We asked a few Hall of Fame members, “What advice would you give to the next generation?”

“Design is a powerful, universal tool for change. Use it respectfully. Make timeless choices. Avoid fashion.”
— Rand Elliott of Elliott + Associates Architects

“Immerse yourself in new materials. Learn all the functions, details, and limitations. Become friends with people in the trade.” — Laura Bohn of Laura Bohn Design Associates

“Take a life drawing class that teaches you not just to look but also to see. Then take a class in business administration.” — Celeste Cooper

“Get out from behind your computers and iPads. The human factor is what will put you on the map.” — R. Scott Bromley of Bromley Caldari Architects

“Die for design. It’s a never-ending adventure.”
— Nick Luzietti of VOA Associates

Da Vinci Code
AJC Architects tackled the lion’s share of the work required to transform a mid-century public library in Salt Lake City into the Leonardo, an art, science, and technology museum. But it’s E3 Office that makes the big statement in the lobby atrium. The firm’s partners, Brian Brush and Yong Ju Lee, specialize in digital design and the intersection of information, architecture, and sustainability, and the Leonardo’s Dynamic Performance of Nature embodies all those interests.

After 176 fins were molded from recycled plastic, they were CNC-cut with holes to accept LEDs, then strung onto steel rods in the form of a sine wave. Environmental seniors connected to global data sources—on temperature, wind, even earthquakes—feed that information to the LEDs, which change from ice blue to danger red across the installation’s 92-foot width. Visitors on-site or online can also change the colors by tweeting a special request to @LeoArtwall.

Go to interiordesign.net/leonardo for more images of the installation.

Winner’s Circle
Studying textile design at New York’s Fashion Institute of Technology, seniors got to pursue more than a BFA. That’s thanks to a Warp & Weft-sponsored rug competition that gave them a taste of the real world ahead. After they submitted their designs, a jury led by Warp & Weft founder and creative director Michael Mandapati—and including MR Architecture + Design founder and partner David Mann and Interior Design articles editor Annie Block—selected Denize Sofia Macaue’s Full Circle as the winner. It’s an abstracted image of sage, which she hopes will bring calm to the home. Next, her design will be translated into a 6-by-9-foot rug hand-knotted from wool and silk and shown at the International Contemporary Furniture Fair in May, before graduation.

Full Circle by Denize Sofia Macaue won a student rug competition sponsored by Warp & Weft. Her inspiration board.

Go to interiordesign.net/student for the four designs named finalists.