

IDES369 SUMMER INTERNSHIP SPOTLIGHT

CARLIE GARRISON

ST. LOUIS, MO

JACOBS GROUP

“ My biggest takeaway from my internship was learning to design beyond the classroom. Being trusted to contribute to a real project taught me how to defend my design decisions, adapt when things change, and understand that even the smallest choices can have an impact on a project much larger than myself.



2026

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MADISON WARE

ST. HENRY, OH

ITR MANUFACTURING

“ During my internship, the most important thing I learned was how to communicate professionally and pay attention to details while making sure the client’s needs are met.



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ADDISON BALOG

CHICAGO, IL

PARTNERS BY DESIGN

“ The most important thing I learned was that there is rarely one “right” answer in design. Working on real projects taught me to be flexible, and understand that sometimes rethinking an idea can lead to a better solution.



2026

LAUREN MUNSON

FORT WAYNE, IN AND ANGOLA, IN

CHOICE DESIGN & WAYSIDE

“ The most important thing I learned at my internship was how much communication and collaboration are involved in the interior design process. I learned that design is not just about creating a space that looks good, but also about understanding the client’s needs, solving problems, selecting appropriate materials, and making sure the final space is both functional and personal.”



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COURTNEY DULANEY

JACKSON CENTER, OH

AIRSTREAM

“ My summer at Airstream gave me the opportunity to learn the inner workings of a world-renowned brand while contributing to new interior concepts, materials, and design ideas that help shape the next generation of luxury travel.



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BRITNEY HOSTETLER

GOSHEN, IN

GENESIS PRODUCTS

“ During my internship at Genesis Products, located in Goshen, IN, I learned how to work closely with the Design Manager and Coordinator. Collaboration was a major part of my internship, as I created material boards to meet clients' needs. While always thinking about lead times, budgets, and timelines on projects.



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ANGELIKA VILLARROEL

FORT WAYNE, IN

CASCADE CABINETS

“ I learned how to properly hold client meetings and manage my own clients! Communication truly is key to creating the most efficient design



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MALLORY HARSHA

LOS ANGELES, CA

WIMBERLY INTERIORS & WATG

“ My internship deepened my understanding of luxury hospitality design and broadened my knowledge in ways to uniquely implement and apply diverse materials and interior finishes within the built environment.

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LILLIANA SENSIBAUGH

SOUTH BEND, IN

SHIVE HATTERY

“ While at Shive-Hattery, I strengthened my collaboration skills by working closely with architects and engineers. This experience helped me better understand how each area of expertise contributes to a project and showed me the value of clear communication and collaboration in creating successful designs.

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KATELYN MILLER

TUPELO, MS

ARCHITECTURE SOUTH

“ The most important thing I learned was how closely different disciplines overlap and how essential collaboration is to a successful project.

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ASHLIE KLINGER

CINCINNATI, OH

RCF GROUP

“ During my internship I learned how demountable wall systems integrate into everyday commercial environments and how thoughtful coordination between design and project management shapes successful installations. I also learned how to use CET; a design and configuration program used for creating accurate, demountable wall layouts. The welcoming, collaborative team environment made the internship especially meaningful.

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BEN MILLER

CARMEL, IN

MCGEE DESIGN HOUSE

“ The most important thing I learned at my internship with MDH was how to work with other disciplines. From engineers to lighting specialists, everyone is important, and the project would not go on without collaboration!

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JENNA SCHROADER

MUNCIE, IN

SK ARCHITECTS + DESIGN

“ My internship this summer taught me a lot about designer-client relationships and how those should be handled. I also worked with a lot of product selection and pricing, which taught me how to remain realistic when designing.

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JHURNI CASSADY

MUNCIE, IN

INLAND INTERIORS

“ The most important thing I learned was that good design is a collaborative process. Working on multiple projects taught me how to communicate my ideas, learn from others, and work through challenges as a team.

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EMMA HARVEY

INDIANAPOLIS, IN

CSO ARCHITECTS

“ The most important thing I learned was how valuable it is to find a workplace that feels like a family; being surrounded by people who support, encourage, and challenge you makes such a difference in both your personal and professional growth.



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EMILY NOWAKOWSKI

ST. LOUIS, MO

LAWRENCE GROUP

“ I learned the importance of understanding each unique client's personality and design goals to best cater to their specific needs.

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DEJA PRESSWOOD

INDIANAPOLIS, IN

CARSON DESIGN ASSOCIATES

“ The important thing I learned was the facility management aspect and understanding what happens behind the scenes to keep the appearance of a company.

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BELLA DENTON

PORTLAND, IN

RECLAIMING DESIGN

“ One of the most important things that I learned at my internship this summer is that being confident can be one of the best tools for success!

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