

2009/10 Worldstudio AIGA Scholarships Honorable Mention



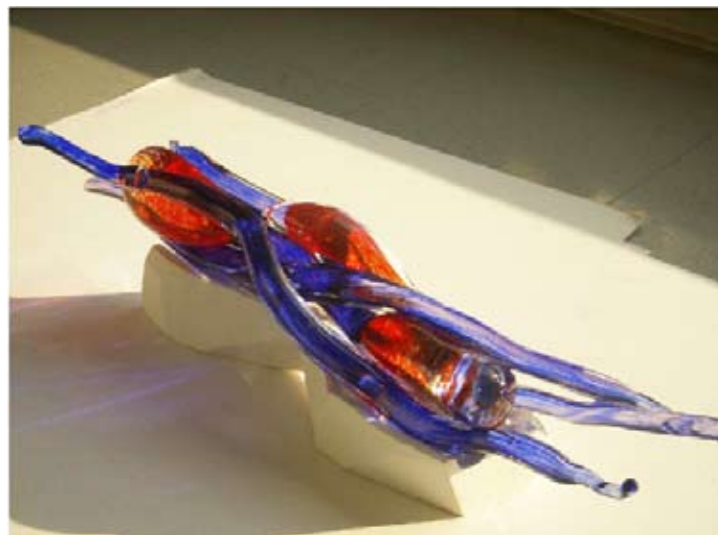
STEVEN SANTANDER

Architecture
Junior
New Jersey Institute of Technology

Ever since my youth I have been interested in art and design. I have always appreciated the aesthetics of my surroundings and have had a good eye for detail. My father studied both art and architecture, but was never able to finish school and receive his degree. In turn, my sisters and I developed our artistic skills and all chose to study design-based careers.



All throughout my studies, I have had the opportunity to be in advanced art programs. From an early age, I would draw unceasingly and was always looking for the next challenge to test and evolve my skills. In high school, I was in the Visual and Performing Arts High School Program, an advanced studio art course taught at a university. There, I was able to push my limits and develop new skills and ways of thinking and working. I received two full scholarships to study summer courses at the Fashion Institute of Technology and Parsons The New School for Design. In the program, I volunteered organizing events, exhibitions, and being a sketch artist at various musical performances. I used my skills and interests to volunteer my services and give back to the community. This reflects greatly in my designs today.



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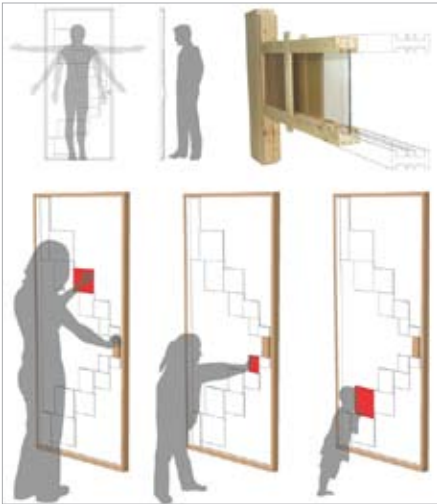


the professional association for design

STEVEN SANTANDER

Architecture

While in school, I hope to continue to develop new skills and enhance my architectural pursuits with new experiences. I wish to study abroad in order to experience another atmosphere and learn as much as I can from that in order to improve my architecture. I have continued with my artwork and hope to exhibit it on various occasions, including at school. I constantly try to find new ways of enhancing both my scholastic and personal work and integrate them to form aesthetic, functional designs.



I have learned valuable experience interning and working for architects. I have also learned glassblowing and welding techniques, which I hope will enrich my study and practice of architecture. With my work and volunteer experience I hope to give back to the community and offer my services in order to learn new things and help out the people around me. I continue offering my services to the community, using my skills not only as an aesthetic tool but as a helpful tool as well. I have painted and continue to paint large murals, candles and other things for various churches as a service. I gain experience from doing my work but am fulfilled when others can use and enjoy it.

I enjoy using my talents at all scales, whether it is a small piece of art or large scale project. My hopes for the future are to be able to use my architecture as a means to help people. I base my designs on the user and how people will be affected by architecture, making architecture not merely an aesthetic object but a functional space that evokes feeling and becomes an experience for the person. Keeping social needs, green architecture and other aspects of designs in mind, I hope to be able to use my architecture for the benefit of all.



I wish to offer and receive new experiences as a designer. This scholarship will help me to be able to continue my studies and pursue my goals in this time of financial need. People need productive ways to express themselves and use their energy; architecture is mine. As a young aspiring architect and designer, I hope to be able to give back to the community the same amount that I received and offer the youth of tomorrow the same opportunities that I have had.