

Interior Design Students Do Green Expo Showcase



On Tuesday, November 18th, 2008, four classes from the MJC Interior Design Department showcased what they been burning the midnight oil to accomplish this semester. The theme of the showcase was Green Expo. The Fundamentals class showed ADA universal design projects, the Fabrics class showcased human and environmentally friendly textiles, and the Color class showed rooms that they had designed for classmate clients incorporating green materials. Students from the Green and Sustainable Design class showed green homes they designed for clients, and some also specialized in particular green and sustainable products, such as flooring and green roofs and lighting.

The Green Expo was a chance for Interior Design students to show their work to the student community, as well as see the work of classmates and gather inspiration for future projects.

Audrey's display she assembled for Green and Sustainable Design departed from the typical triple mounting square backings prevalent on other presentation boards. She used triangular backings and scattered a few transparent plastic green leaves here and there. She drew a pot and made a plant out of plastic vegetation she scrounged from a crafts store.

Students in the Green and Sustainable class were not all experienced interior design students, but included students from other disciplines. Kim, a landscape designer, showed her talents with a full blown landscape plan. Kim drafted a landscape design, and precisely sliced the plot print, and glued it to the threefold display board to fit and fold out full size on her display board. "It took me two tries to get it right", said Kim. She also brought live plant samples and groundcover made from chopped up tires.

Other displays made extensive use of grass, both live and artificial. A display that garnered particular passerby interest was Diana's design of a house with a green roof. Her board was well suited for the Expo traffic, in that it had a large floor plan and large front elevation, and a real sample of a green grass growing roof. The green grass roof perhaps was the inspiration for the green-grass-growing lounge chair that was the focal point of the Expo publicity poster she spent two days on Word designing. Katie's display incorporated artificial grass that never needs water or mowing, samples that she got when the Interior Design classes took a field trip. "I got these samples when we went to West Coast Green," she said.

As the tables were being set up, Barbara was gluing her hand-made models to her almost flat display board. Her board had the look of a model train set up, and illustrated the life cycle of carpet. She was dabbing the last few drops of glue onto her creation as the tables were going up.

The organization of the tables made for good traffic flow and easy viewing. Donald and Michelle were responsible for the table arrangement. "To the casual onlooker, it may seem like this table arrangement was effortless. But in fact, we attended another function that was held in this same venue, to see how they arranged their tables. We copied what they did right, and corrected their mistakes. I am very glad we checked out the other event, because there was no way we could have done the layout with out seeing what the other folks had done."