

For Immediate Release

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**Design It Digital Student Competition Winners Announced in Virtual Ceremony
Number of Entries Increased During Pandemic**

Anaheim, August 28, 2020 -- The Association of Woodworking & Furnishings Suppliers[®] (AWFS[®]) announced the winners of its Design It Digital (DID) student CAD competition during a virtual awards ceremony on Thursday, August 27, 2020.

The winners of the 2020 Design It Digital Competition are:

- **1st Place Middle School/High School: *Barn Bunkbed*** by Theodore Tran, Mark Keppel High School, Alhambra, CA (Instructor Paul Lam)
- **2nd Place Middle School/High School: *Lincoln Logs Bunk Bed*** by Caden Bialow, Princeton Day School, Princeton, NJ (Instructor Chris Maher)
- **3rd Place Middle School/High School: *Noah's Ark*** by Nikhil Gandhi, Princeton Day School, Princeton, NJ (Instructor Chris Maher)
- **1st Place Post Secondary: *Fish Hive*** by Patrick Duckett, Savannah College of Art and Design, Savannah, GA (Instructor Craig Smith)
- **2nd Place Post Secondary: *Universus Bunk Bed*** by Vladimir Hernandez, Harold Washington College, City College of Chicago, Chicago, IL (Instructor Ivanhoe Tejada)
- **3rd Place Post Secondary: *Sleepy Science Bunk Beds*** by Nicole Seman, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Boston, MA (Instructor Diane Branzazio)

Watch the awards ceremony here: <https://youtu.be/1NneqkF97-c>

You can see all the Finalists Presentation Boards at:

<https://www.awfs.org/education/design-digital-student-contest/2020-design-it-digital/>

DID is a Computer Aided Drafting (CAD) competition open to students in North America. In the contest, students are presented three hypothetical scenarios in which a client is asking for a custom piece of furniture. Students choose their favorite client project and design a solution using CAD and rendering software. They also estimate project materials, labor hours, and hardware costs to calculate the price of their creation and make sure it falls within budget. Students then create a project presentation board and upload it to the DID contest website for judging.

AWFS received an increased quantity of entries compared to the 2018 inaugural contest, particularly from post-secondary students. The three scenarios presented for which students could design their entries were: a loft apartment fish tank; themed bunk beds; or a desk for a YouTuber with accommodations for AV equipment. Patrick Duckett, who received First Place Post Secondary, also won 2018 Design it Digital first place high school in while a student at North Cobb High School, and also was the 2019 SkillsUSA national Cabinetmaking contest High School Gold medalist.

The 2020 Design it Digital judging panel consisted of Don Bigelow from Hexagon, Doug Hague from Architectural Woodwork Institute (AWI), and Saúl Martín from Architectural Woodworking Company in Los Angeles. They projects were scored based on quality of design, quality of CAD drawings and renderings, manufacturability, marketability, and overall concept. The six best projects receive prize packages. “We were happy to see so many impressive entries, it appears that this contest provided students an opportunity to complete a computer-based project while learning remotely during the pandemic,” says juror Doug Hague.

AWFS Member Companies Show Support for Students

Thank you to our primary sponsor Blum, Inc who make hinge-, lift- and runner-systems and the appropriate assembly tools for the cabinet making and furniture industry. We would also like to thank Fuji Spray for donating two Semi-Pro 2 Spray Systems. The AWFS® Southern California chapter, AWFS’ Southern California Chapter of Society of Wood Manufacturing (SWM) and Colonial Saw teamed up to supply a Lammello Biscuit Jointer as a prize.

The Post-Secondary level prize packages are:

- 1st Place: \$1,000.00 (USD) and a Lammello Biscuit Jointer from SWM and Colonial Saw
- 2nd Place: \$500.00 (USD) and a Semi-PRO 2 HVLP Spray System from Fuji Spray
- 3rd Place: \$250.00 (USD)

The High School level prize packages are:

- 1st Place: \$1,000.00 (USD) and a Semi-PRO 2 HVLP Spray System from Fuji Spray
- 2nd Place: \$500.00 (USD)
- 3rd Place: \$250.00 (USD)

The next Design It Digital competition is planned for 2022 with contest information released in Fall 2021.

For more information and entry instructions, visit AWFS.org or call: **Adam Kessler**, (323) 251-0312.

About AWFS®

The Association of Woodworking & Furnishings Suppliers® (AWFS), founded in 1911, is a non-profit organization that wholly owns and produces the biennial AWFS®Fair. The largest trade association serving the entire home and commercial furnishings industry, AWFS has more than 400 members, including manufacturers and distributors of machinery, hardware, software, tooling, lumber, components, wood products and supplies for the woodworking industry including cabinet, furniture, millwork and custom woodworking products.

Design it Digital 2020 Graphic:

