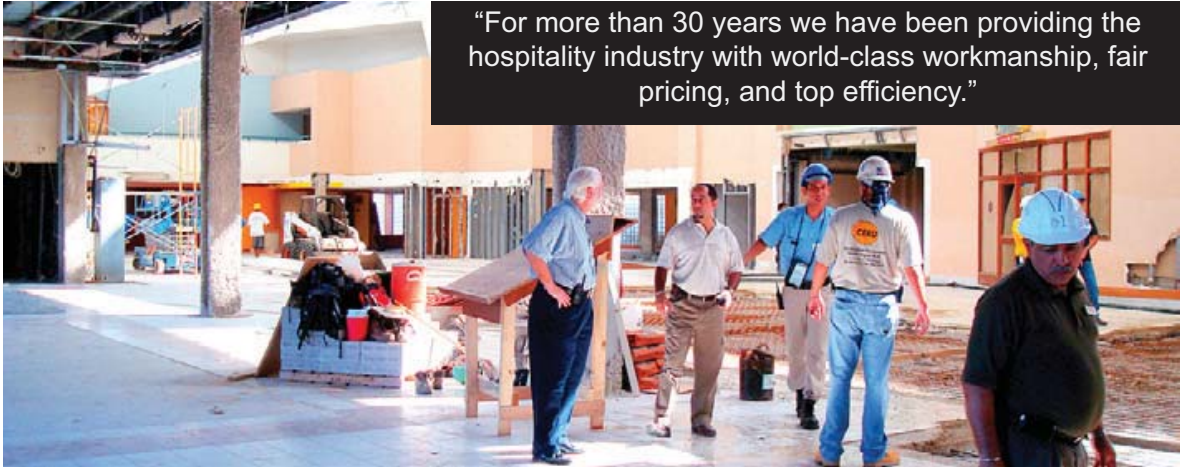




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# HOLIDAY SOIREE

In December our chapter hosted it's annual holiday celebration at Andrews Upstairs in Buckhead.

Nearly two hundred of the city's top architects, designers, purchasers, owners, manufacturer's reps and students gathered to mingle and celebrate a great year for Hospitality in Atlanta. A live band entertained the crowd and special photo collages were given to board members Ryan Partin, Dana Miller and Ginger Law who stepped down from their positions. In addition to the festivities, a sock drive was held to benefit the Atlanta Mission.



Cathy Mansour (Aqua Hospitality Carpets) Board member and Community Service Chair, Cathy Mansour, headed up the 'Toasty Toes' collection drive benefiting the Atlanta Mission



Pauline Luna (InterContinental Hotel Group), Kathryn Arnold (Arnold Design Resources), Jennifer Loux (Specialty Tile Products)



Radhika Vydianathan (Designer at Design Continuum Inc), Dana Miller (Desso)



Henri Munyengango (Showroom Manager at Edelman Leather), Supernita Kalra (Designer at TVS Design), Foreman Rogers (Designer at TVS Design), Neal Papevies (Global Allies)



Kristiina Peterson (Student at GSU), Ling Chen (Student at GSU), Corrie Peterson (Student at GSU), Kelley Bowen (Ceramic Technics), Sibongile Powell (Student at GSU), Valerie Haase (Student at GSU)



Anne Schroeder (DesignOne Studio), Silvana Pimental (Marketing Development Manager for American Standard Brands), Whitney Morgan (Harry Warren of Georgia, LLC)



# HOLIDAY SOIREE



Special thanks to Chuckyfoto and Media!



# HOLIDAY SOIREE

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**EVENT TAKES PLACE  
TUESDAY June 30th, 2013**

Atlanta

# NEW

## The Hospitality Industry Network



# Leaderboard

## SHOWCASED: NEWH ATLANTA 2013 TOP ID HOSPITALITY FIRMS



These firms have been reconguzed for design excellence for their design work in the hospitality field and their support and membership given to NEWH over the years. These firms were nominated for the Top ID list for 2013 by the Atlanta NEWH Chapter. This is a way of supporting our designers and recogniziing excellence.

Congratulations to the following firms that were nominated as leaders in the industry and NEWH.

- © Studio Rouge Interiors
- © US Hospitality Group
- © The Van Dresser Company

### Did you know?

That 4 of the 5 largest hotels in America are located in Las Vegas?

Whoever said everything is bigger in Texas obviously has never been to Vegas

# Leaderboard

## The Van Dresser Company



Back Row: Kelli Hagood, Glenna Greene, Christy Bell, Brittney Jennings, Caroline Foster, Amy Williams  
Front Row: Rima Abdallah, Pulchinella Qua, Jillian Van Dresser, Kathryn Paris, Contessa Qui

*Van Dresser*  
company



**Jillian Van Dresser**  
Principal  
Interior Design

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# The Van Dresser Company

The Van Dresser Company is a full service interior design firm providing interior design services for distinctive design projects. Our innovative and talented team brings many years of design and management experience to new construction as well as renovation and rehabilitation of hotels, resorts, conference centers, timeshares, luxury adult living and retirement centers, condominiums, restaurants and retail spaces.

Prior to directing her namesake company, Jillian Van Dresser, Principal, was Managing Director, Atlanta office of RD Jones & Assoc. and was previously in partnership with Frank Mingis of Mingis Design Group designing cruise ships, casino facilities and other prestigious hotels. Her passion for art and design is enhanced by travel and her love of Italy was fostered by the extensive redesign and refurbishment of an old historic villa reopened as a gracious hotel. In addition to historic properties, VDC works with domestic brands to create prototypes that are relevant for today's domestic and international expansion.

Enthusiastic in her support of the hospitality industry, Jillian is a member of NEWH Inc., the Hospitality Industry Network, and has served in many capacities locally and on the international level:

- Founding President, NEWH Atlanta
- National Board of Directors, 1991-2006
- International Past President, 2004-2005
- International President, 2002-2003
- Executive Vice President 1998-2001

NEWH Sustainable Hospitality Director 2006 -2008, Advisor 2009-2011

UNICEF School from the Heart, Fundraising Director 2005 – 2006

Jillian and her design work has been honored with numerous awards, including:

2011 Apex Award – Best Hotel Renovation/Re-Design

2009 Best New Retirement Living Facility Continuing Care - Cypress of Raleigh

2008 Construction Magazine: Best of the Best Private Facilities Category

2007 Recognition of Excellence International Award

2004 Joyce L Johnston Leadership Award, NEWH, Inc.

2003 ARDA Best New Timeshare Unit Design & Common Space Design:  
Starwood's Kierland





# Leaderboard

## Studio Rouge Interiors



Natalia Panagopoulos, Allison Vandiver, Ryan Partin, Katie Mc Clintock, Michelle Dodson

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# Studio Rouge Interiors

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DEVELOPER OF DESIGN & DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT  
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## SEVERAL NEW PROJECTS:

NEW BUILD-----HOMEWOOD SUITES SAVANNAH AIRPORT, GA  
NEW BUILD-----HOMEWOOD SUITES BIRMINGHAM, AL  
NEW BUILD-----COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT COLUMBUS, MS  
NEW BUILD-----HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS CHARLOTTE AIRPORT, NC  
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NEW BUILD-----PHC HOTEL COMPANY CORPORATE OFFICES ANDERSON, SC

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RENOVATION---HAMPTON INN & SUITES EASLEY, SC  
RENOVATION---HAMPTON INN NEWNAN,GA  
RENOVATION---HAMPTON INN CARROLLTON, GA (JUST COMPLETED)  
RENOVATION---BEST WESTERN JACKSON, MS  
RENOVATION---HAMPTON INN & SUITES PELL CITY, AL (JUST COMPLETED)  
RENOVATION---ISLAND INN TO BEST WESTERN ST SIMONS ISLAND, GA  
RENOVATION---RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT LITTLE ROCK, ARK  
RENOVATION---WINGATE BY WYNDHAM KENNESAW, GA  
RENOVATION---HAMPTON INN OKEECHOBEE, FL  
RENOVATION---COMFORT SUITES STARKVILLE, MS  
RENOVATION---PEACHTREE HOTEL GROUP CORPORATE OFFICES DUNWOODY, GA  
RENOVATION---HOMEWOOD SUITES DURHAM, NC

CONVERSION---HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS COBB GALLERIA, SMYRNA GA  
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CONVERSION---HAMPTON INN MILLEDGEVILLE, GA  
CONVERSION---HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS DULUTH, GA

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# Leaderboard

## US Hospitality Group



US Hospitality Group  
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# US Hospitality

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Erica Coursey  
Regional Sales

Kit Rosch  
Accounting

Randy Clapp  
Outside Sales

Katie Moulder  
Interior Designer

Suzanne Knight  
Procurement Coordinator

## Some Current Projects:

Holiday Inn Express Pekin, IL – won Renovation of the Year with IHG 2009

Hampton Inn Geneseo, NY

Holiday Inn Dothan, AL

Hampton Inn Mansfield, PA

Hampton Inn & Suites Liberal, KS

Staybridge Inn & Suites Stafford, TX – First SRD installment for Vista scheme

Hampton Inn Elkhart, IN

Holiday Inn Danbury, CT

Hampton Inn Flemington, NJ

Comfort Inn Sylva, NC







## THE 2013 NEWH SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

*Gala* — 25 April 2013



*Stacy Costa, National Wallcovering  
Scholarship Director  
Atlanta Chapter*

The objectives of NEWH are to promote scholarship, education and interest in the Hospitality Industry and related fields. To that end, each chapter is tasked with fundraising to provide scholarship dollars for eligible students wishing to enter the Hospitality Industry. Chapter events such as bowling and golf tournaments are great fun and networking opportunities, but are also for a greater good...raising money for scholarships. You can feel good in knowing your participation in these events have contributed to a student's future.

As this year's incoming Scholarship Director, this task has been one of the most rewarding things I have ever been a part of professionally. Getting to go out and speak to the students at the different schools in our region, there is an indescribable excitement knowing someday I will work alongside these talented individuals. This year our chapter raised over \$20,000 and the committee has selected six very deserving recipients from various schools. I simply cannot wait for you to meet these talented individuals. This accomplishment belongs to all of us.

Special thanks to the Scholarship Committee, each one putting in enormous time and effort to make this event a success... *Kelly Bowen, Ceramic Technics LTD; Erica Coursey, Northwest Carpets; Kelth Hudgins, National Wallcovering and Dana Miller, DESSO...YOU ALL ROCK!!!*

*"Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever."  
— Mahatma Gandhi*

# INTRODUCING The 6 NEWH ATLANTA CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

# Ayman Abdallah

Savannah College of Art and Design



Ayman is studying at SCAD, The University for Creative Careers. He is concluding his senior year, and has been admitted into the 5th and final year leading to the Professional Masters of Architecture, accredited by the National Architectural Accrediting Board. Ayman continues to demonstrate the highest work ethics and dedication to the learning experience; setting an example and leading the way as a top student performer. He serves as the department of architecture's designated peer tutor. When asked about his passion for helping others, Ayman clarified: "Raising the bar by motivating my fellow classmates helps create a more positive learning experience, and leads to improving the overall quality of the whole student body."

Ayman is convinced that Architecture is the medium through which we could achieve a healthier, more balanced standard of living, which addresses both our physical and spiritual needs. He believes that would be achieved through effectively incorporating the community and the intelligent use of our natural resources. His goal for the community is to become emotionally attached to the architecture which they interact with. His designs must respond to, enhance, preserve, and express the unique qualities of the specific site, region, culture, and history. Ayman aims for an interactive architecture that engages all of its users' senses, as well as flexible enough to adapt to their needs throughout the lifetime of the building. Believing in the power of networking and positive associations, Ayman attended a presentation by Stacy Costa, Scholarship director of the Atlanta chapter, where he learned about various professional resources, networking and scholarships opportunities made available by NEWH. "I am fortunate to have learned about NEWH. Being awarded with the hospitality scholarship for 2013 has provided a substantial financial relief for me and my family, thus help me focus more of my efforts in the pursue of academic and professional excellence, as well as service to the community. I am looking forward to exploring and taking the best advantage of NEWH's future events and available resources, for many years to come." Ayman's ultimate career goal is to establish an internationally acknowledged design firm; allowing him to serve as many people across the globe. Eventually, he hopes to leave a legacy of a genuine, innovative, inspiring, and environmentally responsible architecture.

# Aja Baldwin

University of Tennessee at Chattanooga



Aja is studying Interior Design at The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. She is also minoring in entrepreneurship to help her with her design career and to one day own her own design firm.

Aja is a member of many professional organizations for both design and sustainability, including ASID, CSI, IDA, and C2C Fellows. She is active in her school's effort to become more sustainable, as well as in her Christian campus ministry The House where she helps lead a women's ministry.

As a student, Aja prides herself on constantly striving to be the best she can be no matter what. She currently has a 4.0 GPA and has had many projects retained for CIDA review. With her art and sales background, creativity, friendliness, work ethic,

experience, and passion for what she does, Aja plans to achieve much in her career.

After graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Interior Design, Aja hopes to work with a firm that specializes in LEED building and design. She also hopes to sit for the NCIDQ exam and obtain a LEED Green Associate accreditation.

# Benjamin Harris

Savannah College of Art and Design



Born in Inverness, FL, and raised partially in Central Florida and also in South Georgia, Benjamin attends Savannah College of Art and Design and majors in Interior Design. "I've never been able to be in a space without making sense of it and rearranging it mentally so that it is better aesthetically as well as functionally." Monica Letourneau has been his professor for two quarters now and writes that she is "very impressed by his thoughtful design process" and "Ben not only generates great ideas, but he is able to speak like a designer when describing his goals or outcomes."

Benjamin moved from Valdosta, GA to Savannah, GA in 2009 after applying and being accepted to SCAD. He had already received an Associates of Science Degree in Landscape Design and Grounds Management from Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College but wanted to return to school because of his passion for Interior Design. Working full time in management at The Home Depot along with going to school full time has created many obstacles but because of his passion for design he manages to balance the two. He is looking forward to graduating with his BFA in Interior Design in the Summer of 2013 and hopes to soon after join a firm where he can be part of a collaborate design practice.

# Valerie Haase

Georgia State University



Valerie Ann Haase is from the quaint coastal city Brunswick, Georgia. She moved to Atlanta to pursue a degree in Interior Design from Georgia State University. She is currently finishing her senior year and cannot be more excited to enter the professional design world and to utilize her skills she has accrued during her education.

Valerie is an excellent student, outgoing and very personable with a deep inner drive to succeed and accomplish the job and goals that are set for her. She strives to design spaces that are responsive to the environment and plans to receive her LEED accreditation after graduation and implement sustainable and responsive practices in hospitality design. She believes there is no need to compromise creativity for sustainability. Instead the two work harmoniously together to create spaces that are aesthetically and environmentally conscious and innovative.

Valerie believes that through her design she will make a positive impact in the world. The excitement and endless possibilities of design push her to work hard. Design is her passion that will never tire.



# Laurel Holland

University of Georgia



Laurel is studying Interior Design at the University of Georgia. Thomas Houser, Interior Design Chair, said "Laurel embodies the standards and principles sought in a recipient of a NEWH scholarship. She is a strong, self motivated designer."

She is very involved on campus and in the community. As President-Elect of the American Society of Interior Designers-UGA Student Chapter, Laurel shares her passion for interior design with other students. Her main goal is to get members more involved. Due to the diversity and economic nature of the city of Athens, there is an abundance of opportunities to help the community. Over the past year, our chapter has reached out to the less fortunate, children and those who have experienced residential disasters.

After receiving her BFA, Laurel plans to work for a hospitality interior design firm. She is extremely grateful to be a NEWH scholarship recipient. This scholarship is helping her fund her study abroad trip this summer to continue her interior design education in Italy.

# Shantae' Walker

Art Institute of Atlanta



Majoring in Interior Design at the Art Institute of Atlanta, Shantae' has reached her final years of studies, with a graduation date set for September! She is originally from Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and found her way to the Atlanta area to further pursue her education and to seize the vast opportunities the region offers. She was drawn to the Interior Design profession through the world of arts and crafts that acted as a portal into the interior design profession. Through her time spent at the Art Institute she developed a lasting passion that had always seemed to be simmering just below the surface.

While in school Shantae' works as a hotel guest service agent with in the hospitably industry. By working this position she has had the opportunity to interact with a vast amount of people, each who present new challenges that has improved her critical thinking and problem solving ability which are vital in the customer service industry.

Although young, Shantae' has proved to be a very detailed and focused individual who is driven by new and innovative designs. Her ultimate professional goal is to work in the Hospitality/ Retail design industry, taking part in the space planning and design process. Although challenging and time consuming, she has found detailing to be a joyous aspect of designing. After graduating, Shantae' would like to secure a position with a hospitality firm that specialize in hotel, retail, and restaurant design. With a focus in green design as it relates to inhabitable environments in which humans live and work is also an area of concentration for Ms. Walker.

As a student of the Art Institute of Atlanta, Shantae' has participated in a number of student volunteer events and have lent help to my fellow classmates as a tutor. This involvement has given her a great sense of camaraderie with her fellow classmates which she feels will carry through to her professional career. Shantae' has worked really hard to support and maintain her academic standing and feel that no matter the hardships, she may experience along the way, that there is no excuse for failure.

SCHOLARSHIP

# INTRODUCING The 5 TALENTED NEWH ATLANTA CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS JUDGES

SCHOLARSHIP

Judges

## Carolyn Auger Joiner

Carolyn Auger Joiner, ASID



Principal  
Blackdogstudio



Carolyn Auger Joiner, ASID worked for several well respected design firms upon graduation from Georgia State University in 1986 before starting her own firm; blackdog studio in 2004. Carolyn is recognized for her strengths as a team player and communicator with the ability to successfully bridge the gap between an Owner's wishes and Brands' requirements.

Blackdog studio has completed over a dozen new build hotel projects as well as several dozen renovation projects since its' inception nearly 9 years ago. We have successfully completed projects for the following brands: Westin, Sheraton, Marriott, Renaissance, Four Points, Indigo, aloft, Crowne Plaza, InterContinental as well as a handful of independent 'boutique' projects such as the Glenn hotel in downtown Atlanta and the recently completed Cook Hall restaurant which is located in the W hotel/Buckhead.

# Michael Habachy

## HABACHYDESIGNS



Michael Habachy  
Habachy Designs, Inc. | Atlanta

Michael Habachy is an acclaimed interior and furniture designer who creates luxury commercial and residential spaces nationally and internationally. His design firm, Habachy Designs Inc, specializes in interiors that are timeless and modern, yet each has an eclectic punch that conveys a unique brand and identity. Habachy takes a minimal approach to achieve maximum impact, selectively choosing elements to create a sense of drama. Some of his most recognizable work in Atlanta includes Compound nightclub, Blue MedSpa, Entebello Spa, Aurum Lounge, Dressed, Viande Rouge steakhouse and

Midtown's new Vanquish lounge and Reign nightclub.

Since beginning his design career in 1998, Habachy has earned international recognition and accolades from publications including Trends Magazine (cover story), The Atlantan, The Atlanta Business Chronicle, AJC' Sunday paper Home finder, ASK Magazine (Egypt), 944 Magazine and The Piedmont Review. Also he has been featured on various TV design shows-- from TBS' Movie and a Makeover to HGTV's Design Wars.

# Janet Hyde



InterContinental Hotels Group



Janet L. Hyde, ASID  
Manager Brand Design  
Intercontinental Hotels Group (IHG)

Janet L. Hyde (ASID), Manager Brand Design for IHG Americas corporate office in Atlanta, GA, oversees the design and development of comprehensive interior design schemes for IHG Branded Hotels in the Americas region. Her responsibilities include leading her team in the development of hotel interior design and architecture, art, signage, and the integration of branded elements for both new and existing hotels. Through her collaboration with Global and Regional IHG brand teams she incorporates new brand innovations and creative concepts

in the development of original design concepts consistent with brand positioning.

Janet has been immersed in the hospitality design industry for more than 25 years. She previously served as Senior Design Consultant for Hotel Indigo, IHG's boutique hotel brand. Prior to joining IHG in 2007, she held design positions at The Johnson Studio, Image design, Inc, and Hirsch-Bedner and Associates. She received her BFA in Interior design from the University of Georgia and is a professional member of ASID.



## Phillip Miller



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Phillip Miller  
Vice President of Design and Construction

Davidson Hotels & Resorts As VP of Design and Construction, Phil heads up the Design and Construction Department for Davidson. Under the last 14 years of his leadership, his responsibility has been to oversee the development, management and reporting of all new construction, renovation activities and yearly capital expenditure plans. Phil also assists the business development department with repositioning plans when involving conversions and new purchases that require renovations, and assists operations in

developing and implementing special projects that produce favorable ROI.

Davidson Hotels and Resorts is one of the nation's largest independent hotel management company, and specializes in operating upscale and luxury full service hotels and resorts and premium focus-services properties. Davidson currently manages properties all across the United States under such flags as Westin, Marriott, Renaissance, Hyatt, Hilton, Radisson, Doubletree, Embassy Suites, and Sheraton.

## Billie Thorne

# C • M • M • I



Billie P. Thorne, ASID  
Principal | Vice President  
CMMI, Inc.

Billie Thorne, ASID, joined CMMI in 1991 and became a principal in the firm in 2006. CMMI, Inc., is an integrated design group with a unique blend of architecture and interior design expertise focusing on the hospitality industry. With 25 years of experience in the hospitality industry, CMMI has designed projects that range from

intimate resorts to large scale convention hotels.

In 1989, Billie earned her Bachelor of Science in Architectural Studies from the University of Texas in Austin. She is a member of the American Society of Interior Designers (ASID) and is NCIDQ Certified. Billie has particular expertise working on renovations and new construction of hotels. Her success in exceeding client expectations is shown in the execution of many award winning projects.

Now she takes great pleasure in creating new and exciting spaces for her clients. Billie is incomparable in helping clients articulate their vision and in understanding all the nuances, both big and small, of the project.

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A group of interior designers recently gathered together with the primary goal of challenging common conventions with our design community. They concluded that by having a different type of design competition within the industry, it would create not only joy and excitement but also fantastic opportunities for their talents to provide gifts to the community.

(re)fortify was created with the idea that youthful imagination is design's best resource and that design projects can and should have real, social impact. The purpose of this fun and engaging competition was to create forts for a cause. Small design teams worked with local youths to create amazing feats of textile architecture.



SafeHouse Outreach in Atlanta opened the doors of it's youth art class so designers

could tell the story of what it means to practice in a creative field and so kids could explore design around the concept of creating individual, kid-scaled places. In the end, participants learned that design was something they were empowered to do and how creative, fun and meaningful it could be!

Afterwards, all materials (sheets, blankets, clothing) were then donated to the SafeHouse Outreach program so that our friends and neighbors could stay warm.



NEWH Members shown: Jennifer Loux, Specialty Tile, Bongie Powell, Sims Patrick Studio, Chad Pryor, Urban Design Group, Kelly Bowen, Ceramic Technics Ltd., Cathy Mansour, Aqua Hospitality Carpets and Valerie Haase, Idea Span. *Not pictured, Jennifer Wong, GSU, Nicole and Seth Higgins, Ceramic Technics Ltd, Jennifer Wellman, SoHo Myriad*

*Design Team Sponsors*



## New Buckhead facility taps top design talent and resources in response to demand for specialized interior design.

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Innvision, announced the addition of Innvision DesignSM Atlanta, a design and procurement center that will focus exclusively on the firm's offerings to the midscale and upscale/luxury hotel market. The new facility is located in Piedmont Center (often called the "Business Center of



Buckhead"), conveniently situated near many of Atlanta's premier design resources. This expansion comes as a result of the growing success of Innvision DesignSM, the design arm of the company. Increasingly sought out by hotel owners, Innvision DesignSM transforms interiors using a comprehensive approach – covering everything from concept and planning to development, documentation, bidding, and implementation.

Holly Kappes, Senior Design Manager, heads the Innvision DesignSM Atlanta office, where she leads a team of talented designers. An industry veteran with an eye for the details that create a pleasing, luxurious experience that's optimized for both hotel operators and guests, Kappes has been planning and designing hotel properties for nearly three decades.

# INNVISION DESIGN

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“I am honored to be a part of this group of creative design professionals,” says Kappes. “Collectively, we offer our clients a deep base of industry knowledge and diverse experience gained from our work with hotel and luxury resort projects worldwide. With this strategically located facility, our services are now more accessible to major hotel brands and unique independent properties. We also have access to an even greater pool of design talent and product resources. We look forward to welcoming clients to our new Atlanta design & procurement center.” - Holly Kappes



About Innvision and Innvision Design | Innvision is a leading provider of interior design and procurement services to some of the world’s most recognizable hotel brands. Since its inception in 2004, Innvision has earned an impeccable reputation in the industry, employing robust and agile project management processes to coordinate, expedite, and deliver products and services on time and on budget. Innvision DesignSM adds another dimension to Innvision’s service portfolio with some of the industry’s most talented and experienced hospitality design professionals, focused on creating customized interior design and décor solutions. Their comprehensive approach includes design concept, planning, development, documentation, bidding, and implementation. With corporate headquarters in Griffin, GA, Innvision maintains multiple design centers in key geographic locations, including Atlanta, Dallas, and Memphis. For more information, call (888) 465-0111 or visit [www.innvision.net](http://www.innvision.net) or [www.innvisiondesign.net](http://www.innvisiondesign.net).



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# Make the Most of Your NEWH Membership

NEWH takes pride in supporting our members. We are a premier networking resource for the hospitality industry providing education, leadership development, recognition of excellence, career resources, scholarships and business development opportunities. All are created to advance the professional development of our members.

This year the focus for Membership will be Involvement. We would like you to get the most out of your membership, the best way to do that is to participate. Perhaps you would like helping with one of our networking events, or maybe writing an article for our newsletter is more your thing. There are numerous options for involvement! Participation doesn't mean you will have to spend copious amounts of time or be the lead dog on something. It could be a small commitment to one event or a larger role...whatever you choose.

Being a member of NEWH has great benefits, and this is a great way to make your membership count. Whether you are a new or existing member, we want to encourage you to get involved in some part of NEWH, no matter how large or small. There are lots of things to be done, and you will be glad you got involved! Your participation will pay off, and you will be better for it.

So, if reading this sparks your interest in becoming a member of the NEWH Atlanta Chapter, or you are reading this as an existing member and like the idea of becoming more involved, please contact Morre McCollum at [morre.mccollum@interfaceflor.com](mailto:morre.mccollum@interfaceflor.com).

Hope to hear from you soon!





# Conserve Today, Appreciate Tomorrow

As a visual culture we appreciate and expect art to be a part of our everyday experience. In most cases it is; almost every space has something decorative in a gamut of media, sizes, and styles. From the time we open our eyes there are paintings or posters adorning the walls of our homes and hotels. As we walk down a street there are public art installations and street art ranging from highly abstracted aesthetically focused sculptures to political statement pieces that provide topics of conversation and rumination. We discuss the content and form of the work but one topic that is often overlooked (until it is too late) is the conservation of these works that edify our daily experience. Without conservation works can be ruined or completely lost for future generations. This is a travesty that can be avoided with simple action and consideration.

Conservation is a topic that must be discussed and contemplated from the conception of the work of art. Each medium has ramifications for the longevity of the work due to its chemical make up and manipulations by the artist. Artistic media also have inherent vices, such as the gradual patination or corrosion of metal, which cannot be avoided. However taking specific measures to ensure that works of art are preserved to their fullest extent will not only maintain their best appearance but also ensure a longer life. As the creators and owners of art, our duty is to preserve it. While the process will not be the same for every media or every piece of the same medium the thought process will be the same.

First, consider the media and research the inherent vices of the material. Does it have a life expectancy and how does it age? Does it decay in certain environments? If so, is the environment where it is placed conducive to the longest life? Second, consider the environment. Is the space subject to harsh light? Does the space have controlled temperature and humidity or is it prone to climate extremes? Third, consider the exposure. Are pests a potential problem? Is there a lot of foot traffic and visitors? Are certain types of pollution prevalent in the area? In light of recent disastrous weather events another aspect of consideration is disaster preparedness. So much effort is made in the production and acquisition of art that it would be a grievous oversight to lack a disaster plan. A well thought out disaster plan would save works of art as well as time, money and effort post-disaster. A plan should have a prioritized list of holdings, specific information on action steps, who is responsible for completing the steps, where each piece should be stored in case of disaster, and what steps to take post-disaster. For example, the most precious or rare pieces should be stored in the safest part of the building, such as near an inner wall of an upper floor. Post-disaster, there should be a plan in place to conserve those works if they were damaged.

While this is not a comprehensive guide for what collectors and owners of art should do to ensure the long life of artwork, it is a point for consideration that will lead to further understanding. Attention to the conservation of art is beneficial in the short term because the work will look its best and in the long-term because of the preservation of historical art and new masterpieces. If we take precautions to conserve them they will withstand the test of time for fuller appreciation in the future. The innovations of today are the classics of tomorrow!

EDL Art Consultants, founded in 1986, is an award-winning international art consulting firm based in Atlanta, GA. We research, design, procure and install unique art collections in luxury hotels, resorts and residences, dining and entertainment destinations, and private collections. We seek to provide works of art to clients that are appropriate for the enhancement of a space aesthetically and that will thrive in the environment for which it is intended. We aim to exceed our clients' expectations by providing them with art that will be beneficial to them in both the short and long term to perfectly suit their needs. [www.edlart.com](http://www.edlart.com).



Check out the NEWH Atlanta Chapter website and **LIKE** us on facebook for the most up to date NEWH information and get **the scoop** on our upcoming events!



## Summer Hotel Tour Series

Join your Atlanta Chapter for a three-month series of hotel tours featuring the latest local hotels to grace the scene

### July 23rd Hilton Garden Inn & Homewood Suites Midtown



Located in the heart of Midtown Atlanta, the Hilton Garden Inn Atlanta Midtown hotel is convenient to everything the vibrant city has to offer.

*Architecture by Lindsey Pope Brayfield  
Interiors by Design Continuum Inc.*

### Aug 27th Hyatt Atlanta Midtown



The newest full-service hotel in Midtown and provides 194 modern elegant style accommodations for an intimate, familiar lodging option in Atlanta.

*Interiors by TVS Design*

### Sept 17th Le Meridien Atlanta Perimeter



Set in the heart of Dunwoody, minutes from downtown the surrounding area is a contemporary juxtaposition of business, shopping, dining, sports, and entertainment.



## NEWH ATL SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

January - No Scheduled Event

February - No Scheduled Event

3/12 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday Networking and Hallmark Collection CEU

4/9 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday Networking Event

**\*4/25 - Annual Scholarship Awards Gala**

5/30 - Showroom Tour & Happy Hour

6/11 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday Networking Event

**\*6/20 - Annual Bowling Tournament**

ALL NEWH/ATLANTA EVENT LOCATIONS AND/OR SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.  
Follow the Atlanta Chapter on Facebook, LinkedIn & Twitter, or visit <http://www.newh.org/atlanta>  
for details regarding upcoming events, membership, Board participation, volunteer opportunities, etc.

7/9 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday Networking Event

7/23 - Hilton Garden Inn & Homewood Suites Midtown Hotel Tour

8/13 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday Networking Event

8/27 - Hyatt Midtown Hotel Tour

9/10 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday Networking Event and CEU Presentation

9/17 - Le Meridien Hotel Tour and Happy Hour

10/15 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday Networking Event

**\*October 2013 - Annual Golf Tournament**

11/12 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday Networking Event

**\*12/10 - Annual Holiday Party**

***\*Sponsorship Opportunities Available***

Contact Jennifer Loux (Programming) regarding SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES  
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to men; women and children that are trying to recover from financial disaster, drug/alcohol addiction, discouragement or job loss and homelessness. Your kind donations at our recent Holiday Soirée were very much appreciated.

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The poster features a background image of a golf ball on a tee and a golf club head on a green. The text is overlaid on this image. At the top, 'Save the Date!' is written in a large, red, cursive font. Below it, 'NEWH ATLANTA' is written in a bold, sans-serif font, with 'NEW' in blue, 'H' in red, and 'ATLANTA' in green. Underneath, 'ANNUAL GOLF FUNDRAISER' is written in white, bold, sans-serif font. Below that, 'ST. MARLO COUNTRY CLUB' is written in red, bold, sans-serif font. The date 'OCTOBER 29, 2013' is written in white, bold, sans-serif font. At the bottom, 'CONTACT: ERICA COURSEY [ericacoursey@gmail.com](mailto:ericacoursey@gmail.com)' is written in white, bold, sans-serif font.

*Save the Date!*  
NEWH ATLANTA  
ANNUAL GOLF FUNDRAISER  
ST. MARLO COUNTRY CLUB  
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