



## EDUCATION

Bachelor of Fine Arts Interior Architecture, George Washington University / Washington, DC, USA / 2023

- Art History Minor
- Columbian College of Arts and Sciences Dean's List- An acknowledgment of excellent grades and a strong GPA.
- Featured in 'Dezeen' June 2023 Issue for my Capstone Project Graduated Cum Laude

High school diploma, St Anne's Diocesan College / Hilton, KZN, RSA, 2018

- Graduated with a distinction in English, Drama and Life Orientation and achieved an A aggregate.
- Full Academic Colours – one of the high school's highest academic honours, awarded to students who consistently achieved academic excellence.
- Head of House - Leader of my boarding house, Andrews, which required managing the students, working with the school management, ensuring the safety of students, assisting with personal issues and pastoral care, and co-ordinating house activities and events.

## WORK EXPERIENCE

Design and Digital Marketing Intern

xN Studios / Washington DC / Sep 2023 - Present

- Communicated with clients, created design boards, created a TikTok content plan

Intern

Edith Gregson Interiors/Washington, DC, USA / Aug 2022 - Dec 2023 / Sept 2023 - Present

- Sorted fabric samples, assisted with client presentations and took notes, contacted vendors, created design plans for specific projects, created lighting schedules for specific projects, transcribed notes, assisted with shopping trips for clients, selected fabric samples, completed administrative tasks, ordered products and tracked orders, created elevations.

Intern

Hubo Design/Johannesburg, RSA / Jul 2021- Aug 2021

- Sorted floor samples, created colour palettes, edited photos, wrote for the website, visited sites, sat in on meetings and presentations, general help around the office, and did administrative tasks such as sending emails, printing documents and arranging meetings.

## VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Volunteer at Umgeni Mental Hospital Hilton, KZN, RSA / Jan 2017-Dec 2017

- Engaged in weekly activities with the patients such as making puzzles, and playing board games.

Volunteer at the Hilton Vet Hilton, KZN, RSA / Jan 2017 - Jul 2018

- Assisted with animal exercise and care, and sat in on client consultations.

Volunteer at Lucky Dog Animal Rescue Washington DC, USA / Oct 2019 - Mar 2020

- Walked a dog weekly.

Volunteer at Ukusutha Johannesburg, RSA / Jun 2020 - Jul 2020

- Made food parcels during the lockdown in South Africa for families from impoverished neighbourhoods.

## EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Writer

Jiffy Magazine / Washington DC, USA / Mar 2020 - Jan 2021

- Wrote articles on current cultural and political issues.

Photographer

Black Ace Magazine / Washington DC, USA / Aug 2019 - Dec 2019

- Photographed important events on campus for the magazine.

## LINKS

LinkedIn:



My website:



Dezeen Article:



ArtsThread Design Competition:



## SKILLS

Adobe InDesign

Adobe Photoshop

Adobe Illustrator

Revit

Enscape

AutoCad

# References

**Melina Misri**

Professor and Undergraduate Advisor  
George Washington University  
mmisri@gwu.edu

**Professor Karen Gioconda**

George Washington University

## PERKINS EASTMAN DC

May 6, 2023

To whom it may concern,

I am pleased to recommend Rosa Fihla for your entry-level design position. As her Adjunct Professor at George Washington University, I believe her professional and helpful attitude, paired with her technical skills, will be an asset to your studio.

Rosa is reliable and professional. She has near (if not) perfect attendance in my class. She consistently contributes by participating in pin-ups and desk crits. When receiving feedback, she is always gracious and incorporates it into her work without losing her vision. In the studio environment, Rosa is eager to help other students by sharing resources and critique.

Rosa definitely understands how to navigate Revit and Enscape. She was lauded by jurors for her ability to put together excited, curated collages and material palettes. Most importantly, for her Capstone project, she was able to identify a need in DC and develop a project concept intended to improve lives. Her perspective, as an international student of color, helped her conceptualize a new type of salon that would align with and support the Dupont Circle neighborhood. Hopefully she has an opportunity to share her project with you!

Based on what I've seen in the studio, Rosa will be a great contributor to her future design studio. Please reach out at the email address below should you need any additional information.

Sincerely,

*Karen P Gioconda*

Karen P Gioconda, NCIDQ, LEED AP ID+C  
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# Edith Gregson

## *Edith Gregson Interiors*

To Whom it May Concern:

Rosa was a wonderful addition to our team during her autumn internship with us. She was always ready to enthusiastically jump in with any task on hand. We all found her to be a true problem solver. She's someone who is clearly very solution-driven and works to see a given task all the way through to completion. She always asked specific questions to clarify any confusion and took meticulous notes so she seemed to never ask the same questions again.

Rosa adapted naturally to the fast-paced environment of the design world and besides being a source of both calmness and fun, Rosa was incredibly professional and stands out as being wise beyond her years. We felt privileged to have her join our company and miss her already!

Warmly,

Edith Gregson

**Edith Gregson**

Principal

**Edith Gregson Interiors**

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