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Bienenstock Furniture Library Announces Design Competition Winners

Two \$10,000 Scholarships Will Be Awarded at the April High Point Market



Kai-ning Huang a graduate student at The Savannah College of Art & Design (SCAD) Wins \$10,000 Award for Furniture Design



Xie Xin a student at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University Wins \$10,000 Award for Interior Design.

High Point, NC — (March 8, 2013) Last week the Bernice Bienenstock Furniture Library Board of Directors announced the winners of design competitions that awarded two \$10,000 scholarships to distinguished scholars to continue studies in their respective fields of Interior Design and Furniture Design. In addition to the \$10,000 awards, they have been given memberships in the ASFD and ASID professional associations.

The Bienenstock scholarships are open to any junior, senior or graduate student enrolled in an accredited college design program. Each winner will be awarded scholarship funds during the April 2013 High Point Market.

“Our founder, Sandy Bienenstock, advanced his long-standing desire to invest in the education and future of the furniture industry by establishing the Library itself and by initiating the Bienenstock Scholarships,” said Charles Sutton, president of the Library Board. “The intention of these

scholarships is to encourage and inspire the best and most creative minds and help them to develop their talents. To that end, this year we added a scholarship in interior design to our long-standing award in furniture design, creating two substantial national scholarships.”

These competitions are a collaborative effort among the ASFD, ASID and the library. The ASFD founded the furniture competition and leads the judging. The ASID sponsors and judges the interior design completion. The library hosts the competition and funds the scholarships. This is an annual competition and a new contest will be announced in November.

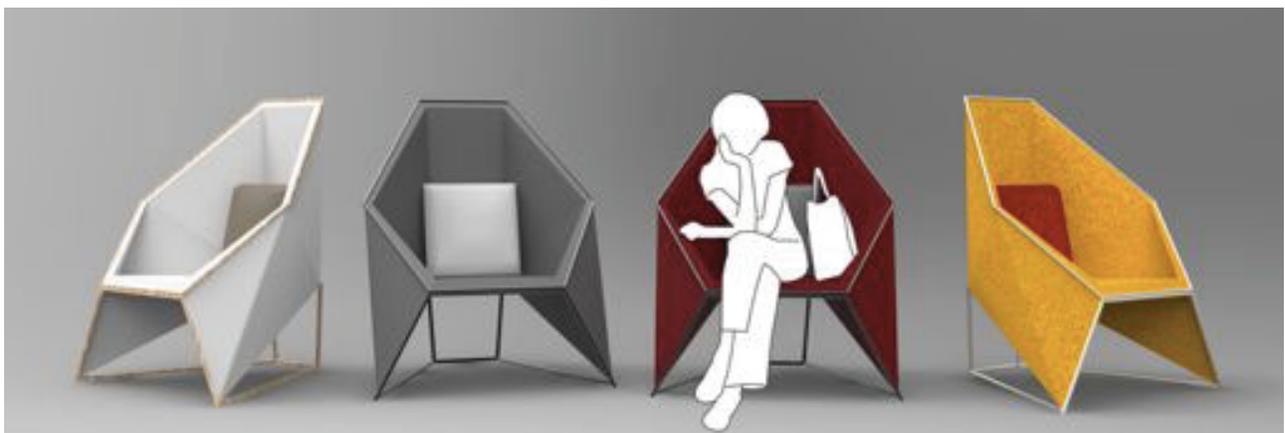
FURNITURE DESIGN COMPETITION

Entrants were asked to design a chair that was “visually stunning, appropriate for manufacturing, fiscally feasible, and suitable for mass production,” said Sutton. “Our goal was to arrive at a design that could be marketed to the residential and/or contract trade.”

Judges in the furniture design category included Dudley Moore Jr., Otto & Moore; Rick Shroeder, Stanley Furniture; Jay Reardon, Hickory Chair; Paul Brayton, Paul Brayton Designs; Royale Wiggan, Thayer Coggin, Inc.; Richard Frinier, Frinier Atelier; and Rod Lambeth, Tomlinson/Erwin-Lambeth.

Dudley Moore, President of the ASFD and Chairman of the Furniture Design Committee noted, “We were pleased with the breadth and quality of submissions, which came from students at some of the finest design schools in the country. Narrowing this excellent group of chair designs was a painstaking task for the judges. Throughout the process, we were amazed and gratified by the creativity and artistic sensibility exhibited by this talented group of young furniture designers. Personally, I was struck by the idea that the future of our industry looks bright and secure in the hands of these innovative young minds.”

He added, “While the decision was difficult, the Delta Chair by Kai-Ning Huang (Pronounced Kai Ning Whang) stood out as the outstanding design submitted. The form of the chair was unique and visually stunning, and the modular aspect of the chair made it a great solution for public environments. We were impressed by the designer’s thoughtful consideration of creating a comfortable personal space for people in today’s increasingly congested world. Furthermore, in a word, the chair was just flat-out cool.”



Kai-Ning, a graduate student at SCAD noted that the chair was designed for public spaces and pointed out its unique functional elements: “The chair provides both privacy and ample personal space. The seat space is not a traditional cube, but rather a trapezoidal space that makes room for larger people or personal belongings such as a handbag or backpack. It can be arranged in a variety

of ways, including honeycombs for maximum space efficiency. But besides being functional, I wanted it to be pretty. It adds color and sculpture to an otherwise uninteresting room.”



When asked about her inspiration for the chair she said, “I named this the Delta Chair because the Greek symbol for delta is a triangle. This chair is composed of a variety of geometric shapes, but mostly triangles.” She added that she is from Taiwan and spends a lot of time travelling and that travelling involves a lot of waiting. She likes to look at “everyday life, see problems and try to dream up creative and functional solutions. She said she was honored and flattered to win the award and would use the scholarship money to further her studies in furniture design.

The aspects that appealed most to her about furniture design include solving real problems, getting the ideas on paper and communicating them to others, and the actual craft of making the product. She described how she liked the sensory experience of feeling the materials, working with her hands and experiencing the creative process.

“We are so proud of Kai-ning for winning this year's Bienenstock Furniture Design Competition,” said SCAD Furniture Design Professor and Program Coordinator George Perez. “This is a wonderful opportunity for her. It is a testament to her hard work and the investment the industry is making in young talent and the future of design in the home furnishings industry. I know she is sincerely and humbly appreciative of the recognition.”

Kai-ning’s design was chosen from a field of eight finalists. Honorable mentions were noted for Sharece Ramos from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and Jacob Blok from Kendall College of Art and Design.

INTERIOR DESIGN COMPETITION

Entrants were asked to design a project including both residential and commercial spaces to a set of specifications. Judges in the interior design category included: Christi Spangle, ASID, Barbour Spangle Design; Libby Langdon, Libby Interiors, Inc.; Barry Dixon, Barry Dixon Design; Pat Plaxico, Pat Plaxico Interior Design; June Anderson, ASID; Christi Barbour, Allied ASID, Barbour Spangle Design; and Brianne Verstat, ASID, Barbour Spangle Design.

The winning project for the interior design category was called Harmony House, an organization for runaway youth. The top floor is residential and the bottom floor is a sandwich shop where they work. The ground floor also has counseling and tutoring rooms for the youth who reside there. It was a challenging project because it combined residential and commercial space.

Of Xie Xin's (Pronounced Zee Zin), winning design, the judges noted, "This design is a great combination of creativity and function. It shows a wonderful understanding of the inhabitant, and a sensitive and lyrical expression of design that was both functional and a highly creative work of art."

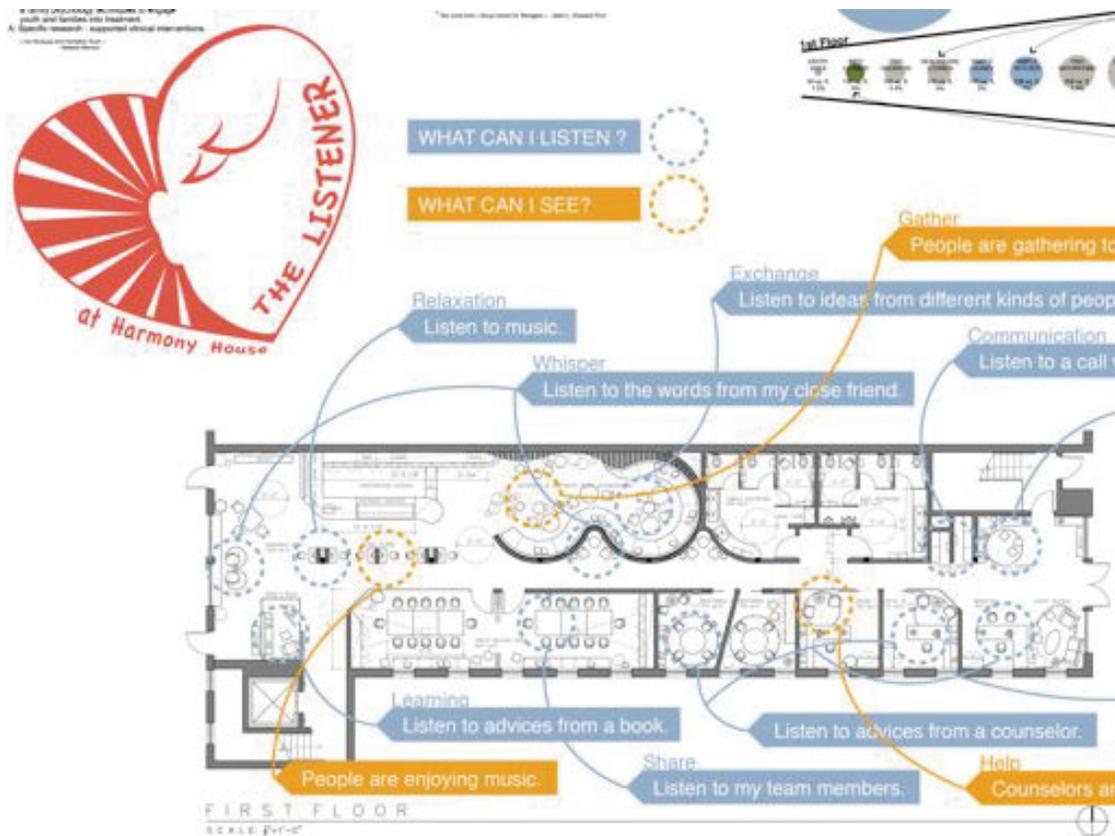


Xie Xin, a graduate student at Virginia Tech when notified of her award said she was extremely surprised and grateful. The \$10,000 award will allow her to extend her studies in Interior Design and finally afford a car so that she can visit places of interest and other interior designers. Xin is a foreign student from Shanghai who's undergraduate major was in architecture. She has been in the US only six months and came here to study interior design without knowing anyone.

"I have known my whole life that I wanted to be an interior designer. As a little girl I loved to draw, paint, and create. My mother is a nurse practitioner and my father is construction manager. I spent many hours in my mom's clinic thinking about ways to make it better and more comforting. My true passion is healthcare design, especially for the poor and disadvantaged. I want to apply international standards to developing countries. Interior design is even more important than architecture because design changes the way people feel about themselves and their surroundings."



Her mentor, Lisa Tucker, the Program Chair for Interior Design at Virginia Tech described Xie Xin as an exceptional student. “She has excellent skills and passion. And that beneath her kind and soft-spoken demeanor was an enormously hard working, talented and creative student with great promise. “



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Christi Spangle, who chaired the selection committee, said, “I was thoroughly amazed at the success of this, the Library’s first competition in interior design. Our winner submitted an exceptional design, and I hope that each year we continue to see work that surpasses our expectations.”

Xie Xin’s design was chosen from a field of eight finalists. Honorable mentions were noted for Carlie Smith from Appalachian State University and Charli Zirk from Virginia Tech.

THE BIENENSTOCK SCHOLARSHIPS

Students from 18 colleges and universities submitted qualifying entries to the Library’s 2013-design scholarship competition. All judging was blind—with no name or college shown with the submission. A distinguished panel of industry experts juried each competition.

The 2013 winners will be awarded their \$10,000 scholarships, along with respective one-year student membership in ASFD or ASID, during High Point Market in April.

The annual Bienenstock Scholarship competitions are open to any junior, senior or graduate student enrolled in an accredited college program of furniture design or interior design. Since 1984, the Library has awarded more than \$350,000 in scholarships to students in hundreds of colleges and universities.

About Bernice Bienenstock Furniture Library

Bernice Bienenstock Furniture Library—a worldwide center for research, design, and collaboration—holds the world’s largest collection of rare and significant books on the history and design of furniture, open and free to the public. Founded in 1970 and endowed by the Bienenstock family, the Library is devoted the advancement of knowledge about design, furniture, interiors, architecture, textiles, finishes, and constructions.

Significant among Bienenstock Furniture Library’s 4,000+ holdings are contemporary acquisitions and an international collection of rare books published since 1640, including complete original works of Chippendale, Sheraton, Hepplewhite, and Diderot’s encyclopedia. The Library operates a specialty bookstore selling significant contemporary works, out-of-print, and hard-to-find volumes. Most Library services are free. Bienenstock Furniture Library, located in High Point NC, welcomes professionals and scholars for research, collaboration, meetings, seminars, lectures, and events. Visit www.furniturelibrary.com.

About ASFD

Founded in 1981, ASFD is the only international non-profit professional organization dedicated to advancing, improving and supporting the profession of furniture design and its positive impact in the marketplace. Professional Members specialize in the design of both residential and contract furnishings and accessories. Membership includes both American and International professional designers, industry affiliates and associates, design schoolteachers and students. Corporate Members include suppliers of products and services to the industry and furniture manufacturing companies who wish to support the goals and objectives of the Society. <http://www.asfd.com>.



About the ASID

ASID is a community of people driven by a common love for design and committed to the belief that interior design, as a service to people, is a powerful, multi-faceted profession that can positively change people's lives. Through education, knowledge sharing, advocacy, community building and outreach, the Society strives to advance the interior design profession and, in the process, to demonstrate and celebrate the power of design to positively change people's lives. Its more than 30,000 members engage in a variety of professional programs and activities through a network of 48 chapters throughout the United States and Canada. Founded in 1975, the American Society of Interior Designers is the oldest, largest and leading professional organization for interior designers. The Society's membership also includes more than 10,500 students of interior design. <http://www.asid.org>

