

DESIGN CULTURES +
CREATIVITY

DECEMBER
2024



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



© DESIGN CULTURES + CREATIVITY
HONORS COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND,
COLLEGE PARK

VOL.03, ISSUE 4

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Keep stacking those semesters.

Coaches of various sportsball teams often refer to “stacking wins.” One win is good. Two in a row is better. Three? Now you’re cooking.

While you’re not playing a sport, the same logic applies for your college education. Semesters are quick—and they get quicker as you go (I’m currently in my 54th semester of college, and let me tell you, this one has flown by!) While you have to keep the big picture of credit accumulation in view, you get there by stacking semesters.

Of course, at the time you are reading this in early December, the semester is not quite in your “done” stack. You have a couple weeks of intensity ahead of you, with final projects and final exams clamoring for your attention. While it might be overwhelming, you’ve successfully navigated similar challenges before, and you’re likely to succeed again with a bit of planning, support, and effort.

Don’t forget the basics: get some sleep, eat nutritious food, and stay social. While you can retreat to your dorm room and headphones while surviving on microwaveable food, you probably shouldn’t. Part of the delight of DCC is going through hard things together—so get a study group together, commit to actually studying, and take breaks to get outside and go to the dining halls.

All work and no play makes DCC a dull place. So, while there is plenty of work to be done, our creative spaces are open the first part of December—take advantage of them while you can.

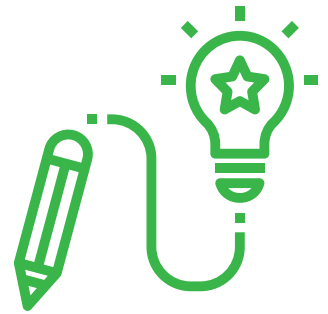
Wishing you all the best during finals week and over the winter break. See you in 2025!



- **Damien**
DCC Director

ANNOUNCING THE 2025 DCC DESIGN TOURNEY

It's back! Our **sixth annual design tournament** invites submissions from all current DCC students and offers one of the biggest prizes of the entire academic year—a **\$250 award, 500 Family Points, and the chance to have your own work featured on DCC apparel as part of our annual spring merchandise fundraiser.** When we return for the spring semester, we'll begin accepting competitive submissions for a multi-round, single-elimination tournament bracket. While the exact duration of the tournament will depend on the number of submissions, we are anticipating another 2-week event. In the meantime, start brainstorming and iterating! We want another full bracket of imaginative, exciting, vibrant, and creative designs to capture the spirit and dynamism of our DCC community. All entrants will receive 250 Family points for their submission.



If you're working on a submission during the winter break, please keep in mind:

- Submissions will be due **Friday, February 14, 2025.**
- Designs must be limited to a **maximum of three unique colors.**
- The aim of the contest is to choose by popular vote the **most compelling, most creative/inventive, most interesting, most well-designed logo for DCC merchandise.** Submit your best work—the kind of work that you would show a potential employer or include in a public portfolio. All submissions, but especially the winning one, should demonstrate effective design principles, exemplifying DCC's role as a prominent design program on campus.
- Submissions should be prepared as **high-quality vector graphics** and submitted as an **Adobe Illustrator .ai file** (strongly preferred; with all type, if any, converted to outlines), **.svg, or .jpg.**
- Designers can work **individually or in pairs** to submit a design. Whether you are working individually or not, you can only be a part of one contest submission, and if you are working in a pair, the monetary prize must be split among both designers.

DCC BIMONTHLY DESIGN CHALLENGE: DECEMBER

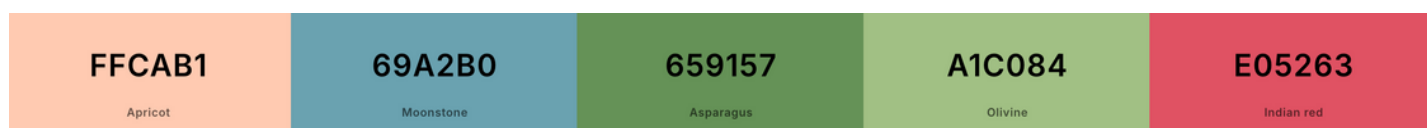
For the DCC December Design Challenge, we've used the [Colors random palette generator](#) to get your creative engines firing!

Whether you're taking a break while preparing for finals, or breathing a much-needed exhale during winter break, we hope you'll take a moment for yourself this month and share your inspiration with the rest of our DCC community.

In any creative medium of your choice, **please use at least 3 of the following 5 colors—FFCAB1, 69A2B0, 659157, A1C084, and E05263**—in your making activities this month.

Submissions should be sent to dcc-honors@umd.edu by **December 31, 2024**. When submitting, please let us know how you'd like your work to be shared with DCC: by name, anonymized, or not shared at all.

All entrants will receive **100** Family points for participating; the winning creator will receive **300** additional points!



WINTER BREAK: DCC OFFICE SCHEDULE

Please be advised that DCC staff are excited about the upcoming winter break and our chance to decompress, unwind, and breathe—just like you. Once the finals exam period begins, our staff's rhythm changes drastically. We will not be as reliably present on-campus as usual, and our attention turns to administrative and research tasks that don't normally get as much energy during the normal semester weeks that are packed full of teaching and advising. Starting **December 10**, we respectfully ask you to anticipate somewhat delayed response times to emails and DCC-related matters. In addition, please note that all DCC staff observe a "leave" period away from our offices—and email inboxes—from **December 18 through January 2**.

STUCO: WARM & COZY HOT CHOCOLATE NIGHT (12/6)

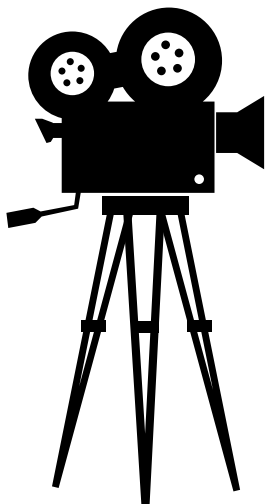
StuCo invites you to our Warm & Cozy Hot Chocolate Night, starting at **9 PM** on **Friday, December 6** in the PF **2nd Floor Lounge!** 🕒 ✨

Bring your comfiest pajamas, fluffiest blankets, and coziest clothes for a night filled with:

- 🍵 Hot Cocoa
- 🎨 Coloring Books
- ❄️ Snowflake Crafts
- 🎬 A Movie to Set the Vibes

Come unwind, sip on warm cocoa, get creative, and enjoy a cozy movie night with friends. We can't wait to see you there!

XI CLASS: PARTICIPATE IN DCC'S ANNUAL SHORT FILM FESTIVAL! (12/2)



Calling all Xi Class film aficionados! If you are looking to scratch that short film itch, then we invite you to participate alongside the Omicron class for the annual DCC short film festival. Submit your two minute film to dsp@umd.edu **by December 2**, and **we'll screen it on Tuesday, December 3, from 11-12:15** during HDCC 105!

Please email Damien (dsp@umd.edu) and/or DCC Graduate Assistant, Ananya (akaipa@umd.edu) with any questions.



MAKE WITH US!

CLOSING & RE-OPENING

The final day for FA24 Makerspace and SoundStudio hours is **Monday, December 9, 2024** (the last day of classes)!

Our spaces will re-open for spring on **Monday, February 3, 2025**.

MAKERSPACE

Location:
Prince Frederick Hall 0111

Regular Hours:
Mondays and Thursdays,
7pm-midnight

Student Managers:
Tracy & Julie



TRACY



JULIE

SOUNDSTUDIO

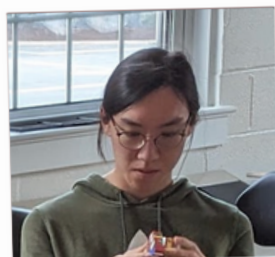
Location:
Taliaferro Hall 0135

Regular Hours:
Mondays 3-7pm,
Wednesdays 6-10pm

Student Managers:
Mateo & Frederick



MATEO



FREDERICK



CMNS HIRING DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS INTERN (12/6/2024)

The College of Computer, Mathematical, and Natural Sciences is hiring! Applications are open now for an undergraduate student to join our staff to assist with social media and web content creation efforts.

This paid position will provide opportunities to amplify student stories and learn about a range of scientific disciplines – from atmospheric science and biology to computer science and more.

Application materials can be submitted to Katie Bemb (kbemb@umd.edu) for best consideration by December 6, 2024.

[Full link to job call PDF.](#)

CELEBRATIONS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



LET YOUR COMMUNITY
CELEBRATE YOU!
HAVE SOMETHING EXCITING TO
SHARE? SUBMIT TO
DCC-HONORS@UMD.EDU
BY THE 25TH OF EACH MONTH.

DECEMBER

2 — Romi R., Xi

7 — Ashley B. Xi

8 — Atinuke A., Omicron

10 — Habib C., Xi

13 — Frederick Z., Xi

14 — Finna H., Xi

16 — Abby H., Omicron

18 — Celia S-W., Omicron

22 — Maddie B., Omicron

23 — Emma W., Xi

27 — Jacquelyn E., Omicron

DCC FAMILIES CONTEST UPDATE

AS OF FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29

Overall Top 5 Earners: (1) **Tracy T.**, (2) **Sonia T.**, (3) **Jacquelyn E.**, (4) **Andy L.**, (5) **Purva J.**

