



ARLENE HAYES

Fifth Year Bachelor of Architecture Student

Born and raised on the island of Grenada, in the Caribbean, I moved to Chicago in the fall of 2013 to study Architecture at the Illinois Institute of Technology. Having previously completed an Associate's Degree in Building Construction Technology, I thought that the College of Architecture's curriculum would provide a relatively even synthesis of technical knowledge and conceptual exploration, with the added bonus of options to study abroad in cities across the world. The extra-curricular opportunities to engage with other students, local and global professionals, and the beautiful city outside of studio, will be some of my biggest takeaways from education here. I got very involved in various organizations, eventually taking up different leadership roles that helped to grow my interpersonal skills and management capabilities. I also picked up a minor in Construction Management, which allowed me to shift my perspective on the industry to something I was more familiar and comfortable with. As I look towards graduation and a future career, I have a long-term focus on project management in design, construction and development – fields which I think I've gained adequate exposure to through my combination of pursuits here at Illinois Tech.

JULIA MOSQUEDA

Fifth Year Bachelor of Architecture Student

I was raised in the south side of Chicago and my family is from Guanajuato, Mexico. This university really became an integral part of my growth both professionally and personally. I grew up Mexican, in a polish neighborhood, then in an Irish high school and at IIT I was finally able to accept that I wasn't just one thing. Illinois tech allowed me to be comfortable with my experiences and to use this unique insight to build innovative ideas.

I chose IIT because the architecture program isn't about keeping up with tradition, it's about using the discipline of architecture to approach all design. I didn't really understand the value of this education until a professor asked us if we knew how cellphones worked. We said no, he smiled and said, "So as far as you know, it's magic." In the future, I aspire to share my pieces of magic through design. As an architect, I want to address sustainable design, adaptive architecture to address our history, and an artisanal work flow to ensure a holistic building process.

