



# MEET OUR ALUMNI!



## Jasmine Hwang

*BFS Class of 2009*

.....

- Edward Mills and Associates, Architectural designer.
- Rhode Island School of Design, Class of 2016 - Master of Design in Interior Architecture
- Denison University, Class of 2014 - Bachelor of Science in Biology

### What are you up to now?

I am currently working in an Architectural Studio called Edward Mills and Associate. I work on designing and managing high end residential and larger commercial projects in New York. I hope to become an Architect / Interior Designer with occasional Set Design work through doing things I love, and performing useful work.

### Do you have any passion projects?

My passion project is to publish short narrative stories that illustrate exciting processes in architectural design rarely known by the public. I am working on designing small projects based on the current issue that matters the most to me as an architect and as a woman. I hope to publish this into a book in writing as well to share personal insights and reflect my vision as a designer.

I hope to accomplish this "passion project" throughout the next ten years with careful documentation of personal experiences, practices in creative writing and design, and research on the current architectural industry and feminism.

### What was the biggest challenge you faced in College?

I had a hard time determining what I wanted to do in life. But I think this is a phase that most college students go through, even post-college. I urge you to take time and think about what you want to accomplish in your life, which doesn't necessarily mean which career to choose. For me, a job as a tool/medium that will help you accomplish what you want in life, in your own personal goal/life long project.

### What advice do you have for BFS students as they go off to university/college?

You have to work with what you have to succeed. You have to work harder and maximize the given resources that are provided by the university. Everyone has their weaknesses to work with. I believe the trajectory for success depends on defining what you want to do, what to specialize in, and how much you are willing to work on your disadvantages to improve (or alternatively outsource them). In the end, having the opportunity to study abroad or to study and meet other people from other backgrounds in a prestigious university that allows you to build a platform for you to succeed is a privilege that many people cannot afford to have. Please acknowledge the importance of this privilege and make it worthwhile (in your terms).

One thing I want to share on a personal note is that our current education system can be deceiving in the sense that learning stops at college or grad school and that the social implication of learning is to land a "successful" job. I am a firm believer that learning as well as having a successful career is simply medium to develop a lifelong project.

### What memory of BFS comes to mind?

I want to thank the teachers who genuinely challenged students in their best interests with the best intentions, even if they sometimes worked in unideal conditions. From personal experience as a volunteer teacher, and through hearing stories from my friends who are in the education field, I came to the realization that being a good teacher is difficult, and have the utmost respect and appreciate the role of teachers. Again, thank you for the hard work and dedication to provide the best education with the given circumstances.