

# VICTORIA URDANETA | MARACAIBO, VENEZUELA | M. ARCH '20

## Seeking Home: A Community Development for the Venezuelan Diaspora in Quito, Ecuador



The political and economic upheavals in Venezuela have resulted in over four million Venezuelans fleeing the country for a better, stable life elsewhere. Nearly half a million have come to Ecuador, resulting in a growing refugee crisis unlike anything the country has seen in its history. Intent on creating community and hope for the Venezuelan diaspora, Urdaneta, a native of Venezuela, conceptualizes a self-sufficient refugee center that offers housing, migratory and job search assistance, as well as educational programs, helping Venezuelans weather this disruptive change.

*What's next:* Urdaneta will look for an architectural designer position in Miami, Florida, so she can spend more time with her family there, before permanently moving to Ecuador next year.



# TOCHI OHAKAWA | LAGOS, NIGERIA | M. ARCH + MRED '21

## Aerotropolis: An Airport as a Driver of Urban and Economic Development



Could the airport of the future hold the key to a city's urban development? In Tochi Ohakawa's thesis, the airport has been repositioned—and relocated—to the heart of the city, serving as a driver of economic and commercial development. Ohakawa leveraged his affinity for aviation and economic development to conceive an aero-centric transportation hub, similar to the railways of the 19th century and highways of the 20th, surrounded by a rich, urban format.

*What's next:* Ohakawa is hoping to work for a developer in the Washington/Baltimore region.



# SAM BOHMFALK | DALLAS, TEXAS | MHP + MRED '20

## Plan for the Adaptive Reuse of the Long Hotel in Stephenville, Texas



LONG HOTEL

The historic Long Hotel in Stephenville, Texas, is no stranger to reinvention. The art-deco styled building was a hotel, then a restaurant and apartments, a fraternity house and, for the last 25 years, nothing at all. Bohmfalk meshed his two concentrations—historic preservation and real estate development—to analyze the feasibility of adaptive reuse for the property consistent with the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation. “In my admissions essay for the program, I wrote that I was inspired by a small adaptive reuse project in Texas called the Ant Street Inn,” he said. “It seemed poetic for my final project to come full circle.”

*What’s next:* Bohmfalk will be working for Cross Street Partners, a real estate development firm in Baltimore, MD, that specializes in adaptive reuse projects.



# AVA OMIIDVAR | BOYDS, MARYLAND | M. ARCH '20

## Change is Coming: Pre-adaptability for a Resilient City



Omidvar's thesis tackles the natural and human-made disasters that have shaped civilizations for centuries, and the increased frequency and intensity brought on by climate change. "For many cities around the world, where landscapes are being permanently affected by climate-induced landscape change, the built environment has the responsibility to adapt. How can architecture allow for change over time?" she asks. In this thoughtful presentation, Omidvar examines how cities can adapt and rebuild for a world "living with water."

*What's next:* Omidvar will continue to work for UMD's Facilities Management's Planning and Construction Office while looking for an architectural designer position within the D.C. Metropolitan Area.



# PARIS SIM | SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA | M. ARCH + MRED '20

## Embracing Disruption: Urban Streets and Infrastructure of 21st Century



How will the rapid technological changes of the 21st century impact the fabric of our cities? More importantly, how can it? This is the question that inspired Paris Sim's thesis, which uses the adoption of autonomous vehicles as a cue to re-think the design of our urban environment and take back the streets. His "urban incubator" advances mobility, reimagines public spaces and addresses shifting demographics and contemporary challenges. "We need better streets in our cities and to reimagine deteriorating urban highways, especially with the big changes that are happening today," he says.

*What's next:* Sim will spend some time with family back home and hopes to continue to explore the exciting ideas of new streets through his work in urban and architecture design.

# KATHERINE CALVERT | PERRYVILLE, MARYLAND | MHP + M.A.A. '20

Internship work, UMD Historic Preservation Archaeology Lab



44PG62  
Vessel #: 126  
Ware Type:  
Rhenish stoneware  
Description:  
Chamber pot. Vase-like analysis in drawings, cobalt blue print  
Context #'s: 826 (1/2 piece)



Katherine's work at the UMD Historic Preservation Archaeology Lab analyzed, documented and labeled 30 years' worth of artifacts unearthed at the Kippax Plantation site in Hopewell, Virginia. Calvert also spent time mending and vesselizing two ware types of ceramics—Rhenish Stoneware and Staffordshire Slipware, such as the Rhenish chamber pot pictured above—and writing a report outlining her process. "This internship allowed me to expand on my skills while also learning more specialized skills that I can use for my future career."

*What's next:* Katherine is hoping to pursue a job in archaeology or historic preservation for a government or consulting agency.



# MIN NA | SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA | M. ARCH '20

## Reframing Aging as Growth through Community



Na's thesis tackles the inevitable, sometimes fraught process of growing old in a society ill-equipped for an extended human lifespan. "How can we gracefully embrace the transition as we age later in life? How can we be prepared for the future when we retire earlier than we anticipated? And, in certain cases, how can someone cope with aging alone?" In her project, Na explores architectural interventions to alleviate age-related socioeconomic challenges and facilitate dignified, inclusive aging.

*What's next:* Na is currently on the lookout for an architectural designer position around the Washington, D.C., and Northern Virginia area.



# CANDARE GOODMAN | GERMANTOWN, MARYLAND | MRED '20

## ALLIANCE - A Mixed-use, Health and Wellness Conscience, Development in College Park, Maryland.



What if a new development was not only good for a neighborhood, but good for its residents' health? That is the idea behind Goodman's capstone project in Prince George's county, a mixed-use, mixed-income and health-focused property in line with WELL v2 certification from the International WELL Building Institute, with design interventions that enhance human health and wellbeing. "This not only helps those in development lean more towards a healthy lifestyle, but those in the community as well, by holding this development up to the standards of what Prince George's County is looking to create through its healthcare strategy," says Goodman.

*What's next:* Goodman plans to open her own boutique consulting and real estate development business, specializing in affordable, mixed-use and mixed income developments in the Baltimore-Washington, D.C. corridor.



# HUSSAM MANSOOR | ISLAMABAD, PAKISTAN | MRED '20

## Hamlet



A LEED Gold, mixed-use development edging Maryland's campus and anchoring the Purple Line's West Campus stop, Mansoor's Hamlet solves the persistent lack of student housing for UMD and an increasing dearth of affordable housing units in College Park, mixing 300 student housing units with affordable apartments, commercial and coworking space. A 50,000 square-foot public plaza activates pedestrian traffic, drawing the campus community to a variety of retail amenities, including a grocery and restaurant. The project would be the first mixed-use affordable housing in College Park.

*What's next:* Mansoor plans to pursue a PhD in urban planning, design and policy, with a concentration in design philosophy, gentrification and affordable housing.