



Gabe Lawhead

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Statement: I live my life as a designer, and I strive to teach others to see the value in design. I interpret design in a broad sense because design is more about intentional thinking and doing than about creating; it is about being aware and awake. My experiences in work, school and hobbies have taken me places to meet designers of all types, but I still haven't figured out the designer that I want to be. Currently, I have my own design/build business, Black House Customs. After working for other designers and seeing their successes and failures, I was inspired to try my hand at running my own operation. However, being self-employed has its tunnel-vision drawbacks, and I have found I have too many interests to do it alone. Teaching and working with others is a critical component of lifelong education, and I enjoy this aspect of non-linear learning. I feel that the learning environment can be often more inspiring than working unaided, and it is for this reason that I am staying involved with the college that gave so much to me.

Work Experience: Diverse work experiences have tailored my education for a holistic, hands-on knowledge base of design, construction and managerial processes.

- Founder of Black House Customs LLC, Bozeman MT **2016**
- Project coordinator, KPA Group Architects and Engineers, Oakland, CA **2015-16**
- Designer, fabricator, draftsman, One Off Furniture, San Francisco, CA **2015-16**
- Designer and weldor, Brander Design, Bozeman, Montana **2014-15**
- Architectural metal and wood shop supervisor, laser cutter, 3D printer, CNC maintenance and operation, MSU, Bozeman, Montana. **2011-14**
- Graduate Teaching Assistant (TA) for Architectural Building Construction 340 **2013-14**
- Bicycle mechanic for MSU Outdoor Program, MSU, Bozeman, Montana **2013-14**
- Weldor, plate-fitter 20-40' aluminum boats, Mavrik Marine, La Conner Washington **2012**
- Irrigation technician at The Club at Spanish Peaks, Big Sky, Montana. **2010**
- Straw bale house construction with Northwest Eco Building Guild, Spokane, WA. **2009**
- Solar panel installation for EcoDepot, Spokane, WA. **2009**

Education: Environmental Design, Architecture

- Masters of Architecture, Montana State University, 3.5 GPA **2015**
- Environmental Design Bachelor, Montana State University, 3.5 GPA **2013**
- Consistently involved with various student groups for the improvement of the college.

Strengths and Qualifications: Team leader, technical designer, accomplished craftsman.

- At ease in digital workspaces, professional client meetings, shops and in the field.
- Punctual, comfortable following or leading in teams, strong attention to detail.
- Strong communication skills, comfortable with a charrette problem-solving process.
- Design/build projects, shop drawings, coordinating between trades and disciplines.
- SolidWorks, AutoCAD, Rhino, PlasmaCAM, Adobe Suite.
- Passionate about design and creation, for the betterment of others and self.
- Belief that design can change the world.