THE SHOWCASE BUILDING

Design Statement

The Showcase Building at The School of the Art Institute of Chicago will, for the first time, unite technical and expressive studios under one roof. The building form will primarily address the specific challenges of the site, such as light and verticality, then inform a sense of interconnectivity between patrons through physical and visual means.

116 S Michigan Ave should belong to be a school of the arts. Situated across from the Art Institute of Chicago and located in close proximity to several art and architectural beacons of the world, the Showcase Building will display the works and processes of up and coming artists. The building program and functions focus on a holistic growth of the students in the school. The intent is to encourage a cross-disciplinary dialogue, between students and curious passers-by. This goal can be achieved by means of increasing visibility and connectivity between public spaces and exhibition spaces; technical and expressive studios; and studios of different class levels. The first few floors have facilities open to the public where patrons can visit the Show Store to purchase student work, explore exhibitions or go to the cafe. Studios will take up a majority of the building program and have split levels, balconies and mezzanines to increase connectivity between departments. This includes teaching and exhibition of students from Architecture, Interior Design, Ceramics, Painting and Drawing, Graphic Design, etc. Intermittent levels will include recreational spaces, such as a lounge, a supply shop, and a gym. The highest floors are reserved for a library, seminar space, offices, conference rooms and review spaces. These spaces fit themselves into a form that best addresses the demands of the site constraints, yet push the built boundary of buildings lining Michigan Ave, leaning over the sidewalk as to truly showcase student work, ultimately engaging the public to evoke curiosity and intrigue. The other portion of the facade retracts into the building, as to gift users the ability to seek prospect or refuge. An integrated curtain wall system for the front facade helps to control visibility and heat loss and gain inside the building for optimum energy control and comfort.

The deep and slender building calls for floor plan flexibility, visual relief and thoroughly designed daylighting devices. The Showcase Building is designed with each of these aspects in mind, using the assistance of quantitative simulation tools such as Grasshopper, Sefaira and Diva. This data has been interpreted to enhance the qualitative experience hundreds of patrons will have on a regular basis at any time of day. The interior has been organized to maximize visual accessibility. The sectional perspective diagram serves as a design supplement in understanding the connectivity patterns within the lightwell. The lightwell is a strategy to bring in light to the lowest levels of the building. Since the lightwell creates a physical disconnection between studios, the balconies and other showcase boxes were created to develop a dynamic between studios where students can see one another, converse, and occupy one large mutual space.
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Electronic shading devices are guided by tracks attached to vertical mullions. This allows shades to run up and down, adjacent to the glazed facade. This is the ideal treatment for this space as the glazing in this studio is double height and at an angle.

Snow guards prevent hazardous snow and ice from sliding off of the roof.

Dual track spotlighting is ideal for a runway. It allows for maximum control during fashion productions. Artistically hung from the steel framed ceiling, these rods allow for a clean look along the bottom edge of the ceiling.

A pop up runway allows flexibility between an active work space or a crowded fashion show.

Individual sewing machines and work stations can be closed up, or open and visible as required. This also allows for flexibility to give a clear appearance for formal shows.

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Backdrops are hung from the mezzanine floor. They are controlled electronically, and when activated, they will descend from the drop ceiling. At the base of the backdrop is a weighted rod to keep the fabric taught. After use, each of the backdrops can retract into the ceiling, at the top, the rod fits into a niche as to keep a clean look along the bottom edge of the ceiling.

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EDUCATION

AUGUST 2017 - MAY 2019
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA - CHAMPAIGN
MASTER OF ARCHITECTURE CANDIDATE
FIRST PLACE GRADUATE DESIGN AWARD RECIPIENT

SEPTEMBER 2016 - MAY 2017
ESCOLA TECNICA SUPERIOR D'ARQUITECTURA DEL VALLES:
UNIVERSITAT POLITECNICA DE CATALUNYA
SANT CUGAT DEL-VALLES, BARCELONA, SPAIN
IU1 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

AUGUST 2013 - MAY 2017
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA - CHAMPAIGN
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ARCHITECTURAL STUDIES
ILLINOIS LEADERSHIP CERTIFICATE RECIPIENT

ARCHITECTURAL EXPERIENCE

MAY 2016 - AUGUST 2016
WARE MALCOMB ARCHITECTS
COMMERCIAL ARCHITECTURE INTERN
OAKBROOK, ILLINOIS

LEADERSHIP

MAY 2018 - JULY 2018
UIUC SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE CAREER XPO
STUDENT AMBASSADOR
CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS – BARCELONA, CATALUNA

MARCH 2016 & MARCH 2017
UIUC SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE CAREER XPO
STUDENT AMBASSADOR
CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS – BARCELONA, CATALUNA

AUGUST 2015 - MAY 2016
ARCHITECTURE STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL
VICE PRESIDENT OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

MAY 2014 - SEPTEMBER 2016
ANDERSON ANIMAL SHELTER
VOLUNTEER
SOUTH ELGIN, ILLINOIS

JUNE 2011 - SEPTEMBER 2016
CHICAGO'S BEST ENTERTAINMENT
VOLUNTEER DJ ASSISTANT
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

SEPTEMBER 2013 - MAY 2017
CHI OMEGA FRATERNITY
CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

SEPTEMBER 2013 - MAY 2014
WOMEN IN ARCHITECTURE
CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

CONTACT

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CHAMPAIGN, IL 61820
PERMANENT ADDRESS:
1124 TOWERING OAKS CT.
BARTLETT, IL 60103

SKILLSET

+ AUTODESK PRODUCTS:
  _AUTOCAD
  _REVIT
+ ADOBE CC PRODUCTS:
  _ILLUSTRATOR
  _PHOTOSHOP
  _INDESIGN
+ RHINOCEROS
+ VRAY
+ SEFAIRA
+ SKETCHUP
+ MICROSOFT PRODUCTS:
  _WORD
  _POWERPOINT
  _EXCEL
+ HAND SKETCHING
+ MODEL MAKING

WORK SAMPLE

TO VIEW MY PORTFOLIO, PLEASE VISIT:
HTTPS://SHANNONNFITZGERALD.WIXSITE.COM/PROFILE
SRUSHTI NEHETE  
portfolio : www.issuu.com/srushtinehete

EDUCATION

MASTERS IN ARCHITECTURE  
Expected graduation 2019  
University of Illinois at the Urbana Champaign  
Started graduate school in Fall 2017  
GPA 3.85

BACHELORS IN ARCHITECTURE  
2011-2016  
Rachana Sansad Academy of Architecture, Mumbai  
Affiliated with the Mumbai University.  
Batch of 2011-16; passed with First Class

WORK EXPERIENCE

HARLEY ELLIS DEVEREAUX, CHICAGO  
www.hed.design  
Architecture+Design Intern  - May 2018 - August 2018  
Part of the design team for HED’s Chicago office. Worked on higher education and senior living projects.

ARCHITECTS’ COMBINE, MUMBAI  
www.architectscombine.in  
Intern - November 2015-March 2016  |  Project Architect - April 2016- June 2017  
Major Projects undertaken: Institutional and Residential, handled Client Presentations, Design Development, Bill of Quantities and Working Drawings

STATION SATCOM, MUMBAI  
Project Manager - April 2015 - June 2015  
Executed the interiors of their new office premises at Bandra Kurla Complex for the CEO, aided the architect with design drawings and coordination among consultants

TEACHING ASSISTANT, ACADEMY OF ARCHITECTURE, MUMBAI  
August 2015 - October 2015  
Assisted the first-year architecture students’ in their orientation workshop and exhibition.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

GRADUATE STUDIO DESIGN EXCELLENCE, SPRING 2018  
• Won first place at the Graduate Studio Design Excellence Award for the project The Showcase Building with partner Shannon Fitzgerald.

NIASA AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN THESIS, 2016  
• Presented final year thesis at the National Institute of Advanced Studies in Architecture (NIASA)  
• Represented the college at the Western Zonals held in Pune, August 2016

NASA COMPETITION FOR SAARC NATIONS  
• 2011- Landscape trophy for National Association of the Schools of Architecture (NASA)  
• 2015- Trophy head for Annual NASA Design Competition Trophy, shortlisted in top 20  
• 2015- Unknown Crafts Persons Trophy and won the first special mention for the same

WORKSHOPS AND SEMINARS

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS, NEW YORK  
SEPTEMBER 2017  |  ‘5 X 5 PROVOCATIVE PROPOSITIONS’  
Attended the AIA NY presentations on Provocative Propositions for New York by various architects from New York

LAURIE BAKER SUMMER SCHOOL, KERALA  
Summer 2014  |  ‘Towards a Green Habitat based on Laurie Baker’s Philosophy and Approach’  
Workshop organized by Laurie Baker Centre for Habitat Studies included exploring sustainable materials like bamboo and brick, lecture series and site visits to cost-effective housing developments.

INDIAN GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL (IGBC), MUMBAI  
Summer 2013  |  Sustainability- Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow’, J.J. College of Architecture  
Attended seminars by the Mumbai Students’ Chapter on sustainable building technology

EXTRA-CURRICULAR

GARGOYLE HONOR SOCIETY, UIUC  
Co-President for the Registered Student Organization on campus for 2018-2019

CHICAGO WOMEN IN ARCHITECTURE  
Member since 2017

AIAS, CHICAGO CHAPTER  
Member of the American Institute of Architecture Students since 2017

CONTENT WRITING  
Graphic ideator, photographer and writer for the college magazine ‘Niche’ from 2013-2015

SKILLS

• Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft PowerPoint Presentation  
• AutoCAD, Rhino, Revit, ZWCAD, SketchUp, ArchiCAD  
• Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator  
• InDesign, CorelDraw  
• Photography  
• Languages: Hindi (Highly proficient), English (Highly proficient), Marathi (Highly proficient)

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