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# BOF



**Making Things Better – A Spotlight on  
The Designers Group**

## SCHOLARSHIP

## Mashika Gallo to Receive Samuelson Furniture Ageless Living Collaborative Senior Living Design Scholarship

➤ The Ageless Living Collaborative (ALC) announced the recipient of the first ALC scholarship offered specifically to students dedicated to senior living design.

Mashika Gallo, a graduate student in Healthcare Design and Gerontology at Kent State University, in Ohio, is the first recipient of the Ageless Living Collaborative Senior Living Design Scholarship. Sponsored by Samuelson Furniture, Gallo receives a \$10,000 scholarship to be used for tuition against her current studies. An official ceremony and presentation will take place at the Gold Key Awards, Nov. 14 during the BDNY show.

“I am so thankful that Ageless Living Collaborative has awarded me the very first ALC Senior Living Scholarship. It will allow me to complete my final semester in obtaining my

master’s degree in Healthcare Design and graduate certificate in Gerontology,” said Gallo. “Design is one of the ways I can use my voice to advocate for the senior community- by designing functional, accessible, and inclusive spaces that exemplifies the importance of seniors in our society, supports the quality of life they deserve, and reflects my belief in the power of wholeness, sense of agency, and community.”

“One of the core values of Samuelson has been to support initiatives that can make a difference in the lives of others. Our engagement in the development of products for senior living that can make a difference in the quality of community members’ lives is a further fulfillment of that goal. We know that awarding this scholarship to Mashika will not only enable her to carry forth her creative visions but positively impact the lives of others,” said Lawrence Chalfin, president, Samuelson Furniture.

“We are delighted with our first scholarship recipient. Mashika is a passionate, bright new talent, who is dedicated to improving the senior living experience for our aging population. Mashika’s vision, and goals, align with the mission of the Ageless Living Collaborative,” said Phoebe Stein, president of the Ageless Living Collaborative and Olive Presents. “We feel very fortunate that Samuelson Furniture is committed to continuing to improve the lives of seniors by supporting new talent dedicated to the industry, as well as developing products that improve quality of life for seniors.”

Stein said the organization is also grateful to NEWH, whose mission closely aligns with the ALC in developing and supporting new talent through scholarship.

“Their application and review process facilitated the thorough vetting of tremendous candidates for consideration for the Ageless Living Collaborative Senior Living Scholarship,” said Stein.