

FURNITURE DESIGN (ONLINE CAREER LIBRARY GUIDE)

A quick reference guide to using the Furniture Design resources in the Online Career Library (OCL) provided by the Career Services Office, RISD.

The Online Career Library is a collection of over 10,000 bookmarked websites with hyperlinks to information related to career issues for artists and designers. Information is organized categorically for 23 specific art and design disciplines and for other relevant topic areas such as Career Advice, Graduate Studies, Health Insurance, and Housing, etc. The links listed in this handout are intended to get you started using these resources. We recommend exploring each section of the library in depth in accordance with your needs.

Career Counselors are available throughout the year to meet with students and alumni in person or via phone to answer specific questions about using the Online Career Library and to discuss other issues related to resume writing, portfolio preparation, job and internship searching, interviewing, and other related career areas.

To enter the Online Career Library go to:

<http://intranet.risd.edu/career>

Select Online Career Library under Related Web Links. After logging in, you will notice that the OCL is divided into 5 sections: Additional Resources, Design, Fine Art, Galleries, and Grants, Fellowships + Residencies. Click on Design and scroll down the page until you come to Furniture Design. Then, click on the link to open the resources in this section.

The Furniture Design section is divided into subcategories starting with Alumni Websites, Associations, etc. Each subcategory of the Furniture Design section is noted in this handout with suggestions for how to make use of the resources you will find in them.

Alumni Websites

Review alumni websites to see how other designers are presenting their work professionally, to gain a broader understanding of the type of work being done by graduates from the department, and to identify alumni for networking purposes. Links are organized by the state in which the alumni lives/works followed by their name and year of graduation. *Suggested sites:*

CA - Minakawa, Gerard '97 - Furniture Design

<http://www.ukao.com>

CA - Wiseman, David '03 - Furniture Design

<http://www.dwiseman.com>

ME - Moringello, Julie '89 MFA - Furniture Design

<http://www.juliemoringello.com>

MI - Hauptman, Jonas '95 - Furniture Design

<http://www.jonashauptman.com>

NY - Roskin, Alex '00 MFA - Furniture Design

<http://www.alexroskin.com>

RI - Goldberg, Jenna '94 MFA - Furniture Design

<http://www.jennagoldbergstudio.com>

Associations

Professional associations in Furniture Design offer conferences, trade shows, annual meetings and other career based activities that bring professionals in the discipline together to share their expertise and to exchange and discuss new ideas and developments within the field. Association websites may list event dates, member lists and their corporate affiliations, job boards and useful information for those seeking to connect professionally within the field. In some cases, student membership to professional associations may be an option at a reduced rate. Look at the association websites for conferences to attend for networking opportunities, and member lists that will provide names of people to contact about your interests in specific companies and insights into the field. *Suggested sites:*



CAREER SERVICES OFFICE

[HTTP://INTRANET.RISD.EDU/CAREER](http://intranet.risd.edu/career)

52 ANGELL ST. PROVIDENCE, RI

401.454.6614

Furniture Society

<http://www.furniture society.org>

Provides information on publications, exhibitions, galleries, forums, conferences, etc. related to furniture design.

Furniture New York

<http://www.furniture newyork.org>

Furniture New York is a non-profit organization whose mission is to unite, educate, and advance the furniture and furnishings community in the greater New York area.

Books + Periodicals

This section contains a list of books and periodicals that can be found on the shelves of the career library in the Alumni + Career Services Office. A number of these publications produce an annual design issue featuring award-winning work. Reviewing the listed firms, studio and companies is another good way to identify possible companies to approach about internships or jobs. Other issues of these magazines feature updates on trends, developments, and related products within the field.

Suggested publications:

Dwell magazine

<http://www.dwellmag.com>

Metropolis magazine

<http://www.metropolismag.com>

Directories

Directories provide extensive listings of company profiles searchable by geographic location and specialty. This enables you to look for companies in a particular geographic area with specific expertise, gain contact information for them including a mailing address, phone and fax numbers, and in most cases a web address. Once you have these specifics you can present yourself to companies with a cover letter, resume and portfolio samples and express your interest in working for them.

Suggested sites:

Dwell DesignSource

<http://www.dwell.com>

Search furniture studios by city, keyword, and/or category (furniture + accessories, kids furniture, furniture designers, etc.). At the top of the page click on 'Source' then select 'DesignSource'. Select 'Furniture + Accessories' under 'Browse by Category'.

Design Guide

<http://www.designguide.com>

Search more than 1,000 furniture design studios by keyword, city, and/or name. Provides thumbnail images of work. Under 'Select a Category' choose 'Products + Furnishings'. Click on 'Furnishings' under 'Search by CSI Index'.

Studio Furniture Makers' Websites

<http://www.furniture society.org/frames/fcol/home.shtml>

The most comprehensive listing of studio furniture makers on the web. All makers listed are members of the Furniture Society.

Furniture New York - Member List

<http://www.furniture newyork.org/members.html>

From individual designer/makers to small manufacturers, Furniture New York's member listing represents the best of New York-based design. Some of our members have large showrooms; others meet one-on-one with clients in their studios and workshops.

International Contemporary Furniture Fair (ICFF)

<http://www.icff.com>

Click on 'Exhibitors' and then 'Attendees' for a list of participating companies/studios.

General Information

This section contains information that does not fit into any other subcategory but are also notable professional resources.

Suggested sites:

Value-Created Review

<http://www.valuecreatedreview.com>

Supporting contemporary furniture design and sustainable manufacturing in Canada and beyond.

Design-Engine

<http://www.design-engine.com>

Includes information on design related conferences/workshops, feature news/articles, publications, etc.

Grants, Fellowships + Residencies

This section contains links to grants, fellowships and residencies specifically for Furniture Design.

Suggested sites:

Worcester Center for Crafts: Artists-in-Residence Program

<http://www.worcestercraftcenter.org/professional/air.php>

Center for Furniture Craftsmanship

<http://www.woodschooll.org/fellows.html>

The Studio Fellowship Program provides emerging and established

furniture makers, carvers, and turners with an encouraging, stimulating environment for the exploration of new work.

Job Banks + Online Subscriptions

Suggested sites:

Coroflot

http://www.coroflot.com/public/jobs_advanced_search.asp

Use the Advanced Job Search to search jobs by: keyword, field, years of experience, type of work, city, state and country.

Craigslist

<http://newyork.craigslist.org>

Try typing in furniture design under 'search craigslist' on the left hand side of the screen. Then select 'jobs'.

RISD Connected Company Profiles

Companies and studios that have made a RISD connection through recruitment, ArtWorks, career programs and portfolio reviews are listed here. In some cases, companies are owned by RISD alumni and/or reviewers are RISD alumni. You may want to contact these companies to determine if they have posted openings at the time you are job searching and introduce yourself to them for consideration for current or future openings. *Examples:*

Bailey Humbert Heck

<http://www.baileyheck.com>

Contemporary furniture pieces. Fabricated by hand with both custom one-of-a kind pieces and limited production runs.

BDDW

<http://www.bddw.com>

A small furniture company dedicated to the creation of well crafted timeless design. BDDW is known for their heirloom quality solid wood furniture, traditionally joined, in select domestic hardwoods.

Student Websites

Do you have a website? Please email your URL to Kevin Jankowski (kjankows@risd.edu) to add your website to the Online Career Library.