

INDUSTRY

What will the future of senior living look like? She's about to go to work on that



Andrea Lillo

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Graduate student Mashika Gallo has become the first recipient of the Ageless Living Collaborative Senior Living Design Scholarship.

Sponsored by Samuelson Furniture, Gallo – a graduate student in Healthcare Design and Gerontology at Kent State University in Ohio – will receive a \$10,000 scholarship for tuition. An official ceremony and presentation will take place at the Gold Key Awards, Gallo was thankful for her scholarship, which will allow her final semester in obtaining her master's degree in healthcare design and graduate certificate in gerontology.

"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," Gallo said.

"One of the core values of Samuelson has been to support initiatives that can make a difference in the lives of others," said Lawrence Chalfin, president, Samuelson Furniture. "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,"

"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.

Andrea is passionate about home design, and has covered the home furnishings industry for most of her journalism career. She is the Executive Editor, Design, of Designers Today; in addition, she also serves as the Managing Editor of HFN and Lighting Editor for Home Accents Today. Andrea lives in beautiful Brooklyn, where she could very well be the only person without a tattoo.