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GMIT Letterfrack
Letterfrack
Co. Galway

T: 091-742650
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W: www.gmit.ie

GRADUATE PROFILES

Furniture Designer
Project Manager
Technical Designer
Teacher
CAD Engineer
Furniture Designer-Maker
Product Designer
Sales and Production Manager
CNC Programmer
“When I heard that a college course existed that focused solely on furniture design and making, it was an easy choice for me!”

Tricia Harris - Graduate of BSc (Hons) in Furniture Design & Manufacture, 2005
GMIT Letterfrack

Profile

Tricia Harris runs her own furniture design business based in the Chocolate Factory in Dublin city. Tricia Harris Designs is a member of the Design & Crafts Council of Ireland and is included in their Portfolio Selection. As a furniture designer Tricia:

- Creates and develops furniture designs and products.
- Works with furniture makers in Ireland and overseas.
- Ensures that the finished pieces are distinctive and of the highest quality.
- Is responsible for managing and growing her business.
- Understands costs, pricing and marketing of her product range.
- Works as a freelance design coordinator in contract and commercial fit-out projects.

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“If woodworking and furniture making is your passion, a few short years in GMIT Letterfrack can be the beginning of a lifetime of rewards.”

Ciáran Hynes, Graduate of BSc (Hons) in Furniture & Wood Technology, 2000
GMIT Letterfrack

Ciáran Hynes resides in Oregon, USA and works as a Product Management Director for A-dec who specialise in furniture for the dental profession. His role involves:

- Providing vision and direction for a multi-million dollar furniture portfolio.
- Identifying products that are valuable, feasible and usable.
- Understanding and researching new technologies for the production team.
- Maximising the business interest and return on products.
- Motivating and leading the product team to success.
- Ensuring that products meet the market requirements in relation to aesthetics, quality and safety.

Profile

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“The programme, staff and cutting-edge facilities empowers individuals to develop unique skillsets applicable to a range of career paths.”

Brendan Mc Garry, Graduate of BSc (Hons) Furniture Design & Manufacture, 2016
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GRADUATE PROFILE

Technical Designer

Brendan Mc Garry

Walls to Workstations
www.w2w.ie

Profile

Walls To Workstations is a provider of high-end interior and product solutions across various sectors. Brendan’s role is to:

- Interpret the client’s vision and deliver it to realisation within set constraints.
- Ensure that the products and project meet the specifications of client.
- Produce design, production and assembly drawings.
- Ensure designs adhere to international standards.
- Liaise with the internal and external product team and the client.
- Manage the successful completion of the project.

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“Studying in GMIT Letterfrack has propelled my career and I would highly recommend it for anyone interested in a career as an educator”

Anthony Gainley, Graduate of BSc in Education (Design Graphics and Construction), 2015
GMIT Letterfrack

Profile

Anthony teaches at Le Chéile Secondary School in Tyrrellstown, Dublin 15. The school places significant emphasis on integrating technology as part of its teaching. Anthony’s teaching jobs involves:

- Planning and designing lesson plans that are engaging and educational for students.
- Facilitating learning in the classroom and evaluating that learning.
- Developing resources and content for use on iPads and the virtual learning environment.
- Setting up and maintaining the construction studies and DCG resource rooms.
- Being involved in extracurricular activities such as sports and school trips.
Profile

Lyndsey is currently teaching in Fingal Community College, Swords. Lyndsey’s day-to-day role involves:

- Ensuring that every student in the classroom has the opportunity to reach their learning potential.
- Designing interesting and engaging projects for students to create.
- Updating and developing strategies for effective teaching.
- Developing a relationship with students that is founded on mutual respect.
- Making sure the classrooms are set up to support active learning.

“I can say unequivocally that I would not be the teacher I am today without the dedication and guidance of the lecturers and staff at GMIT Letterfrack.”

Lyndsey Balfe, Graduate of BSc in Education (Design Graphics and Construction), 2014
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“I have no doubt in my mind that if it wasn’t for the CAD and technology skills I learned at GMIT Letterfrack, I wouldn’t be a part of this global interiors company.”

Jamie O’Connell - Graduate of BSc in Furniture and Wood Technology, 2013
GMIT Letterfrack

Profile

Jamie works at Ganter Interiors in New York, a company specialising in unique interior fittings and construction engineering projects. Jamie is responsible for:

- Developing interior designs according to the clients specifications using Computer Aided Design software.
- Specifying suitable materials, fittings and finishes for furniture and fittings.
- Analysing manufacturing solutions for interior joinery and furniture.
- Communicating regularly with clients, architects, designers, and project teams.
- Making sure that every detail of an interior is considered so that the project runs smoothly and is delivered on time.
“GMIT Letterfrack is unique in that class sizes are designed to optimise student performance whilst also building a strong team work ethic, everyone helps each other out!”

Tim and Sean Dunleavey, Graduates of BSc in Furniture Design and Manufacture, 2007
GMIT Letterfrack

Profile

Tim and Sean Dunleavy set up Dunleavy Bespoke and specialise in making hand-crafted luxury furniture. Their work involves:

- Meeting with clients to discuss their design requirements.
- Developing creative and innovative designs concepts that meet the client’s needs.
- Researching and sourcing suitable materials for projects.
- Ensuring that the projects are produced on time, are profitable and within the client’s budget.
- Producing furniture of the highest quality at all times.
- Marketing and promoting the business at every opportunity in order expand our customer base and grow the business.

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Barry Liston is the CEO of Grasshopper Skateboards Ltd. Ireland’s first skateboard brand and manufacturer. His company, based in Co. Kerry, uses a newly developed bio-composite material for the sustainable production of skateboards. As a product designer Barry:

- Explores new opportunities for product development.
- Researches people’s behaviour patterns and how they interact with products.
- Develops design concepts and creates prototypes.
- Researches new materials and tests their performance properties.
- Thoroughly analyses all costs of each component and process.
- Understands the importance of marketing and promoting his products.
- Seeks investment opportunities from funding agencies and private investors.

“My decision to study at GMIT Letterfrack was hands-down the best decision I have ever made.”

Barry Liston, Graduate of BSc (Hons) Furniture Design & Manufacture, 2007
GMIT Letterfrack
“GMIT Letterfrack allowed me to develop skills, research techniques and systems that I still use in my daily life – all which give my company an edge over competitors”

David Farrell, Graduate of BSc (Hons) in Furniture and Wood Technology, 2003
GMIT Letterfrack

Profile

David is the sales and production manager at Michael Farrell Custom Furniture. Based in Wexford and employing 25 people the company specializes in design, manufacture and installation of high end residential furniture both in Ireland and internationally. David is responsible for:

- The growth and direction of the company.
- Growing sales and managing both direct and indirect costs.
- Researching and implementing new technology to help the company make furniture to the highest standard.
- Tendering on projects, understanding and forecasting all costs and sales.
- Managing staff, motivating and developing skills within the workforce.
“The work placement during my college course gave me a great opportunity to apply what I had learned, develop new skills and really see how the industry works.”

Darren Flanagan, Graduate of BSc (Hons) in Furniture and Wood Technology 2015
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Profile

Glen Wood in Tullamore, Co. Offaly, are an award winning company specialising in bespoke architectural joinery and interiors. They have worked on a range of projects including the Avivia Stadium, Dublin Airport and the Shelbourne Hotel. Darren’s job include:

- Writing programmes for a CNC and other computer controlled machines.
- Monitoring the condition of the tooling and replacing cutters when they become worn out.
- Having responsibility for the safe operation of machines and ensuring health and safety standards are met.
- Devising a work schedule for production that minimises the development of bottlenecks.
- Learning about on new software, equipment and production techniques.
We are delighted to partner with these leading companies for graduate employment and student work placement opportunities.

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