

Suzanne Drake 415-373-7970

CID, LEED ID+C, WELL, Fitwel Ambassador
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Introduction

I am an interior designer with over two decades in the industry, focused on corporate and technical design. I am deeply interested in aligning my professional efforts with my personal values: practical problem solving, creative expression, and responsible stewardship of people and planet. Continuous learning is important to me, and toward that end I seek a work environment that encourages and nurtures that effort.

Certifications

WELL Accredited Professional 2018
Fitwel Ambassador 2017
Certified Interior Designer (CID) 2008
LEED ID+C / Accredited Professional 2004
NCIDQ 1997

Proficiencies

AutoCAD; Revit Architecture; Adobe CS suite; SketchUp

Work Experience

References upon request

Senior Associate
Sr. Designer / Project Mgr.
Research Director
2012 – present

Perkins+Will

Firmwide expert in healthier materials. Lead project teams on science/technology project types up to 360,000sf (\$7m fee); scope from strictly tenant improvement (labs and office area) to central utility plant and site improvements. Manage and produce tenant improvement projects for local and national accounts (corporate TI). Management of staffing and contracts typical. Contribute to projects certifying to LEEDv4 and WELL standards.

Co-direct in-house (firmwide) research group responsible for maintaining and updating the [Precautionary List](#) and [Transparency website](#), publishing white papers, public speaking on material health topics, sitting for interviews / providing background for press inquiries, and working with manufacturers and other industry partners to promote transparency of material ingredients.

Contract Interior Design services
2011 - 2012

Project management; staffing management; design and coordination; field coordination; construction documentation; furniture and finish documentation. Clients include Perkins Eastman, Marin General Hospital, Skidmore, Owings, & Merrill, Cannon Design / Millican Jones.

Project Manager
2006 – 2011
Associate 2008

Stantec, previously Anshen + Allen

In-house interiors expert in healthier materials, evidence-based design, and healthcare interior design. Lead unique traveling demonstration exhibit of sustainable- and evidence-based design in a complete mock-up of an acute care recovery room. Speak at trade conferences and webinars. Secure Owner approvals for interior scope of work at risk of being removed from contract (two different clients). Create firm-wide tool for tracking and selecting green materials and furniture. Develop and facilitate 50+ person visioning session with Owner and design team. Develop Request For Proposal for \$5mil FF&E project, and evaluate proposals (public bid). Treehugger Sept 2008, [click here for video interview](#)

Work experience in Atlanta, Georgia:

1999 – 2006

1997 – 1999

1995 – 1997

Perkins & Will

Leo A Daly

Design Continuum, Inc.

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Other

2017 – present

Mindful Materials
Multiple working groups

2015 (Q4) – 2018 (Q4)

Health Product Declaration Collaborative
Board Member

2013 - 2018

Speaking Engagements: prepare, participate in, facilitate, and lead discussions on the topic of healthy materials and transparency of building products. Greenbuild, NeoCON, Living Product Expo, in-house training sessions, Parson's Healthy Materials Lab, AIA, and others.

2012 - 2017

Writings: prepare, edit, contribute, author various white papers, articles, and blog posts on the topic of healthy materials in the building industry. Published book, *EcoSoul: Save yourself and the planet by rethinking your everyday habits*.

2004-2011

Lecturer, Graduate Advisor, Adjunct Professor, variously at University of Berkeley Extension, Academy of Art University, San Francisco State University, Georgia State University

Education

Bachelor of Design
1995

Interior Design, University of Florida
Magna Cum Laude, School of Architecture

Design Statement

I believe in a holistic, interdisciplinary, team-oriented approach to design. Design integration that taps into everyone's expertise promotes innovation and enhances the overall project with true added value.

The successful design finds balance in the myriad priorities and blends all into a true solution that is larger than its parts.

I whole-heartedly agree with Sandra Mendler, principal with Mithun, who has said that as a society, and as a nation, we are "misusing our affluence." As a designer I am in a position to educate our clients, educate our consultants, and educate my colleagues and the public about why environmental design is responsible design. I am deeply moved toward this end, to actively search out what is truly the best solution (material, product, system, process) for the design problem at hand.

My creative process is a circling of ideas, spiraling in toward that unknown but imminent spark that drives the engine of the design industry. After the initial shuffling of thoughts, drawing and redrawing, the design emerges as a flag. Making the parti known and supported by the team is the real challenge. As a creative person, I tend toward the less-explored avenues of design; as a team-builder and natural mediator, I tend toward the practical. These tendencies of mine are often at odds; it is my personal challenge to allow my instincts to be heard; to make my ideas understandable to others; not to compromise too quickly.

To maintain my interest, motivation, and enthusiasm I strive to surround myself with other creative thinkers while being actively involved in challenging projects, always learning. Regular exposure to new ideas and other ways of looking at issues satisfies my constant curiosity about the world, while making me a better designer.