

Georgia Tech

College of Design

Dean's Report

2025

Rendering by Victoria Bland for School of Architecture

Delivery bike design, School of Industrial Design

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Design for autonomous vehicle smart windshield, School of Industrial Design

Mobile sound installation performance, School of Music



A Note from the Dean:

When I first arrived at Georgia Tech it was the waning days of Covid, the Dean's office was really quiet, and a helpful colleague told me, newbie Dean, I needed to broadcast that I was in and ready to engage. Hence the sign! In the intervening period, our buildings are once again a hive of activity with the walls of East and West Architecture lined with six-foot tall posters of student-drawn maps, product design rationales, and renderings of buildings that can connect entire cities or just one neighborhood.

It's not unusual to see students sketching before studio, inviting passers-by to stop and contribute to an art project, or wiping clouds of dust off their clothes after a long session of casting models in one of our fabrication spaces.

If you go to the Couch Building or West Village you will regularly hear the beautiful sounds of our musical ensembles. You'll also hear what it sounds like when our students experiment with new musical interfaces, including software programs, new instruments, and musically capable robots.

With this Dean's Report, I want to share the experience of Georgia Tech's signature style of design. The approach our College takes to design — even the way we define the word "design" — is expansive and inclusive.

While the education and research done by our faculty and students is disciplinarily diverse, we all use methods of design, creativity, critical analysis, technological innovation, and community engagement to make people's lives better.

Here's the secret to our success: Our community is impressively creative and naturally inventive, but it has the DNA of Georgia Tech. We combine technological know-how, research, and a strong desire to solve problems with design thinking, artistry, and empathy.

While this report is filled with stories of our accomplishments, it's also a testament to the personal nature of our work. Our work changes the gadgets people hold, the homes they live in, the places where they work and heal, the music they listen to, and the art they experience. Our research and teaching endeavors have a direct effect on people's daily lives and the built environment, making places, products, and processes more inclusive and sustainable.

Ellen M. Bassett
Dean and John Portman Chair, Georgia Tech College of Design



Leading Design at Georgia Tech



Javier Irizarry
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Outreach



Russell Gentry
Associate Dean for Faculty



Alexander Lerch
Associate Dean of Research and Creative Practice



Alan D. Harrison
College Administrative Officer



Ellen M. Bassett
Dean and John Portman Chair



Lauren Jaynes
Director of Financial Administration



Perry Minyard
Director of Information Technology



Charmion Richards
Director of Human Resources



Lisa Marks
Interim Chair, School of Arts, Entertainment, and Creative Technologies



Jeff Albert
Interim Chair, School of Music



EunSook Kwon
Chair, School of Industrial Design



Julie Ju-Youn Kim
Chair, School of Architecture
William H. Harrison Professor and Chair, School of Architecture



Georg Reichard
Chair, School of Building Construction



Gulsah Akar
Chair, School of City & Regional Planning



Bill Curtis-Davidson
Executive Director; Center for Inclusive Design and Innovation



Subhrajit "Subhro" Guhathakurta
Director, Center for Urban Resilience and Analytics



Gil Weinberg
Director, Center for Music Technology



Hui Cai
Director,
SimTigrate Design Center



Bryan Croy
Director of Operations



Tripp Edwards
Director of Design Shops



Ann W. Hoevel
Director of Communication

Faculty Update

New Faculty



Jeff Albert
Interim Chair
Associate Professor
School of Music



Emily Barrett
Assistant Professor
School of City & Regional Planning



Rounaq Basu
Assistant Professor
School of City & Regional Planning



Patrick Danahy
Assistant Professor
School of Architecture



Ebenezer Fanijo
Assistant Professor
School of Building Construction



Yiyi He
Assistant Professor
School of City & Regional Planning



Patrick Kastner
Assistant Professor
School of Architecture



Hyojin Kwon
Assistant Professor
School of Architecture



Omobolanle Ogunseiju
Assistant Professor
School of Building Construction



Joshua Palkki
Associate Professor
School of Music



Gregory Randolph
Assistant Professor
School of City & Regional Planning



Alexandria Smith
Assistant Professor
School of Music



Abigale Stangl
Assistant Professor
School of Industrial Design



Leandro Miletto Tonetto
Associate Professor
School of Industrial Design



Henrik von Coler
Assistant Professor
School of Music



Yixiao Wang
Assistant Professor
School of Industrial Design



Jing Wen
Assistant Professor
School of Building Construction

Milestones



Julie Ju-Youn Kim
Fellow of American Institute of Architects
School of Architecture



Pardis Pishdad
Advance Professor
School of Building Construction

Retirements



Jim Budd
Professor Emeritus
School of Industrial Design



Mike Dobbins
Professor of the Practice
School of City & Regional Planning



Michael L. Poirier Elliott
Associate Professor Emeritus
School of City & Regional Planning



Steven P. French
Dean and Professor Emeritus
School of City & Regional Planning



Nancey Green Leigh
Professor Emeritus
School of City & Regional Planning



Catherine Ross
Professor Emeritus
School of City & Regional Planning



Jerry Ulrich
Associate Professor
School of Music

Honoring the Legacy of Richard Dagenhart

The Georgia Tech School of Architecture and the College of Design mourns the loss of Richard Dagenhart, a visionary urban designer, esteemed educator, and dedicated mentor.

Dagenhart, who passed away on December 5, 2024, at the age of 78, spent 47 years shaping the minds of students and the landscapes of cities through his work in architecture and urban planning.



Scan here to read the rest of the article



Student sketching at College of Design Day

College of Design

At A Glance

6 Schools

4 Research Centers

1,330 Total Student Enrollment Fall 2025

43,177 Total Credit Hours Taught

69 Ph.D. Students, Fall 2025

$42,139,500 in Proposed Research

$2,857,177 in Awarded Research

$2,792,994 in Awarded Service Projects

41 Concerts in 2025

153 Companies at Combined Career Fairs

6 Undergraduate Minor Programs

6 Bachelor of Science Degree Programs

18 Master's Degree Programs

18 Student Groups

662 In-State Students

668 Out of State Students

50,787 Square Feet of Studio Space

Housed Across **13** Buildings

118 Student Portfolios and Resumes Reviewed by Professionals

17,638 ft^2 Fabrication/Maker Shop Space

10 Professors of the Practice

41 Tenured Faculty

340 Student-Made Products Sold at Make10

2,000+ Attendees at the 2025 End-of-Year/Launchpad Show

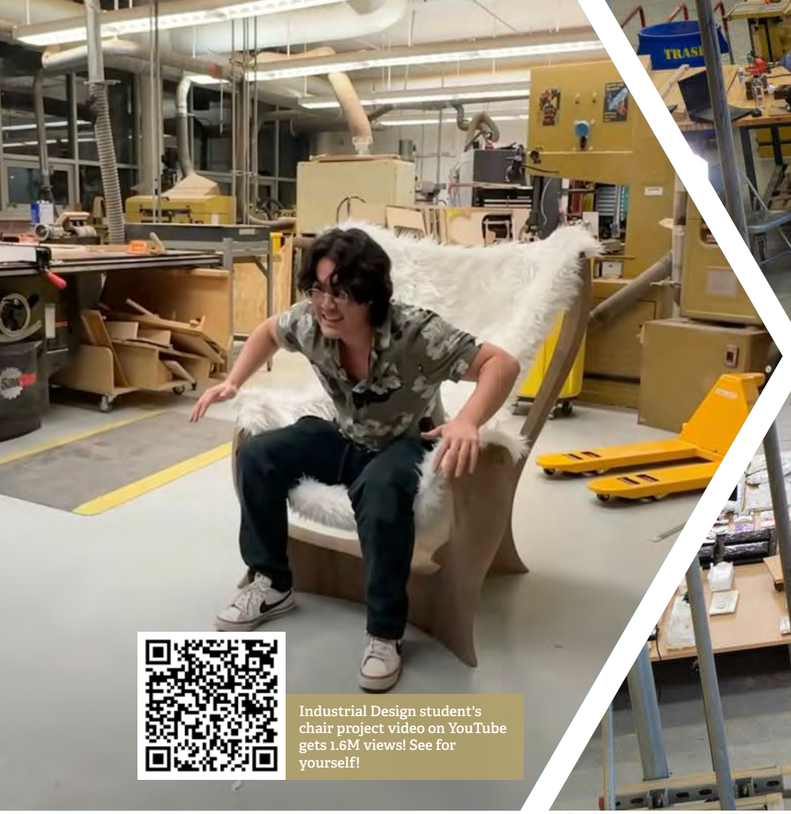
720 Undergraduate Students, Fall 2025

610 Graduate Students, Fall 2025

Naomi Censullo graduates as a Double-Jacket: BSMCS'23, MID'25

The Possibilities of a Georgia Tech Designer

Our undergraduate and graduate students are altruistically motivated and use their chosen degrees to help other people. Using lessons from their classes, the culture of design-thinking in our College, and the multi-disciplined approach inherent to Georgia Tech, they create better buildings for people to live in. Or they design and produce products that make lives better, including new methods of experiencing music. They plan neighborhoods and cities that are healthy and fair. They create experiences that help people learn, find inspiration, or become empowered.



Industrial Design student's chair project video on YouTube gets 1.6M views! See for yourself!



Hyojin Kwon's class meets in the Digital Fabrication Lab to present their repurposed chair designs



Robotic violin duet charms Instagram, makes GT history! See for yourself!

From Waste to Wonder:

Georgia Tech Students Turn Plastic Into Purpose for Earth Day

When Ash King first laid hands on a bin of discarded 3D printing scraps and milk jugs, she didn't see garbage—she saw potential. Using recycled plastic sourced from Georgia Tech's own campus, King rolled, sliced, and melted the material into patterned tiles reminiscent of candy or sushi. Each one was a tiny piece of transformation.

"You realize how hard plastic is to actually reuse," said King, who will soon graduate. "It gets brittle, it burns, it sticks to everything. But that challenge—making something functional and beautiful from waste—made the outcome feel so much more meaningful."

Her work is part of Plastic Reimagined: Material Agency and Circular Design, a graduate-level studio led by Assistant Professor Hyojin Kwon.

The course invites architecture students to turn trash into tools for change—combining material experimentation, advanced fabrication, and design theory to create structures from what would otherwise become landfill.

"I hope people see the final chair installations and really think about what they're made of," said King. "You're sitting on someone's old 3D print. You're part of the story of waste becoming something useful."

The projects are part of the Circular Campus Project, supported by the Arts at Tech Catalyst Grant. By August, the designs will be installed on campus as reconfigurable outdoor furniture made entirely from repurposed plastic—sourced from Georgia Tech labs, local recyclers, and non-profits in North Carolina.

"This isn't just about chairs," said Kwon. "It's about giving students firsthand knowledge of the complexities of waste, materials, and environmental responsibility. They're not just designing—they're rethinking the very systems design operates in."

The hope is that the installation sparks campus conversation. "We want people to use the furniture, take a break—and then pause and ask where it came from," said King.

As the field of architecture reckons with its environmental impact, the School of Architecture is training students to lead that evolution. "This work reflects our deep commitment to sustainability and innovation—where waste becomes a catalyst for invention," said School Chair Julie Kim. "Students aren't just reimagining architecture; they're redefining its role in building a more resilient, equitable future."

And with future exhibitions already planned at Hartsfield-JacksonAtlanta International Airport, Atlanta Contemporary, and the Goat Farm Arts Center, Georgia Tech's designers are proving that impact can start with what we throw away.

Scan here to read the rest of the article





School of Building Construction Leads Solar Decathlon Team to Big Win, Community Solutions

The School of Building Construction's extensive academic and industry networks are the foundation of the Solar Decathlon Team student group. Frank Wickstead, faculty advisor for the Solar Decathlon Team, and his fellow School faculty help students gain real-world experience while making meaningful contributions to their communities.

Professor Wickstead said, “the collaboration between our students, industry professionals, and local non-profits creates a unique opportunity to not only compete in the Solar Decathlon but also to make a tangible difference in Atlanta's underserved neighborhoods.

These projects reflect our commitment to sustainable design and our focus on creating spaces that serve both people and the planet.”

Georgia Tech's Solar Decathlon Team is shaping the future of sustainable design while addressing pressing challenges such as climate change, energy equity, and affordable housing. By partnering with local organizations like Westside Future Fund and Early Learning Scholars, the team is making sustainability a central part of community development efforts.

Scan here to read about the team's 2024 Solar Decathlon win

Scan here to read about the team's 2 entries in 2025

Urban Design x Urban Planning x Real Estate Development Wins ULI Hines

Judges at the 2024 ULI Hines North America Student Competition named Georgia Tech team "Meander" this year's winner. “With its $50,000 first and $10,000 finalist prizes, the ULI Hines Competition is one of North America's most competitive and admired student competitions attracting teams from top schools across the US and Canada," said Ellen Dunham-Jones, who coordinates Georgia Tech's participation in the competition. "Although the first round of the competition is only two weeks, the collaboration between the disciplines deepens the thinking of the students for the rest of their careers.”

"It's a great feather in Georgia Tech's cap that of our eight teams this year, we had the winner, two of the four finalist teams, as well as one of the four honorable mentions. None of which would have happened without the many other faculty and professional advisors, especially Rick Porter, Director of the Master of Real Estate Development program.”

“You cannot talk about the ULI Hines competition without also mentioning the incredible leadership of Ellen Dunham-Jones," said Julie Kim, chair of the School. “Under the skillful and thoughtful guidance of Ellen, since 2012, hundreds of students at Georgia Tech have immersed themselves in this truly interdisciplinary experience - and have been elevated to the competition finals multiple years in a row,” Kim said.

Scan here to read the rest of the article

We've Got Some Major Announcements!

Two new undergraduate degrees were established this year in the College of Design. The Bachelor of Science in Urban Planning and Spatial Analytics is the first of its kind in Georgia, and the first time the School of City and Regional Planning has offered a planning degree to undergraduates. The Bachelor of Science in Arts, Entertainment, and Creative Technologies is our newest undergraduate degree, offered by the recently established School of Arts, Entertainment, and Creative Technologies.

Scan here to read about the Bachelor of Science in Urban Planning and Spatial Analytics

Scan here to read about the Bachelor of Science in Arts, Entertainment, and Creative Technologies

Student Organizations

School of Architecture

American Institute of Architecture Students
National Organization of Minority Architecture Students
Equity in Architecture at Georgia Tech
ECO
ConCave: Ph.D. Student Group

School of City and Regional Planning

Student Planning Association (SPA)

School of Building Construction

Student Construction Association (SCA)
Building Women in Construction (BWIC)

School of Industrial Design

Industrial Designers Society of America (IDSA – GT Student Chapter)

School of Music

Orchestra Club
Band Club
Kappa Kappa Psi
Chamber Choir
Georgia Tech Treble Choir
Chorale
Glee Club
Tau Beta Sigma
Women In Music Technology

College of Design Alumni Inductees

FORTY UNDER FORTY



Krystal Persaud, ID 10



Nicole Seekely, Arch 07



Jung Hyun Lee, MS BC 18, PhD BC 22



Laura Gravesen, ID 07, MBA 09



James K. Holder II, Arch 08, MS BC 10



Emily Schickner, M Arch 13



Ali Perry-Hatch, ID 12



Matt Toner, BC 06



Mehdi Nourbakhsh, MS CS 15, PhD BC 16



Sophia Prater, ID 06



Malory Atkinson, BC 08



Lyndsey Deaton, Arch 07



Carly Queen, ME 09, MS CE 16, M CRP 16



Jasmine Burton, ID 14



School of Industrial Design Chair EunSook Kwon visits the Wash Bus

Design in the Community

A significant part of this College is rooted in place and buildings. We often say that Atlanta is a working laboratory for construction, planning, and architecture. Our research centers and schools work hand-in-hand with communities outside our campus, including cities/localities, artists, preservationists, Georgians with disabilities, ministries, K-12, and correctional populations.

Student-Designed Wash Bus Rooted in Community, Delivers Dignity

Nicky Crawford's nonprofit had already been offering mobile showers to Atlanta's unhoused community. But he noticed a heartbreaking gap: "People would come out of a hot shower, clean and hopeful, only to put the same dirty clothes back on," he said. That image stuck with him—so did the determination to solve it.

The Wash Bus project took root in 2022. At the time, Crawford was hoping to expand his mobile hygiene services by adding laundry facilities inside a school bus—but he lacked the expertise to make it happen.

After an initial meeting with the School of Industrial Design, Crawford realized his Wash Bus needed not just technical fixes, but a design-centered approach to make it truly functional, welcoming, and safe.

By summer 2023, Professor of the Practice Stephen Chininis' vertical design studio became the launchpad for the group of Industrial Design students who would bring Crawford's vision to life.

The students tackled real-world challenges: water weight distribution, ventilation, generator integration, tank placement, material selection, and access for maintenance. "Nicky originally wanted to stack the washers and dryers, but it wasn't structurally safe," Chininis explained. "So the students came up with a better plan—and showed him exactly why it worked."

They brought the bus to campus, ran calculations, built design decks, and delivered a comprehensive implementation proposal—so well-crafted that Crawford used it as both a fundraising tool and a construction roadmap.

"That document helped make the first Wash Bus possible," Chininis said. "And it's now being used again."

This summer, Chinninis taught four new projects:

Cleveland, OH – In partnership with the Cleveland Metropolitan School District and Resource Cleveland, students designed a bus that provides laundry services to refugee populations while training volunteers and students with special needs in workforce skills.

Indianapolis, IN – In collaboration with Outreach Indiana and local charities, students created a mobile unit that offers laundry and shower access to young people experiencing homelessness.

Carrollton, GA – Working with Holy Spirit Homeless Resource Bridge and THS Emergency Shelter Inc., students designed a vehicle that supports dignity and hygiene for Carrollton's growing unhoused population. Mobile Laundry 2.0 – A flexible concept designed for communities not yet ready to launch their own programs. This speculative team created a modular solution—plus a fundraising toolkit—to help charities conceptualize and raise support for future mobile hygiene services.

Read about our industrial design students' work on the Wash Bus and related projects:

Scan here to read the Georgia Tech News Center article

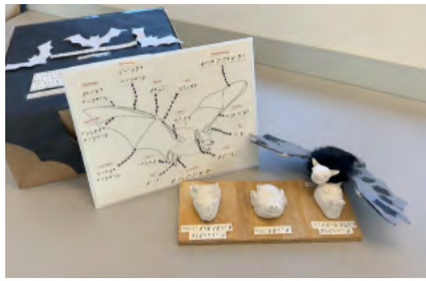
Scan here to read the School of Industrial Design article

Scan here to read about the latest Wash Bus studio









Stangl Gathers Artists, Designers, Community to Champion Tactile Design

Abigale Stangl teaches Industrial Design students to use paper as a life-changing design material. Paper has an essential role in tactile and embodied interaction design, Stangl, an Assistant Professor in the School of Industrial Design, said. "It's a powerful medium for storytelling, for learning, and for connection."

Stangl connects her students with members of the local blind and low-sight community. Through these new relationships, she facilitated an exploration of touch in design to develop non-visual assistance tools and enhance tactile experiences. It also provides exciting interdisciplinary research and co-design opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students.

Stangl won a Transformative Teaching and Learning Innovation Incubator Grant from the Georgia Tech Center for Teaching and Learning to establish the Inclusive Tactile Media Design undergraduate course. The grant supports the development, implementation, and evaluation of transformative teaching projects in undergraduate courses.

The Inclusive Tactile Media Design course was developed with strong emphasis on collaboration, introducing blind people as co-designers in the class.

"It's not that we're designing for them, it's that we're designing with them. And that's not a trivial or an expected thing, it's a brand new endeavor," Stangl said.

Stangl's students worked with communicators from the Georgia Fish and Wildlife Service, a stenographer, a relief sculpture expert, and members of the blind community that their co-designers introduced, to design products and solutions. The project to make different species of bats more accessible won first prize at the Student Design Competition that was part of Georgia Tech's Workshop on Tactile and Embodied Design.

"We have this motto at Georgia Tech, 'Progress and Service,' which is really inspiring. But learning how to do that in practice takes additional skill sets–for educators, students, and community collaborators alike– and that's what we get through these transformative learning experiences," Stangl said.

An important part of Stangl's research is the launch of the Tactile Media Alliance, which brings together international scholars, educators, practitioners, and technologists to collaborate on transformative projects and research. The Alliance fosters cross-network collaboration and advances research in inclusive, multimodal, and accessible teaching and learning experiences—inspired through her Ph.D. research and the Build a Better Book Initiative she helped found at CU Boulder.

Scan here to read more about the Tactile Design Class

Scan here to read more about the Tactile Media Alliance Workshop

How Georgia Tech's "Evolution of the Deal" Course Turns Students into Developers



What do a blockbuster soundstage, a pocket neighborhood, and a midtown high-rise have in common? For students in Georgia Tech's Evolution of the Deal course, they're the foundation of an immersive learning experience that bridges textbooks and towers, spreadsheets and steel. Offered each summer through the Master of Real Estate Development (MRED) program, the class is part site visit, part strategy session, part storytelling lab. Led by Professor of Practice John Threadgill of the School of Building Construction, the class guides students through development projects, helping them understand the people, processes, and pivots that bring complex visions to life.

"We provide students with skills throughout the MRED program, but in this course, we put those skills into a real-world sequence and context," said Threadgill. "They see how their role in real estate development might actually unfold—stage by stage, deal by deal."

The class follows a simple but powerful format: students research an active development, hear from its lead developer in the classroom, then visit the site in person—sometimes while construction is still underway. This summer's line-up included a Georgia Tech-led mixed-use tower in Tech Square, a midtown multifamily complex, and the high-profile Trilith Studios and Trilith Live developments in Fayetteville.

Scan here to read the rest of the article

Georgia Tech's Role in Urban Canopy Research



For more than 15 years, Georgia Tech has provided the City of Atlanta with the foundational data and insight that shape how the city tracks, understands, and plans for improvement in its tree canopy. The latest cycle of this research—delivered through the Center for Urban Resilience and Analytics (CURA)—continues that legacy by offering a high-resolution, citywide canopy assessment using satellite imagery and field validation.

The assessment, funded by the city's Tree Recompense Fund, uses advanced remote sensing tools such as WorldView-2 satellite data and a random forest classification model to categorize land into three land cover types. These include tree canopy, non-tree vegetation (grass, shrubs, and low lying vegetation) and non-vegetation (water, pervious surface). The methodology delivers a detailed spatial picture of land cover across the city. "This is simply a tool in their planning arsenal," said Anthony Giarrusso, who has led every canopy study since 2008. "Before they did any of this work in 2008, everything was anecdotal. It was reactionary."

The new study is not advocacy—it's information. Giarrusso emphasized that while researchers stay neutral in the politics of urban growth and conservation, their work equips city leaders with science-based knowledge to make more effective planning and zoning decisions.

Scan here to read the rest of the article

Bill Curtis-Davidson Selected as Executive Director of CIDI



The Georgia Tech Center for Inclusive Design and Innovation (CIDI) is pleased to welcome Bill Curtis-Davidson as the Center's Executive Director.

A Georgia Tech alum, Curtis-Davidson brings over twenty-five years of experience in academia and industry. He specializes in bridging emerging technology accessibility research into practice to benefit people with disabilities.

"Since I left Tech as a researcher and adjunct faculty in Industrial Design, my career has given me the opportunity to gain global experience in accessibility," says Curtis-Davidson. "A consistent focus of mine has been exploring how to bake inclusive design into an organization's DNA, while creating environments where disabled people can drive that integration informed by their lived experiences."

Curtis-Davidson is widely recognized in the field for his translational research, his award-winning thought leadership on accessibility of emerging technologies (including immersive technologies and AI), and his expertise in human-centered design.

"Bill Curtis-Davidson brings a rare combination of technical expertise, passion for accessibility, and a deep connection to the state of Georgia," says Ellen Bassett, Dean of the College of Design. "I'm very pleased that he has come back home to Georgia Tech."

"We are thrilled to welcome Bill Curtis-Davidson back to Georgia Tech, where his journey in accessibility began," agrees Alexander Lerch, Associate Dean for Research and Creative Practice at the College of Design. "His return as Executive Director of CIDI brings full circle a career defined by innovation, leadership, and a deep commitment to inclusive design."

Scan here to read the rest of the article

CIDI Services, Including Tools for Life, The State of Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program

Assistive Technology Demonstrations

Assistive Technology Loan Program

Assistive Technology Funding

Assistive Technology Training & Support

Braille Production

Braille Digital Library

Providing Real Opportunities for Income Through Technology (PROFITT)

Expert Document Accessibility

Remote Real-Time Captioning

Captioned Media

Audio Description

Communication Access Realtime Translation (CART)

Transcripts

Student Accommodation Manager

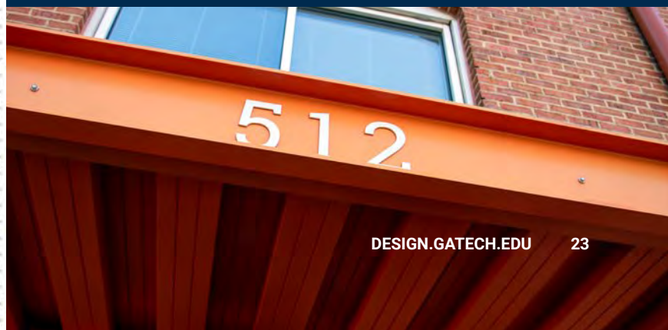
Tracking and Reporting

Accessibility Evaluations

User Experience (UX)

Accessibility Training

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) accessibility





College of Design Dean Ellen M. Bassett speaks with a student in the Global AT Innovation VIP program on a trip to Rwanda

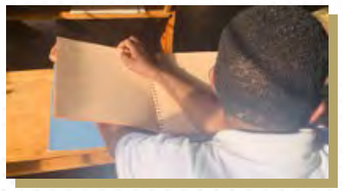
Lessons Learned in Georgia Apply to the World

Our students and faculty are grounded in Atlanta, Georgia, but the innovations we make in the studio or the lab can often make meaningful impact when applied to communities abroad. From Vertically Integrated Projects, to joint studies with universities from around the world, our students get the chance to directly change other people's lives as part of their regular classwork. For example, this year's Portman Critic Studio had architecture students learn to design with light and shadow as part of the Camino de Santiago Pilgrimage in Europe.





Innovation Without Borders: Vision for Bridging the Assistive Technology Access Gap



According to the WHO, less than 3% of people with disabilities in Sub-Saharan Africa have access to the assistive technology (AT) they need to thrive. Those who need access to things like wheelchairs often must go without.

Simply shipping over assistive technology is a short-term, and somewhat short-sighted, solution. But building local capacity and fostering innovation where the need is the greatest can have the most sustainable, long-term impact.

That's why Dr. Zerrin Ondin-Fraser envisioned the Global Assistive Technology Innovation (GATI) Hub: to address the assistive technology access gap in Sub-Saharan Africa through the lens of human-centered design. Ondin-Fraser launched a Vertically Integrated Project (VIP), Global AT Innovation, to engage Georgia Tech students in this long-term vision and to cultivate the bright young students' cultural competencies. For the uninitiated, VIP is a transformative approach to enhancing higher education by engaging undergraduate and graduate students in ambitious, long-term, large-scale, multidisciplinary project teams that are led by faculty.

Alongside Ondin-Fraser, the project is co-led by Dean Ellen Bassett and Principle Research Scientist Tony Giarrusso.

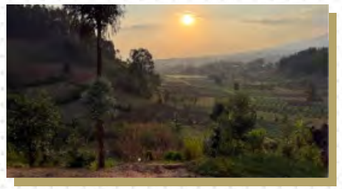
The team targeted Rwanda as the first country in Sub-Saharan Africa. A trip in February marked the second in-country collaboration with Rwandan partners since the project launched in Spring 2024.

GATI brings together undergraduate and graduate students from across disciplines, including Computer Science, Biomedical Engineering, Industrial Design, and Public Policy, for multi-semester, team-based research focused on global assistive technology innovation.

The culminating trip to Rwanda allowed students to engage directly with partner organizations, conduct field testing, and gain firsthand experience with user-centered, context-aware design in a cross-cultural setting.

"[The project] is something that can serve as a model for other countries and other areas around the world," says Tony Giarusso. "We're helping to make connections, provide information, and make differences in the lives of people who are usually forgotten."

"This is not a charity model" concludes Ondin-Fraser. "We are facilitating partnerships and learning experiences that empower local communities to lead innovation, and preparing Georgia Tech students to think globally, act locally, and design inclusively."



Scan here to read the rest of the article

Tokyo Smart City Studio in Tokyo Bay Toyosu

The Tokyo Smart City Project is a joint studio lasting nine years, from 2017 to 2025. It is an international urban design studio, a collaboration between Georgia Tech's Eco Urban Lab of the School of City & Regional Planning and the School of Architecture, the Department of Urban Engineering of the University of Tokyo, and the Graduate School of System Design and Management of Keio University. This collaboration between three studios in the U.S. and Japan have been exploring smart city design in different urban settings around Tokyo's metropolitan area, from 2017 in Urawa Misono, one of Tokyo's Summer Olympics sites, 2018 and 2019 in Kyojima of Sumida, an inner city neighborhood, 2020 and 2021 in Shinagawa, a waterfront development around the a new Shinkansen maglev rail station area connecting Tokyo and Osaka, and 2022 and 2023 in Nihonbashi, a historical origin of modern urban development of Tokyo and Japan from Edo period of the early 19th century. We are moving the Toyosu at Tokyo Bay from 2024-2025.The 2024-2025 Tokyo Studio in Tokyo Bay Toyosu was organized in sequence over two academic years:

The University of Tokyo conducted the studio in Fall semester to develop planning and urban design strategies of future development toward 2050 for climate resilience and carbon neutrality. Georgia Tech's studio continued the project in Spring semester to focus on urban design and how data-driven planning can be incorporated into a digital urban platform for moving complex decisions with stakeholders. The Georgia Tech studio team collaborated with faculty and students of the University of Tokyo to participate in a one-week intensive workshop in Tokyo, Japan during Spring Break, and conducted a presentation to key stakeholders from governmental agencies, corporations, academic and professional community in Japan. The final project is presented as a form of exhibition and the final report that are prepared by Georgia Tech Tokyo studio team. The University of Tokyo conducted the studio in Fall semester (2024) to develop planning and urban design strategies of future development toward 2050 for climate resilience and carbon neutrality. Georgia Tech's studio continued the project in Spring semester (2025) to focus on urban design and how data-driven planning can be incorporated into a digital urban platform for moving complex decisions with stakeholders.

Scan here to read the 2024 Report

Scan here to read the 2025 Report

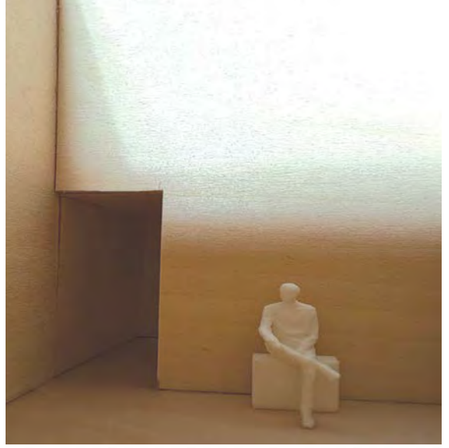
Snapshots from our longest-standing travel abroad programs:

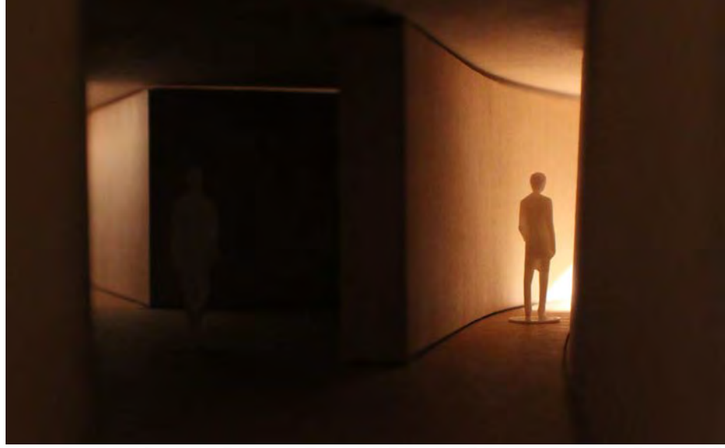
Greece and Italy | Modern Architecture and the Modern City | Barcelona



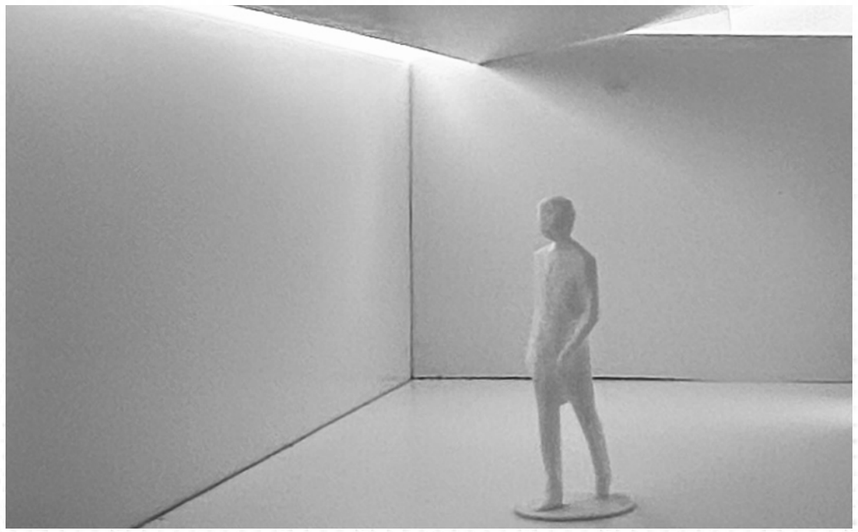


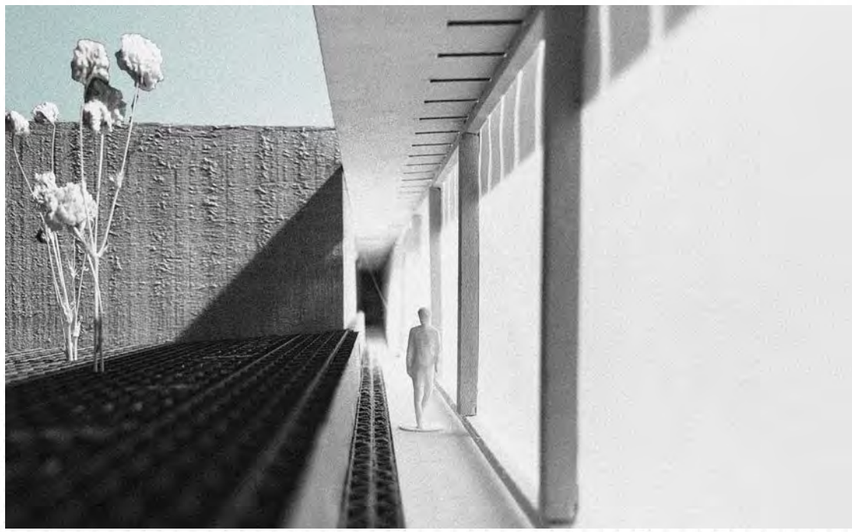


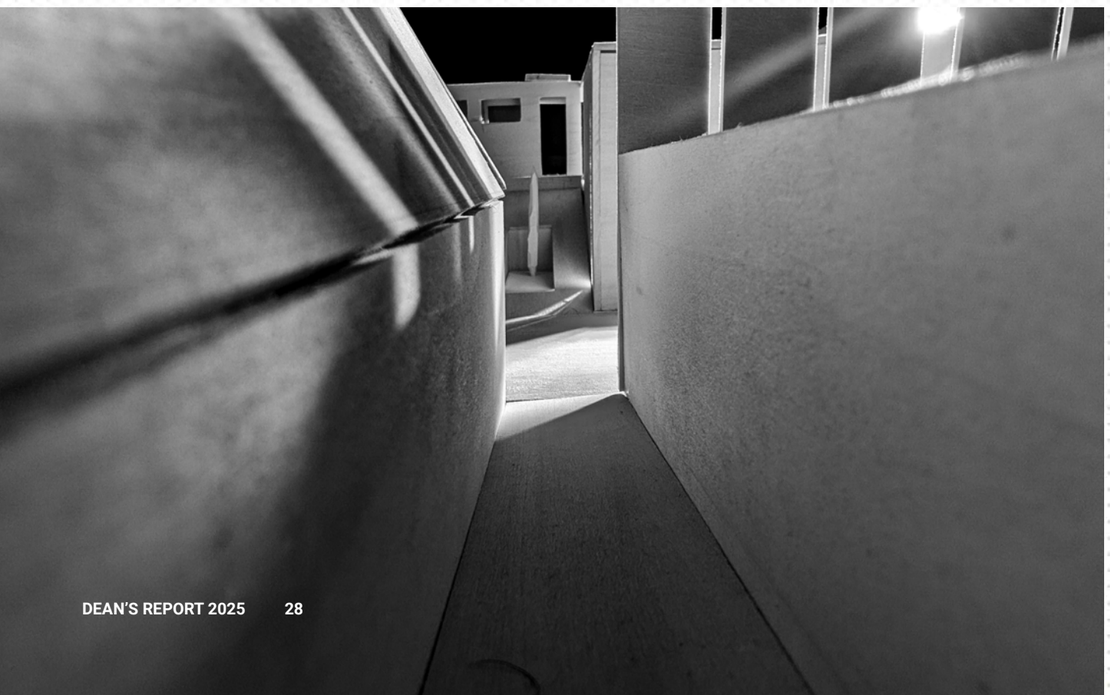














Shaping Light On The Camino de Santiago 2025 Portman Prize Studio and Symposium

Tarek Rakha holds one of the unmanned aerial vehicles that powers his new startup Lamarr.AI

Design Work in Creative, Construction, Urban, and Innovation Industries

Georgia Tech has a famously trusted and respected reputation with industry. The College of Design has earned the same with the industries related to Architecture, Construction, Urban Planning, Industrial Design, and Music Technology. This year, we added the industries associated with Arts, Entertainment, and Creative Technologies to the list with the announcement of the College's new, sixth school.



One Building Symposium: Defining a New Center

The objective of the the Georgia Tech School of Architecture's 'One Building' symposia is to examine individual buildings or complex developments from the points of view of multiple disciplines and stakeholders. The first 'One Building' Symposium took place on Saturday, October 26, 2024.

This initial symposium focused on a significant new development in Atlanta's Fourth Ward by New City Properties and gathered together, for the first time in the same room, all leaders of the project. The symposium investigated the ambitions of the developer within the site and context, the ideas behind the selection of the building design teams, and provided a forum for the developer, planner, architects, landscape architect, engineers, and contractor to discuss their work in depth.

The result was a discourse around the ideas and issues that are continuing to build a significant new urban center in Atlanta. This is not just a collection of buildings by New City Properties, the panelists said, but the deliberate creation of a place.

Scan here to read the rest of the article



The Joint Conference on Real Estate

Hosted by Georgia Tech's School of Building Construction and Urban Land Institute (ULI) Atlanta, this conference gathers real estate professionals, students, and educators to discuss the design of innovative development, technologies shaping the real estate industry, and capital markets across a range of property types and asset classes.

On March 27, 2025, Georgia Tech's School of Building Construction and ULI Atlanta welcomed nearly 200 professionals and students for a day of engaging discussion at the Joint Conference on Real Estate. The Keynote Speaker was Jennifer Zeller, Director of Strategic Solutions at Georgia Power, who shared insight regarding the way Georgia secures major job-creating projects and the resulting demand for real estate development.

Panels included The Intersection of Real Estate and Data Center Development, Shifting Trends in Asset Classes and Workforce Dynamics, and Atlanta's Real Estate Talent Pipeline: What Industry Wants.

Scan here to read the rest of the article



Medus.ai Debuts at Trillith Studios

Made from beautifully fabricated steel and eight mobile arms, medus.ai can play percussion and strings with human musicians, dance with human dancers, and move in time to multiple human observers. It uses AI-driven computer vision to know what human observers are doing and responds accordingly through snake gestures, music, and light.

Gil Weinberg, the director of Georgia Tech's Center for Music Technology, knows it's unsettling. "There is a lack of trust and general wariness about AI and robotics," Weinberg said. Amit Rogel, a Ph.D. in Music Technology student who researches human-robotic interactions in the Robot Musicianship Lab has worked on medus.ai since its inception. "Our goal with medus.ai is to address the risks of AI and robots," Rogel said.

"For every risk, there's two or three benefits. We think the risks are worth the benefits. And it's worth acknowledging and mitigating the risks."Hannah Schilsky from Lux Stage at Trilith Studios agrees. Lux Stage partnered with Weinberg to provide an interactive environment for medus.ai's intimate debut. Schilsky collaborated with the medusai team to program the soundstage walls in ways that connected with medus.ai's AI programming. Linking her Medusa-inspired watery pallet to Rogel's programs was like musicians jamming, she said.

Scan here to read the rest of the article



Exoskeleton Technology Improves Labor Force Lives, Not Just Work Efficiency

"Construction workers are struggling," Omobolanle Ogunseiju, Assistant Professor in the Georgia Tech School of Building Construction said.

"They work for hours performing very, very physically-demanding activities. They are always engaged in manual material handling, moving drywall for example, which is actually very uncomfortable to pick up with both hands."

Ogunseiju knows this because she researches the use of exoskeletons in construction. She has replicated many tasks required of the construction labor force, and knows the full repercussions of the work.

"Construction continues to be one of the most dangerous industries to work in and we are still topping the Work-Related Musculoskeletal Disorder (WMSD) charts," she said. "The big motivation for me is discovering how we can actually help workers to reduce risks by giving them something that will protect them, that will reduce pain on their body parts during work, and at the end of the day can even make them feel better when they get home."

Scan here to read the rest of the article



Danielle Willkens, Students Practice Heritage Architecture at Penn Center

Danielle Willkens, Associate Professor in the Georgia Tech School of Architecture, led two historic preservation studio projects with the Penn Center in South Carolina. As an Atlanta Preservation Center board member and now a board trustee member for the Penn Center, Willkens is a well-respected preservation scholar and advocate.

At the Penn Center, which was the South's first school for formerly enslaved people, Willkens' students worked on several projects during their first studio trip to the Center. They created designs for a multi-purpose building, updated interpretation materials, created a new website, and provided a 3D model of the campus.

The second studio trip to the Penn Center had students spend five days doing field study, resulting in several different models of architectural solutions to the Center's most pressing problems. Willkens' studio identified needed repairs for some of the buildings during the course of their scans.

Scan here to read the rest of the article



Urban Resilience Leadership Symposium

Georgia Institute of Technology's inaugural Urban Resilience Leadership Symposium was hosted by the Center for Urban Resilience and Analytics (CURA). The event showcased how academic institutions can act as conveners, catalysts, and translators in real-time crises. "Urban resilience is about preparing cities to respond to constant, rapid change," said Brian Stone, Associate Director of the Center.

Cities are being reshaped by extreme weather, shifting populations, infrastructure strain, and evolving economic pressures. "It's not just about disasters," Stone explained. "It's about navigating overlapping transitions—heat, migration, housing, public health—all at once."

"Having a center that keeps questioning its priorities—that's the power of CURA," said Eleni (Lenio) Myrivili, the United Nations Global Chief Heat Officer. "It should have the flexibility to evolve, because the climate doesn't wait for perfect plans." CURA is intentionally designed as an interdisciplinary hub with faculty and students from design, planning, public health, engineering, and policy.

Scan here to read the rest of the article



Georgia Tech Draws Crowds at Supercomputing

Watch Music Technology students and Georgia Tech student musicians jam with Shimon the robot at the annual AMC/IEEE Supercomputing Conference. Gil Weinberg and Amit Rogel guide us through what it takes to put on a thirty-minute show at a major convention. This performance was also the first time ever that Shimon played and sang the *Ramblin' Wreck*, one of Georgia Tech's most famous pep songs.

Scan here to see the performance on Youtube





Georgia Tech Startup Targets Building Energy Inefficiencies With AI and Drones

Buildings are big energy consumers, emitting wasteful carbon, contributing to a warming planet, and accounting for more than 40% of the world's carbon dioxide emissions.

The culprits behind this hefty energy hit are two distinct sources of carbon: the building construction process and a building's operation and use.

Fortunately, a new startup is paving the way for dramatic reductions in carbon from building operations. Lamarr.AI has perfected the process of using drones, thermal imaging, and artificial intelligence (AI) to diagnose the health of building exteriors and roofs.

The young company — named for Hedy Lamarr, the actor and inventor credited with helping birth the modern telecommunications era — offers an autonomous solution to diagnose a building's energy footprint. Lamarr.AI is a spin-off from Georgia Tech, Massachusetts of Technology (MIT), and Syracuse University.

Lamarr.AI raised $1.1 million to bring its innovative building diagnostics technology to market.

Scan here to read the rest of the article





Reichard Named School of Building Construction Chair

Dr. Georg Reichard has been named the new chair of Georgia Tech's School of Building Construction, effective July 1. He joins the College of Design from Virginia Tech, where he is currently Professor and Head of the Department of Building Construction and the Associate Director of Operations in the Myers-Lawson School of Construction.

"Georg Reichard brings a wealth of experience to the school and the college. I am particularly excited to collaborate with him on expanding our undergraduate program, strengthening our links to Atlanta's vibrant construction and real estate development industry, and expanding our important applied research portfolio," Dean and John Portman Chair of the College of Design, Dr. Ellen Bassett said.

"Here at the College of Design, we are tackling the key challenges facing us in the built environment – extreme urban heat, infrastructure deterioration, the lack of affordable housing, and rising costs of construction—to name just a few," Bassett said.

Scan here to read the rest of the article





Lisa Marks Named Interim Chair of Georgia Tech's New School of Arts, Entertainment, and Creative Technologies

Georgia Tech has appointed Lisa Marks, associate professor in the School of Industrial Design, as the interim chair for the new Arts, Entertainment, and Creative Technologies major within the College of Design. The school's new undergraduate degree, which was approved by the Board of Regents in August, will welcome its first students in Fall 2026.

Marks, an award-winning designer and educator, is known for her research that merges endangered and traditional handcraft with algorithmic modeling to create new methods of production. Before joining Georgia Tech, she worked in New York with clients including Google, Nike, and Swarovski. She holds both undergraduate and graduate degrees from Parsons School of Design.

In her new role, Marks is leading the program's launch and laying the groundwork for a vibrant student community. "This year, we're piloting classes and renovating studio spaces to welcome incoming students," she explained. "My goal is to make sure that when the permanent chair steps in, they inherit a strong, well-planned program and a supportive community."

Scan here to read the rest of the article



Inaugural Class of Design Excellence

The Distinguished Faculty Design Excellence Award Recipients
Jim Budd
Michael Dobbins
T. Russell Gentry
Catherine L. Ross

The Emerging Design Excellence Award Recipients
Cassie D. Branum
Lamtharn "Hanoi" Hantrakul
Jung Hyun Lee
Krystal Persaud
Adella "Addie" Weber

The Distinguished Design Excellence Award Recipients
Karl A. Backus
George A. Campbell
Ti Chang
Ryan A. Gravel
Ken Gwinner
James T. Nozar
Mack Scogin and Merrill Elam
K. Liz York

The Legendary Design Excellence Award Recipients
John A. Busby, Jr.
Jerome "Jerry" Cooper
William J. Stanley, III and Ivenue Love-Stanley
Stanley "Mickey" Steinberg
Preston S. Stevens, Jr.
Thomas Walker Ventulett III

The Dean's Impact Award Recipients
Sally S. Bethea
Chung Y. Yoo

The Dean's Distinguished Alumnus/Alumna Award Recipients
Jennifer Ball
G. Niles Bolton
James "Jim" Oliver II

The Distinguished Memorial Design Excellence Award Recipients
Douglas C. Allen
Godfried "Fried" Augenbroe
John Caddell
Richard Dagenhart
Charles "Chuck" Eastman
William L. Fash
Thomas D. Galloway
Richard A. and Margaret Guthman
William "Bill" Harrison
George T. Heery
P.M. Heffernan
Richard Martin
John C. Portman, Jr.
Kevin Reeder
Thera H. Richter



School of Architecture alumna Merica Mae Jenson helps pour concrete for one of the anchors in the Path of Progress

Design Made Visible: Georgia Tech's Campus

Since the 1910s, College of Design faculty, students, and alumni have been changing the face of Georgia Tech campus. Through the design, construction, and renovations of buildings – and the occasional pavilion or bench – our campus would not be what it is today if not for the ideas from our programs.

Double-Jacket Tristan Al-Haddad Puts Home-Grown Spin on Heffernan-Era Part of Campus



Not so long ago, Georgia Tech students would walk by the East Architecture Building and never look up. In fact, unless they were there for a class, most student's wouldn't know which building they were passing. Tristan Al-Haddad has changed that in the most colorful way possible.

Now, the 1952 building that was designed by soon-to-be head of Georgia Tech's Architecture Department Paul M. Heffernan boldly displays letters spelling the word "design" created by two-time School of Architecture graduate Al-Haddad. The letters are fabricated from polycarbonate sheets that are laminated with a dichroic film, the the same material Al-Haddad used to create the Crosland Chroma screen at the top of Dorothy M. Crosland Tower — next to another one of Heffernan's buildings, the S. Price Gilbert Memorial Library.

"I came to campus in 1996, and I've been on this campus either as an undergraduate, graduate, a faculty member, and even a contributing artist," Al-Haddad said.

A sign on the East Architecture building that reads "DESIGN" is an appropriate statement about what the College of Architecture used to be and what the College of Design is now, he said.

Scan here to read the rest of the article

Merica May Jenson Shares Pathway of Progress Photos, Sketches



Scan here to read the rest of the article

A striking addition to Georgia Tech's campus, the Pathway of Progress pavilion celebrates the history and achievements of Georgia Tech alumnae. The pavilion's architect, Merica May Jensen (Mgt 2008, M.Arch 2011), said it contains several unusual features that may not be noticed by the casual observer. She shared photos and drawings of the pavilion with the School of Architecture, pointing out some of the most interesting features of her design.

Brian Bell and David Yocum Teach, Transform, Progress



Two Professors of the Practice at Georgia Tech's School of Architecture have taught a lesson to every student who walks through the center of campus.

As the founding partners of the architecture firm BLDGS in Atlanta, Georgia, Brian Bell and David Yocum designed the remodel of the John and Joyce Caddell Building and the Van Leer Interdisciplinary Design Commons. The John and Joyce Caddell Building is an award-winning, LEED Platinum building with a cantilevered, louvered canopy that shades the glass front facade as well as the walkway in front. The Van Leer Interdisciplinary Design Commons (colloquially referred to as The Hive) was the country's largest electronics-oriented fabrication/makerspace in 2018.

Yocum said buildings on Georgia Tech's campus should ask as many questions as they answer, and not simply exist as shells for classrooms. "I don't think that university buildings should simply fulfill the program that they've been given," he said. "I think that's a lost opportunity. Campuses, universities are in the business of asking questions, posing hypotheses and doing research. In our world, research is the production of buildings."

Scan here to read the rest of the article

Student Projects, Reck Garage Win AIA Aspire Awards



The Reck Garage, officially opened March 7, 2023, was designed by Atlanta-based Square Feet Studio. The garage provides a public home for iconic Ramblin' Wreck, previously kept in a secret location.

Floor-to-ceiling windows, a pavilion-like roof, and terraced outdoor seating showcase the Wreck and serve as an inviting gathering space.

The garage includes a fully functioning repair station with a lift, workbenches, plenty of storage for tools, an outdoor car wash station, and dual entrances. The crowning design piece though is a spinning turntable that allows for 360-degree views of the vintage car.

The lead architect for the project, Blake Burton (M. Arch 2009) said, "The idea was to create a building that sits lightly on the landscape because we wanted to make sure that the Wreck would be front and center."

Like Burton, several of the Square Feet Studio team attended Tech, including the two founding principals.

Scan here to read the rest of the article

Campus Buildings Designed by College of Design Faculty, Alumni, as listed in *Campus Walks: A Guide to the Architecture of Georgia Tech* by Professor Emeritus Robert M. Craig

Richard Aeck (Arch '36) | Grant Field West Stands, 1948 (Bush-Brown, Gailey, and Heffernan; with Richard Aeck)

Richard Aeck (Arch '36) | Alexander Memorial Coliseum "The Thrillerdome" 1956 with additions by Smallwood Reynolds Stewart, Stewart and Associates in 1996

Brian Bell, David Yocum (Current Architecture faculty) | John and Joyce Caddell Building 2015 (BLDGS)

Brian Bell, David Yocum (Current Architecture faculty | Van Leer Interdisciplinary Design Commons "The Hive" 2018 (BLDGS)

Niles Bolton (Arch'63) | Graduate Living Center 1991-3 (Niles Bolton)

Niles Bolton (Arch'63) | University Village 1993-6 (Niles Bolton & Associates)

Harold Bush-Brown, head of the Architecture Department 1925-56 | Britain Dining Hall 1928 (Bush-Brown, Gailey, and Associates)

Harold Bush-Brown, head of the Architecture Department 1925-56 | Army Office 1927 (Bush-Brown and Gailey)

Harold Bush-Brown, head of the Architecture Department 1925-56 | N. E. Harris Dormitory 1926 (Bush-Brown, Gailey, and Associates)

Harold Bush-Brown, head of the Architecture Department 1925-56 | Guggenheim Aeronautics Building 1930-31 (Bush-Brown and Gailey)

Harold Bush-Brown, head of the Architecture Department 1925-56 | Cloudman Dormitory 1931 (Bush-Brown, Gailey, and Associates)

Harold Bush-Brown, head of the Architecture Department 1925-56 | Mechanical Engineering Drawing Building 1938 (Bush-Brown and Gailey)

Harold Bush-Brown, head of the Architecture Department 1925-56 | J.L. Daniel Laboratory 1942-2 (Bush-Brown and Gailey)

Cooper Carry, & Associates, founded by Jerry Cooper (B.Arch'52) | Rich Computing Services Building 1971-73 (Cooper Carry, & Associates)

Cooper Carry, & Associates, founded by Jerry Cooper (B.Arch'52) | Advanced Technology Development Center/GTRI Research Buildings 1984-5 (Cooper Carry, & Associates)

Cooper Carry, & Associates, founded by Jerry Cooper (B.Arch'52) | John Lewis Student Center/Campus Center Project, Exhibition Hall, Pavilions 2020-21 (Cooper Carry and Workshop Architects)

Cooper Carry, & Associates, founded by Jerry Cooper (B.Arch'52) | Krone Engineering Biosystem Building (Cooper Carry in association with Lake|Flato and Koons Environmental Design)

Jerry Cooper (B.Arch'52) | West Villate Dining Commons 2017 (Cooper Carry in association with Lake|Flato and Koons Environmental Design)

Jerry Cooper (B.Arch'52) | Kurt S. Nelson (Wet) and Carolyn & Earl Shell (North) Undergraduate Living Center 1992 (Cooper Carry)

Jerry Cooper (B.Arch'52) Bill Stanley (Arch'72) Avenue Love-Stanley (M.Arch'77) | Eighth Street Apartments 1994-5 (Cooper Carry and Stanley Lover-Stanley)

Jerry Cooper (B.Arch'52) | Family Apartments [Tenth & Home Apartments] 2004 (Cooper Carry)

Jerry Cooper (B.Arch'52) | Architecture West Building 1976-79 (Cooper Carry, & Associates)

Lord Aeck Sargent, originally founded by Richard Aeck (Arch'36) | Kendeda Building for Innovative Sustainable Design 2017-19

Lord Aeck Sargent, originally founded by Richard Aeck (Arch'36) | Fuller E. Callaway Jr. Manufacturing Research Center 1988-91

Lord Aeck Sargent, originally founded by Richard Aeck (Arch'36) | Manufacturing Related Disciplines Complex 1995

Lord Aeck Sargent, originally founded by Richard Aeck (Arch'36) | Joseph B. Whitehead Building/Edward Roe Stamps III Student Health Center 2002-03

Ed Ivey, credited with establishing the architecture program at Georgia Tech while he was a student in 1908 | Chi Phi Fraternity House 1928-9 (National Register for Historic Places, Ivey and Crook)

Ed Ivey, credited with establishing the architecture program at Georgia Tech while he was a student in 1908 | Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity House 1940 (Ivey and Crook)

Sonny Crowe (Arch '89, M.Arch '93) contributed initial design | Phi Sigma Kappa Fraternity house 2010 (Rabbi Hogan Ota Rasche)

Warren Epstein (Arch'56) | Alpha Epsilon Pi Fraternity House 1964-5, 2016-18 (Warren Epstein and Associates)

Larry Evans and Carl Smith (Georgia Tech TEKE alumni and architects with DeLoach and Campbell) | Tau Kappa Epsilon Fraternity House 1973

Bill Finch (B. Arch '36), Miller Barnes (Architecture degree in the 1930s), Caraker Paschal (spent one year at Georgia Tech) founders of Finch, Alexander, Barnes, Rothschild, & Paschal | Bunger-Henry Chemical Engineering and Ceramic Engineering Building 1964

Bill Finch (B. Arch '36), Miller Barnes (Architecture degree in the 1930s), Caraker Paschal (spent one year at Georgia Tech) founders of Finch, Alexander, Barnes, Rothschild, & Paschal | Boggs Chemistry Building 1967-70

Bill Finch (B. Arch '36), Miller Barnes (Architecture degree in the 1930s), Caraker Paschal (spent one year at Georgia Tech) founders of Finch, Alexander, Barnes, Rothschild, & Paschal | Wenn Student Center 1967-70 (Redesigned and renovated as the John Lewis Student Center 2020-21)

William "Bill" Harrison (Arch 71) | Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity House 1996 (Harrison Design Consultants)

Paul M. Heffernan, head of the Architecture Department | Hinman Research Building 1939 (with Bush-Brown and Gailey)

Paul M. Heffernan, director of the School of Architecture 1956-75 | Architecture Building 1952 (Bush-Brown, Gailey, and Heffernan)

Paul M. Heffernan, director of the School of Architecture 1956-75 | Lutheran Center 1961

Paul M. Heffernan, director of the School of Architecture 1956-75 | Price Gilbert Library 1951-53 (Bush-Brown, Gailey, and Heffernan)

Paul M. Heffernan, director of the School of Architecture 1956-75 | Paul M. Heffernan House 1946-47

Paul M. Heffernan, director of the School of Architecture 1956-75 | Wesley Foundation/Methodist Center 1960 (Paul Heffernan and Samuel T. Hurst Jr.)

Michael Hug (Arch'80) | Kappa Sigma Fraternity House 2013 (Hug & Associates)

Michael Hug (Arch'80) | Theta Chi Fraternity House 2001 (Zaic Hug & Associates)

Michael Hug (Arch'80) | Alpha Phi Sorority House 2017 (Hug & Associates)

Michael Hug (Arch'80) | Delta Sigma Phi Fraternity House 2018 (Hug & Associates, Andy Anderson, des.)

Michael Hug (Arch'80) | Kappa Alpha Theta Sorority House 2019 (Hug & Associates, Andy Anderson, des.)

Rufus Hughes, Dale Durfee (Architecture Faculty) | Catholic Center 1983-85 (Hughes/Durfee)

John Portman and Associates (Founded by John Portman Arch'50) | Center Street Apartments 1995-96

John Portman and Associates (Founded by John Portman Arch'50) | CODA at Tech Square 2019

Portman Architects (Founded by John Portman Arch'50) | Anthem Technology Center 2018-21

Phillip Smallwood (Arch'62) Bill Reynolds (BC'61) with Smallwood, Reynolds, Stewart, Stewart and Associates | James K. Such Jr. Building 1987

Smallwood, Reynolds, Stewart, Stewart and Associates founded by Phillip Smallwood (Arch'62) Bill Reynolds (BC'61) | Bill Moore Student Success Building 1993

Smallwood, Reynolds, Stewart, Stewart and Associates founded by Phillip Smallwood (Arch'62) Bill Reynolds (BC'61) | Chi Psi Fraternity House 1995-6

Smallwood, Reynolds, Stewart, Stewart and Associates founded by Phillip Smallwood (Arch'62) Bill Reynolds (BC'61) | Georgia Center for Advanced Telecommunications Technology (GCATT) 1995-6

Smallwood, Reynolds, Stewart, Stewart and Associates founded by Phillip Smallwood (Arch'62) Bill Reynolds (BC'61) | Fifth Street Bridge redesign 2004-7

Francis Palmer Smith, Head of the Architecture Department (1909 - 22) | Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity House 1929 (Pringle and Smith)

John Llewellyn Skinner, Head of the Architecture Department (1922) | Beta Theta Pi Fraternity House 1925

John Llewellyn Skinner, Head of the Architecture Department (1922-25) | Ceramics Building, now Stephen C. Hall Building for Writing and Communications 1924 (Skinner, Bush-Brown, and Gailey)

John Llewellyn Skinner, Head of the Architecture Department (1922-25) | Julius Brown Memorial Hall dormitory 1929 (Skinner, Bush-Brown, and Stowell)

Bill Stanley (Arch'72) Avenue Love-Stanley (M.Arch'77) Phillip Smallwood (Arch'62) Bill Reynolds (BC'61) founders of Smallwood, Reynolds, Stewart, Stewart and Associates | McAuley Aquatic Center 1993-95

Gene Surber (Arch'65) | Phi Kappa Tau Fraternity House 2009 (Server Barber Choate and Hertlein, first LEED Gold chapter house in the US)

L.H. Swayze (Arch'52) | Mason Civil Engineering Building 1966 - 69

Tomas W. Ventulett III (B.Arch'58) | Technology Square 2000-03 (Thompson, Ventulett, Stainback & Associates)

Tomas W. Ventulett III (B.Arch'58) | School of Industrial and Systems Engineering Complex 1983 (Thompson, Ventulett, Stainback & Associates)

Jim Winer (M.Arch '86) | North Avenue Dining Hall 2010-12 (Make Architecture/Planning/Design)

Janice Wittschiebe (M.Arch '80) as part of Richard Wittschiebe Hand | Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity House 2007

Janice Wittschiebe (M.Arch '80) as part of Richard Wittschiebe Hand | Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity House 2013

Janice Wittschiebe (M.Arch '80) | Alpha Xi Delta Sorority House 2005 (Richard + Wittschiebe)

Janice Wittschiebe (M.Arch '80) | Alpha Gamma Delta Sorority House 2012 (Richard + Wittschiebe)

Janice Wittschiebe (M.Arch '80) | Landa Chi Alpha Fraternity House 2005 (Richard + Wittschiebe)



Miro Malesevic from the Center for Urban Resilience and Analytics has built the first 3D-printed map of Georgia Tech's campus



Nicolas Bras performs on his Hacked Double Trumpet at the Guthman Musical Instrument Competition

Creative Output, Georgia Tech Know-how

We regularly invite the public and industry experts to view our faculty and students' work, because our work often takes the form of exhibitions, concerts, or curated experiences. This year, the School of Architecture and the School of Industrial Design combined both of their end-of-year shows to form the biggest college student design show in the South. Our Guthman New Musical Competition reached new heights of exposure with a segment on CBS Sunday Morning, and the Auto Show regrouped with cars displayed across the center of campus.




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with
GEORGIA
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Innovation in Practice: Student Work on Display at 2025 Design Showcase

On a spring evening in Atlanta, the Georgia Tech College of Design came alive with color, sound, and innovation. The annual Design Show—this year combining Launchpad from Industrial Design and the End of Year Show from Architecture—was more than a showcase. It was a celebration of what happens when creativity meets purpose and when student ideas grow into real-world impact.

The energy was palpable. Inside the studios and halls of the Architecture and Industrial Design buildings, hundreds of visitors—families, alumni, and curious passersby—filtered in and out, pausing to admire lamps made for night-shift workers, motion-capturing therapy devices, speculative sci-fi lighting, and healing spaces for Atlanta's most vulnerable.

For Kevin Shankwiler, senior lecturer and undergraduate program coordinator for the School of Industrial Design, the Design Show is the highlight of the year.

Scan here to read
the rest of the article



From Cosplay to Concert Hall Georgia Tech takes Dragon Con

Georgia Tech conductor Chaowen Ting and student Jason Gao fused orchestral performance and costume design in a dazzling showcase of interdisciplinary talent. Each year, Atlanta's Dragon Con draws tens of thousands of fans to celebrate everything from fantasy and gaming to science fiction and symphonic soundscapes. This time, Georgia Tech's creative force was on full display as Dr. Chaowen Ting, associate professor and Director of Orchestral Studies, conducted the Georgia Philharmonic in a cinematic concert—and arrived in spectacular style thanks to a hand-crafted Light Fury cosplay designed by GT graduate student Jason Gao. The concert, held in the Hyatt Regency Centennial Ballroom, featured iconic scores from *How to Train Your Dragon*, *Jurassic Park*, *Wicked*, *Star Trek*, *E.T.*, and more. Ting led the orchestra with elegance and flair—wearing a full-scale white dragon costume inspired by the DreamWorks character and designed to complement the How to Train Your Dragon suite on the program.

Scan here to read
the rest of the article



The Memories Architecture Holds, and the Honor of Design

For the last four years as the Thomas W. Ventulett III Distinguished Chair in Architectural Design, Michael Murphy has taught School of Architecture students about the connection memory and culture has to places and buildings.

Murphy is a renowned architect whose work exists in more than a dozen countries. He is best known for his work with memorials, like the National Memorial for Peace and Justice in Montgomery, Alabama, or The Embrace memorial on Boston Common. He cofounded MASS Design Group in 2007.

As the Thomas W. Ventulett III Distinguished Chair in Architectural Design, Murphy is charged with helping Georgia Tech students develop significant initiatives that heighten the importance of design in the architecture, engineering, and construction industry, nationally and internationally.

Scan here to read
the rest of the article



Georgia Tech Auto Show Motors On

What began simply as a common interest among colleagues has become a long-standing tradition on campus: the Georgia Tech Auto Show. It returned March 29.

It debuted in 2003 when Sterling Skinner, a laboratory manager at the George W. Woodruff School of Mechanical Engineering, and David Lynn, a lecturer in the School of Industrial Design (a master's student in the program at the time), tried getting Tech gearheads out of the garage and into the community.

Because of Tech's rich automotive history — from the iconography of the Ramblin' Wreck to the Institute's racing roots — the show's organizers quickly realized there was a shared enthusiasm among students, faculty, staff, and alumni to showcase their vehicles.

"It felt as if there were a lot of people on campus who were into cars, but you could be in an office or a lab right next to someone who shares this passion, and it may never come up in conversation," Lynn said. "Georgia Tech being so engineering-heavy lends itself to many people enjoying all things mechanical, and I don't know that there's any better example of a mechanical object than a car."

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the rest of the article



Guthman Musical Instrument Competition

Georgia Tech's 2025 Guthman Musical Instrument Competition is an annual event aimed at identifying the world's next generation of musical instruments and unveiling the best new ideas in musicality, design, engineering, and impact.

The Guardian called the competition "The Pulitzer of the New Instrument World," and The *New York Times* described it as having a "special, otherworldly sound that you can feel permeating your soul", which has become the hallmark of the competition. Fast Company explained how Guthman's "futuristic instruments will change how we make music," and *Atlanta Magazine* suggested that "at the Guthman Competition, innovative instruments just might predict the future of music." Just prior to this year's Competition, CBS Sunday Morning aired a segment about the 2024 contestants and judges.

Approximately ten finalists were invited to attend the 2025 edition of the Guthman Musical Instrument Competition at the Georgia Tech campus in Atlanta on March 7 and 8, 2025. Finalists must attend the competition in person to present their work to the judges, perform on a public concert, and compete for $10,000 in prizes.

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the rest of the article



Boykin Leads Youth Choir to International Win

Brittney Boykin, assistant professor in the School of Music, led a group of young Atlanta singers to victory in the largest international choral festival and competition in the world. With Boykin conducting, the Senior Youth Choir of the Atlanta Music Project (AMP) won the Youth Choir category and earned the second highest score across all categories in the World Choir Games' Open Competition.

AMP has never competed in a formal competition, Boykin said, but they started big. "This competition has been likened to the Olympic Games of choral music. This year, the World Choir Games welcomed 11,000 participants in 250 choirs representing 42 countries and regions from all over the world.

"It was already a huge honor to have been invited to participate in the World Choir Games due to its competitiveness," she said. "We were excited for the students to even have that opportunity."

"But to walk away with a gold AND to be crowned the category winner - that is major!"

Because of this win, AMP is qualified to participate in Interkultur's other major competitions — such as the World Choir Games - The Champions Competition, World Choir Championships - The Champions Round and the Grand Prix of Nations — over the next 5 years, Boykin said.

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the rest of the article

2025 Musical Ensemble Concert Calendar

GTSO Concerto Competition
2/9/2025 1:00 PM West Village 175
Symphony Orchestra

GT Concert Band and Symphonic Band Concert
2/18/2025 7:30 PM Ferst Center
Concert Band | Symphonic Band

Russian Flames
2/19/2025 7:30 PM Ferst Center
Symphony Orchestra

Concert Orchestra Concert
2/20/2025 7:30 PM Ferst Center
Concert Orchestra

Rockin' the Atlantic
2/22/2025 7:30 PM Atlantic Theater (Student Center) Rock & Pop Ensemble

GT Jazz Ensembles Concert
2/25/2025 7:30 PM Ferst Center
Jazz Ensemble I Jazz Ensemble II

New Music Ensemble
3/28/2025 7:30 PM West Village 175
New Music Ensemble

GT Chorale Spring Concert
3/30/2025 3:00 PM West Village 175
Chorale

Sonic Ecology
4/2/2025 7:30 PM Other On-Campus Venue
Laptop Orchestra

Treble Choir Spring Concert
4/10/2025 7:00 PM West Village 175
Treble Choir

Chamber Choir Spring Concert
4/13/2025 2:00 PM First Presbyterian Church, Downtown Atlanta
Chamber Choir

Rock Pop @ Rocky Mountain Pizza
4/13/2025 7:00 PM Rocky Mountain Pizza
Rock & Pop Ensemble

Glee Club Spring Concert
4/14/2025 7:00 PMWest Village 175
Glee Club

The Journey Unfolding
4/14/2025 7:30 PMFerst Center
Symphony Orchestra

Glee Club at Eddie's Attic
4/16/2025 7:00 PM Eddie's Attic
Glee Club

An Evening of Percussion
4/16/2025 7:30 PM Couch 115
Percussion Ensemble

Concert Orchestra Concert 2
4/16/2025 7:30 PM Ferst Center
Concert Orchestra

GT Concert Band and Symphonic Band Concert
4/17/2025 7:30 PM Ferst Center
Concert Band | Symphonic Band

Laptop Orchestra Concert and School of Music Studios Combined Concert
4/18/2025 7:30 PM Couch Building
Laptop Orchestra

Pitch-a-Piece
4/18/2025 7:30 PM Cadell Flex Space.
Chamber Choir | ChoraleTreble | ChoirGlee Club

Rockin the Willage
4/19/2025 3:00 PM West Village 175
Rock & Pop Ensemble

GT Jazz Combos
4/21/2025 8:00 PM West Village 175
Jazz Combos

GT Jazz Ensembles Concert
4/22/2025 7:30 PM Ferst Center
Jazz Ensemble I Jazz Ensemble II

GTSO Concert Fall
9/22/2025 7:30 PM Ferst Center
Symphony Orchestra

Symphonic and Concert Bands Concert
9/23/2025 7:30 PM Ferst Center
Concert Band | Symphonic Band

Concert Orchestra Fall 1
9/24/2025 7:30 PM Ferst Center
Concert Orchestra

Jazz Ensembles Fall Concert #1
9/30/2025 7:30 PM Ferst Center
Jazz Ensemble I Jazz Ensemble II

Rockin' the Willage
10/3/2025 7:30 PM West Village 175
Rock & Pop Ensemble

Surround Sound
10/24/2025 7:30 PM Ferst Center
Marching Band

Glee Club educational performances at Spivey Hall
11/13/2025 9:45 AM Spivey Hall
Glee Club

Treble Choir Fall Concert
11/13/2025 7:00 PM West Village 175
Treble Choir

Rockin' the West Village
11/15/2025 7:30 PM West Village 175
Rock & Pop Ensemble

Chorale/Chamber Joint Fall Concert
11/16/2025 2:30 PM Central Presbyterian Church
Chorale | Chamber Choir

GTSO Fall Concert
11/17/2025 7:30 PM Ferst Center
Symphony Orchestra

Symphonic and Concert Band Fall
11/18/2025 7:30 PM Ferst Center
Symphonic Band | Concert Band

Concert Orchestra Fall
11/19/2025 7:30 PM Ferst Center
Concert Orchestra

Neo-Arcade & Art Gallery
11/20/2025 7:00 PM Goat Farm
The event showcases the multimedia works of Integrating Music into Multimedia students.

Jazz Ensembles Fall Concert #2
11/20/2025 7:30 PM Ferst Center
Jazz Ensemble I Jazz Ensemble II

Chamber Pitch a Piece
11/21/2025 7:30 PM Caddell Flex Space
Chamber Choir

Glee Club Fall Concert
11/24/2025 8:00 PM West Village 175
Glee Club

Jazz Combos Final Fall Concert
12/2/2025 7:30 PM West Village 175
Jazz Combos



Images of student work from the College of Design



Solar Decathlon student group interviews community partners in Atlanta, Georgia

What's Next for the College of Design?

The College of Design is growing. We have new degrees, a new School, and new students who are part of Georgia Tech's largest incoming class. That means new goals and a strategy to meet them. Let's discuss.

College of Design To-Do List for 2026

- [ ] Nurture the second cohort of Bachelor of Science in Urban Planning and Spatial Analytics students
- [ ] Hire new chairs for the Schools of Music and Arts, Entertainment, and Creative Technologies
- [ ] Accept the first cohort of Bachelor of Science in Arts, Entertainment, and Creative Technologies students
- [ ] Renovate and establish studios for School of Architecture, School of Arts, Entertainment, and Creative Technologies, and School of Music in the Rich Building
- [ ] Hire faculty for the new School of Arts, Entertainment, and Creative Technologies
- [ ] Name a New Thomas W. Ventulett III Distinguished Chair in Architectural Design in School of Architecture

Georgia Tech
College of Design



Images of student work from the College of Design



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