

# 2007/08 Worldstudio AIGA Scholarships

## Honorable Mention

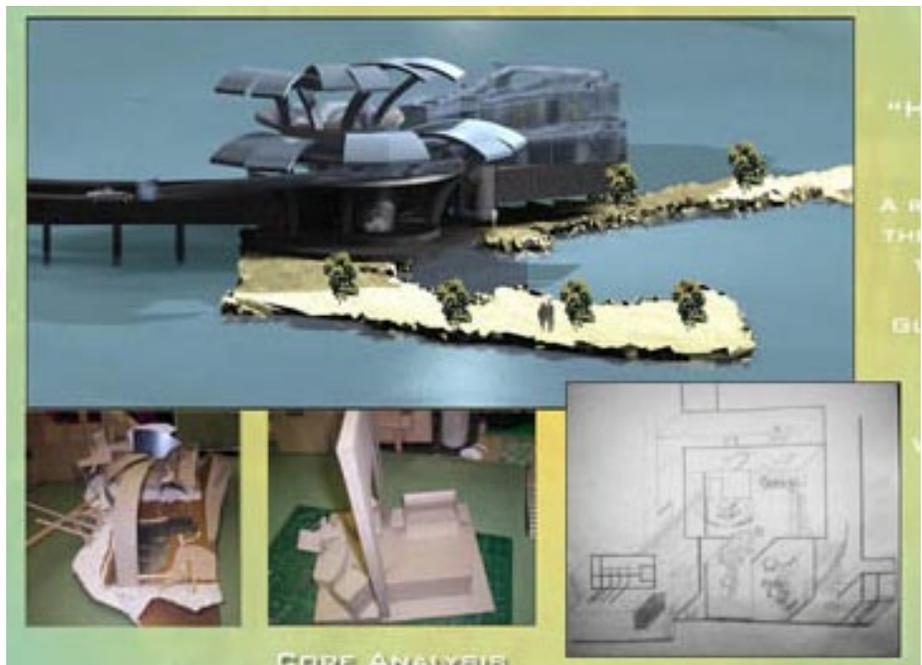


**CHELA WILLIAMS**

Architecture  
Graduate Student  
Hampton University

**It was not easy for me** deciding whether to be an Architecture major. Many factors got in the way such as financial burdens, family issues, and confidence. I always knew that I wanted to help my family with whatever career I chose. What made me finalize my decision was volunteering in the Portsmouth School system and realizing the common issue among the students, safety in their community.

Ever since the seventh grade, I wanted to pursue my dreams of becoming an Architecture major and an Architect. I wanted to do this because I wanted to help many families that were in my situation or worse. I wanted to make inexpensive homes for the disabled that were also environmentally safe. I prayed, strived hard, and I was able to be ranked number 11 out of a class of 257 at I. C. Norcom High School in Portsmouth, Virginia. With the help of God and my mother, who are my backbones, I was able to attend Hampton University and major in Architecture.



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*the professional association for design*

## CHELA WILLIAMS

Architecture

After I graduate from Hampton University with a Masters in Architecture, I plan on finishing my credit hours for my Architectural Internship. When I complete the required hours, I will take my Architecture exam to become registered Urban Design Architect in Hampton Roads area. Currently, I am learning about the urban issues that communities are facing today, and how many are suffering because they do not have proper living situations. I did not want to become an Architect to make a lot of money or make mansion homes, but to become part of the cure to help many families in these living conditions. Like Architects such as Denise Scott Brown, I want to look at the social and cultural aspects that make a community whole.

