ABOUT

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February 2022

EDUCATION

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

2021 - 2025

- Master of Architecture Candidate for the 2025 year batch
- Awarded a Department of Architecture Graduate Fellowship. The award consisted of a full tuition scholarship and a full stipend
- Organized and taught a 2-day ClimateStudio Workshop in Kwame Nkrumah University of Science & Technology in Ghana. The workshop was a collaborative effort I facilitated betweeen KNUST and MIT and took place on February 18-19, 2022

Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology

2016 - 2020

- Studied BSc. Architecture with a focus on designing for needs of the global south
- Final year design project involved the proposal of a low-income housing solution for inhabitants of KYEBI, a peri-urban town in Eastern Region, Ghana
- Three design projects from 1st year, 2nd year and 3rd year portfolios selected for the Commonwealth Association of Architects (CAA) Accreditation, 2019
- Class captain from 2017/2018 academic year to 2019/2020 academic year
- Voluntered for the 2018/2019 mentorship programme for architecture freshers. This entailed helping/advising with procurement of tools and materials, and rudimentary lessons in sketching and form composition
- Held the office of Vice President of the Architecture Students Association of Ghana (ASAG) for the 2019 /2020 academic year
 - Relations between the school of architecture and professionals in the built environment were established for the benefit of the student body (such as DBS Roofing Industry, Kumasi)
 - Design talks and discussions were organized and held between the Faculties of Art and Built Environment, as a way of promoting the discourse between the two worlds of art and architecture
 - During tenure of office, the first ever campus-wide architectural exhibition and awareness walk was held. This was done as the main highlight of the World Architecture Day celebrations in 2019.
- Welfare Chairman of ASAG (2019/2020)
 - Leading and coordinating the department welfare team in managing the general well-being of students
 - Coordinating the mobilization, distribution and screening of applicants in the department of Architecture for the CABESA (College of Art & Built Environment) Bursary, 2019/2020

EDUCATION

Kwame Nkrumah University of Science & Technology

2016 - 2020

- First Class degree with Honours, and the best architecture student of the 2020 graduating class
- Best graduating student in the Faculty of Built Environment.
- Salutatorian Achievement student with second highest graduating marks in the College of Art and Built Environment (2020 graduating class)

Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences

July, 2019

- Participated in the Hessen International Summer University in Frankfurt
 - Participants re-thought two major distinct spaces the Neue Mainzer Strasse in Frankfurt and the Marktplatz in Offenbach. Graduated with a 1,3 local grade for 5 ECTS credits
- Became an ambassador for the FRA-UAS Summer School Programme in Ghana.
 - This involved raising awareness about the summer school and taking prospective applicants through the application process.

Anglican Senior High School, Kumasi

2013 - 2016

- Studied Visual Arts. This involved a focus on both fine and applied art disciplines. An elective course on advanced mathematics was taken for prospective architects and technicians
- Served as the cartoonist for the Editorial Board of the 2015/2016 academic year
- Overall Best Student of the 2016 graduating year out of approx. 1200 students
- Overall Best Visual Arts Student in West Africa for the 2016 WASSCE (West African Secondary School Certificate Examination)

Scholarships

- Citi Opportunity Project on Education (COPE) Scholarship, 2019/2020 Academic Year
- Unibank Undergraduate Ghanaian Bursary Scholarship, 2017/2018 Academic Year
- MIT Architecture Graduate Fellowship Full Tuition & Stipend Scholarship

WORK EXPERIENCE

Intern, Adjaye Associates Accra

July, 2020 - August 2020

- Marine Drive Accra masterplan
 - Responsibilities included conceptualization development, coordinating with superiors in getting masterplan massings visualized, and coordinating with the Ghana Lands Committee in resolving conflicts in design implementation
 - Developed the Hoarding Package for the kickstart of the project
- Agenda 111 Hospitals
 - Responsibilities included building landscape Revit model and coordinating with team members working on shared Revit file

Junior Architect, Adjaye Associates Accra

September, 2020 - June 2021

- Private Residence in Cantonments, Accra, Ghana
 - Responsibilities included finalizing details and finishes in correspondence to the client and the principal designer, David Adjaye, and coordinating Structural, MEP and Landscape for their input in getting final drawings for building permit acquisition
- Edo Museum for West African Arts, Nigeria
 - Coordinating/meeting with the British Museum, Legacy Restoration Trust, the Edo State Government and various stakeholders in the development of a programme brief for the Edo Museum of West African Arts
 - Worked on the masterplan of the museum placement and external programming layout as the land acquisition process required exercises of relocation
- Archaeology Warehouse, Edo Museum for West African Arts, Nigeria
 - Conducted research on the archaeological history of the medieval area of Benin City, Nigeria
 - Worked on the conceptualization of an archaeology pavilion in anticipation of potential archaeological finds during excavation for the construction of EMOWAA. The pavilion is also meant to facilitate and temporarily store the returned objects currently in the custody of the British Museum and the German National Museum
- Rwanda Science Museum, Kigali (confidential)
 - Worked with the lead architect Sir David Adjaye on the early conceptualization of the museum and the early programming activities. Tasks involved the building of the Rhino model and visualization exercises
 - Coordinated early design development with structural engineers WSP Global Engineering

WORK EXPERIENCE

Intern, Mobius Architecture, Accra

June, 2018 - August, 2018

- The CUBE
 - Worked with a team of 2 other interns to build THE CUBE a versatile set of furniture for low-income neighbourhoods in Ghana like Nima, with documentation on Instagram @mobius_arch

Intern, Nickseth Construction, Kumasi

June, 2017 to August, 2017

- Intern at Nickseth Construction Company Limited, Appiadu, Kumasi
 - Explored the use of fence walls in Ghana that culminated in the design of a fence wall for a client

GHACEM November, 2019 - December 2019

- Constructed the physical model for the GHACEM Mobile Academy Proposal an initiative by Ghana Cement and KNUST to provide education and training for residents of remote and deprived areas in construction techniques of cement
 - The proposal features an office with storage spaces housed on a 48-footer truck that can reach remote areas.
- Volunteer for the GHACEM Mobile Academy Training Programme

Co-founder, the Re: Company, MIT DesignX, Boston

June, 2018 - August, 2018

- Co-founder of the Re:Company, a parent company to Re:Stacks and Backspace
 - Re:Stacks is a modular garage and apartment system that we propose to build in the numerous alleys in the US mid-west. The garage we propose is one equipped with EV charging capabilities and energy storage
 - Backspace is a cleaning service we propose to clean up the alleys of our target areas and contribute to a circular economy of which Re:Stacks is a component

WORKSHOPS

ERASMUS+, Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences & KNUST

September, 2018

- Participant in the Barrier-Free Workshop
 - The workshop featured presentations on barrier-free systems and inclusive cities, simulations of challenges faced by persons with disabilities and a design exercise on barrier-free systems

Manchester School of Architecture, KNUST, Central University College

June, 2019

- Participant in a collaborative workshop with the Manchester School of Architecture, UK, in setting up the ACCRA FUTURISM exhibition in Jamestown, Accra
 - The exhibition focused on expanding awareness on Kwame Nkrumah's proposed yet unrealized projects in the then newly independent country, Ghana.

Technical University of Munich, KNUST

September, 2019

- Participant in a two-day collaborative workshop titled "CO-OPERATION PAVILION" a space to be located at the current KNUST Architecture amphitheater for useful exchange of ideas and experiences amongst students.
- The larger aim of this workshop was to foster relations between KNUST and TUM
- Worked with ERASMUS students from TUM on the design of a bamboo pavilion to be located at the Department of Architecture amphitheater space, KNUST, Ghana
- Proponents for this collaboration were Professor Francis Diebedo Kéré and Professor Rexford Assassie-Oppong

Studio 2.2, Kingston School of Art

November, 2019

- Served as the local liaison with KSA, for the programme titled, "The Course of Empire: The Compound House | An African Housing Typology". This programme involved a student field trip to Ghana to study the subject for which I played the mentioned role

COMPETITION

Markets-4-All August, 2020

- In the wake of the COVID19 pandemic, markets in Ghana were identified as a hotspot for the transmission of the virus and the M-4All Competition sought to address this.
- Was the leader of a two-member team that participated and was shortlisted to the final stage after which the 1st position was awarded

SOCIAL MEDIA

Postbox Ghana, @postbox.ghana

August, 2021 - Present

- Collaborative outreach between myself and two other researchers where we disseminate information on architecture, history and politics of Ghana, through the lens of collected postcards from the 60s and 70s

HoodMidcenturyModern, @hoodmidcenturymodern

February, 2022 - Present

- Architect-in-Residence for the Instagram page Hoodmidcenturymodern, run by Jerald Cooper. Residency involves going over Instagram posts and "thickening" captions whilst keeping in line with the genre of the Instagram page

TECHNICAL SKILLS

CAD		

- Rhinoceros 3D
- Sketchup Pro
- Autodesk Revit + BIM 360
- AutoCAD
- Autodesk 3D Studio Max

Graphics & Visualization

- Adobe Photoshop
- Adobe Illustrator
- Adobe InDesign
- Adobe Premiere Pro

Adobe After Effects

- Adobe Arter LifeC
- V-Ray
- Lumion Pro
- Enscape

Physical skills

- Microsoft Office Word
- Microsoft Office Excel
- Microsoft Office Powerpoint
- Microsoft Office OneNote

Physical skills

- Model making
- Carpentry

SKILLS/INTERESTS

Professional skills

- Presentation and public speaking
- Creativity and problem solving
- Effective listening
- Teamwork and leadership

Interests

- Research & fact-finding
- Painting
- Sight-seeing
- Photography
- Social media curating @dzidula_k

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