

# Michelle Wempe

## EDUCATION

Bachelor of Interior Architecture, 1984  
Kansas State University

## PORTFOLIO

zumaooh.com

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Institute of Architects  
AIA – Flint Hills Chapter  
Interior Design Educators Council  
IDEC – Midwest Region  
International Interior Design Association  
IIDA – Mid-America Chapter

## PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

California College of the Arts, Advisory Board  
IIDA International Board Member  
IIDA-NC (Northern California)  
Board Member  
VP of Student Members  
Honor Awards Founder + Chair  
Nominating Committee Chair  
Student Design Competition Chair  
Leaders Breakfast Committee  
Pioneers in Design Committee  
IIDA Juror for Chapter Design Competitions  
Kansas State University  
CAPD Advisory Board  
IAPD Advisory Board  
Student Career Forum Board Member

## AWARDS + HONORS

AIA-SF Small Firms Great Projects  
2017, 2014, 2012, 2010, 2018  
IIDA-NC Honor Award, Live Category  
Sonoma Residence, 2014  
LEED for Homes, Gold  
Marin Residence, Spring 2013  
San Francisco Decorator's Showcase  
House, 2009  
CH+D Awards for Residential Interior  
Design, Fetzer Residence, 2006  
IIDA-NC Chapter Scholarship in Chapter  
Honoree's Name, 2006, 2007  
IIDA-NC Chapter Honoree, Inaugural  
Award, 2005  
IIDA 6th Annual Residential Design Award  
Fetzer Residence, 2003  
Monsanto Design Award  
Steeffel, Levitt & Weiss, 1997  
Kansas State University  
Alumni of the Year, 1994

Michelle Wempe is an accomplished, award-winning interior designer with extensive knowledge of professional practice. She is recognized as a leader in the design community, with remarkable expertise in high-end residential and commercial design at the highest level of innovation, technical quality and build-ability. She also brings a unique viewpoint on issues related to the character and quality of a successful design practice as a result of more than 30 years of knowledge-sharing through practice and consulting, teaching in academic environments, and extensive next-gen talent development.

**Kansas State University**

**Manhattan KS**

**2018-Present**

### Professor of Practice

#### College of Architecture, Planning & Design, Interior Architecture & Industrial Design

As a Professor of Practice, Michelle brings her knowledge and expertise to the classroom for her alma mater. Her work in design studio focuses on student abilities to create strong concept-based design solutions that look at real-world issues. Her fourth-year studio work focuses on industry student design competitions which have been won by her students.

Michelle teaches several seminar-based classes focused on bringing experts in architecture, interior design, and related fields into the classroom to discuss topics ranging from professional practice to diversity issues in practice, sustainability, and global economics.

History of Women in Design, a class Michelle first developed in California, connects historical perspective to modern day by bringing extraordinary women from practice to the classroom to talk about what they do and why it matters. In addition to teaching about women in design, Michelle is the faculty advisor for the KSU Women in Design Chapter.

Michelle has developed the curriculum for and taught:

- Design Studio IV – Third-Year Interior Architecture
- Design Studio V – Fourth-Year Interior Architecture
- Contemporary Design Seminar – Interior Architecture
- Professional Practice – Architecture, Interior Architecture & Landscape Architecture curriculums
- History of Women in Design
- Building Construction Science – Interior Architecture

**zumaooh™**

**Oakland CA**

**1998–Present**

### Owner, Design Principal

As the founder of zumaooh, Michelle focuses on the creation of classic, contemporary living and working environments while providing exceptional services throughout the design and build process. The firm is intentionally small to enable Michelle and her team to work closely with clients to interpret and give shape to their visions. Representative projects include:

#### Residences

- Mount Davidson Residence – San Francisco CA
- Scoogle Ranch – Los Altos CA
- Sonoma Residence + Pool House – Sonoma CA
- Marin Residences – 2 Projects – Kentfield CA
- Peninsula Residence – Los Altos Hills CA
- Piedmont Residence – Piedmont CA
- Fetzer Residence – Mendocino CA

#### Commercial Office

- Investment Group – 2 Projects – San Francisco CA
- Private Family Foundation – San Francisco CA

#### Other

- Saracina Winery Tasting Room + Production Facility – Mendocino CA

# Michelle Wempe

## PUBLICATIONS

*booq Publishing* – 2019, Edited by Claudia Alonso, San Francisco Architects: Top Bay Area Studios

*dwell.com* – July 2019

Top Five Homes of the Week that Celebrate the Golden State

*The Architect's Newspaper* – June 2018

Saracina Vineyards is Northern California Wine Country at Its Best

*Diablo Magazine* – March 2015

Destination: A Place Called Home

*Marin Home Magazine* – Summer 2013

Open Sesame

*Marin Magazine* – June 2013

Quest for Zero

*Western Art & Architecture* – June 2012

Organic Design

*San Francisco Chronicle* – October 2010

Environment for a Dip That Gives You a Lift

*Diablo Magazine* – August 2010

A Family Playground

*Napa/Sonoma Magazine* – Spring 2010

A Family Playground

*Custom Home Magazine* – March 2010

Place Holder

*San Francisco Chronicle* – May 2009

Fairest on the Wall

*California Homes* – February 2009

Playing House

*California Home + Design* – February 2006

CH+D Award for Residential Interior Design

*California Homes* – January/February 2005

Mendocino Magic

*Perspective Magazine* – Fall 2003

Ooh! What a House!

*Interior Design* – August 2003

IIDA Awards: The Top of The Heap

*Contract Magazine* – March 1990

Mobile Personality

*Designer's West* – May 1988

Hospitality Ambiance for Corporate Headquarters

## Talentstar, Inc.

San Francisco CA

1998–Present

### Principal, Management Consulting

Talentstar is a management consulting practice that specializes in working with ideas-led firms in the A+ID industry. It brings creative, integrated perspective to talent- and leadership-based organizational issues encountered by design practices in a highly competitive environment.

Michelle's work as a Principal Consultant includes advisory services on organizational and management issues, as well as strategic talent identification for select clients in the USA. For additional information: <https://talentstar.com/about/>

## California College of the Arts

San Francisco CA

2003-2007

### Adjunct Faculty

CCA's Interior Design Program is accredited by CIDA and developed to teach students to design interiors that transform organizations, change communities, and make a lasting impression. Michelle developed the curriculum and taught:

- Interior Design Professional Practice
- History of Women in Design

## Hannum Associates

San Francisco CA

1996–1998

### Project Director + Director of Operations

In addition to directing corporate interiors projects and managing client relationships, Michelle pursued opportunities to develop new business and was responsible for general operations of the firm, including recruitment and talent management. During her tenure, Hannum developed their first graphic and documentation standards.

## The Woods Group

San Francisco CA

1988–1996

### Studio Director, Project Designer + Manager

Hired as a Project Designer/Manager, during Michelle's time at TWG, her responsibilities grew to directing projects and, eventually, the studio itself. She was responsible for oversight of all design work, staffing recruitment, and general operations, as well as developing and maintaining key client relationships.

## Genster

Denver CO

1985–1988

### Designer, Project Manager + Job Captain

Initially hired as a team member, Michelle was responsible for working with the lead designer to develop planning and design concepts. She continued to work with the project team to execute documents, ensuring a cohesive design concept. In addition to working in the Denver office, she was also seconded to the Washington DC and Orange County CA offices.