

NEXT IN LINE DESIGN

A Chat for Design Grads:
Job Hunting & Fighting Imposter Syndrome



WORLD DESIGN
YOUNG DESIGNERS CIRCLE

Meet Alexis Divis

23, USA

Alexis studied **industrial design** at Savannah College of Art and Design. She is now currently working at **Johnson & Johnson's Experience Design Team**.

"Students definitely need to feel more empowered to show the messy work, so recruiters understand how they are thinking and working in a team. It's valuable to build up the confidence to share work that isn't finished."

Favourite designer

Charles & Ray Eames



Favourite food

Cookie dough ice cream



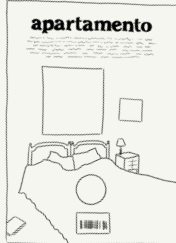
Hobbies

- Trying out cafes in NYC
- Baking
- Sketchbooking / Journaling



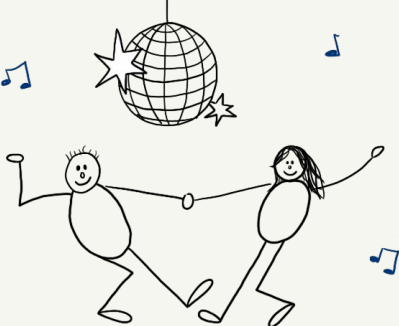
Favourite book

Apartamento magazine



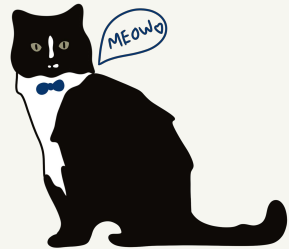
Favourite sport

Dance



Pets

Cat named Mister



In this episode, our YDC members discuss...

- Habits, attitudes and reflections about landing their first design job.
- Tips on networking and how to build community, how conversations, design groups, and mentorship can lead to valuable opportunities.
- Advice on overcoming impostor syndrome with confidence.

Motivation and Advice: How to land your first design job?

It's not about knowing everything but about having two or three strong skills that define you and help shape your **unique style**. Your portfolio should clearly communicate: This is who I am, and this is what I do best.

NATALIA

I found **soft networking** to be super critical. Having to learn to deal with this navigating small talk and speaking to professionals as a student was really scary at first, but practicing that skill was very critical to finding my first job.

ALEXIS

Just do whatever you're scared of doing, just go for it. Apply for the job. Ask a person for advice. Look for opportunities in your area. Talk to people, learn new skills, just go for it. And don't be afraid of failure.

LESLIE

Meet Leslie Sern

26, USA

Leslie is an industrial designer who graduated from the Cleveland Institute of Art with a Bachelors in Industrial Design and a concentration in Jewelry & Metals. She's a **Mechanical/Industrial Designer** at PIKE Technologies, using ergonomics and human factors to ensure products are **globally intuitive** and **user-friendly**.

"I feel like as designers, we're all trying to be perfectionists, but nothing is ever going to be perfect. Just do whatever you're scared of doing, just go for it."

Favourite designers

Phnam Bagley
Michael Graves



Favourite food

Any form of BBQ



Hobbies

- Cooking
- Crocheting
- Learning new languages
- Napping



Recommendations

Watch
Dan Formosa's Epicurious series of Gadgets Tested by Design Expert

Follow
Ti Chang (@designerti)
Kam Redlawsk (@kamredlawsk)

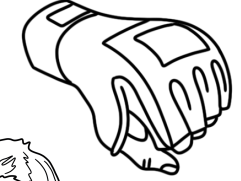
Favourite book

Speculative Futures
by Johanna Hoffman



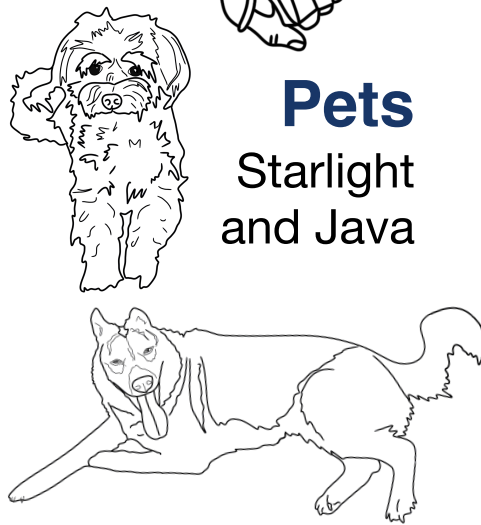
Favourite sport

Mixed martial arts



Pets

Starlight
and Java



Tips and Activities to Build Confidence

SELF-NEUTRALITY



Facts about yourself, such as your credentials. It focuses on facts rather than emotional self-judgement, helping reduce anxiety to overcome doubt and imposter syndrome.

BRAG LISTS

A list of past accomplishments; including big, small or unconventional achievements to boost confidence. It's about reminding yourself about unique or challenging accomplishments to build self-assurance.



MENTORSHIP



Having a more experienced mentor provide guidance can be invaluable. It not only helps build confidence but also creates a supportive relationship with someone who believes in you as you begin your design career.

Meet Natalia Enriquez

25, Colombia

Natalia is an industrial designer specializing in the creation of physical products and visual strategies. She also focuses on research for **cultural** and **heritage-related projects**. Currently, she works as a freelance designer for companies based in the United States.

"I truly believe that if each of us follows our calling beautifully and authentically, we can slowly change the narrative that says arts and designs are invaluable."

Favourite designer

Dieter Rams

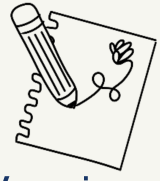


Favourite food

Pasta

Hobbies

- Drawing
- Watching TV series and movies
- Listening to music and podcasts



Recommendations

Read
The Beauty of Everyday Things by Yanagi Sôetsu

Watch
Love Death + Robots on Netflix

Follow
@creativereview on Instagram

Favourite book

The Children of Hurin
by J.R.R. Tolkien



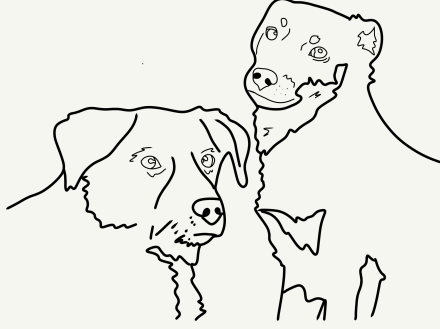
Favourite sport

Basketball



Pets

Haku and Eni



We want to **hear from you!** Look out on social media for updates to stay engaged.



Tune in to the **Next in Line** podcast to join the conversation!



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LISTEN NOW!

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