

SFSU School of Design Launches First West Coast Sustainable Materials Learning Library

San Francisco State University's School of Design launches the first West Coast Materials Library Exclusively of Sustainable Materials for Designers & Creatives

SAN FRANCISCO, CA, USA, May 3, 2023 /EINPresswire.com/ -- This Spring, San Francisco State University (SFSU) is thrilled to launch the SFSU Sustainable Materials Learning Library (SMLL) created by SFSU's School of Design.

SFSU School of Design students and SFSU faculty Professors JD Beltran and Fernando Carvalho, along with the support of the Director of the School of Design Mari Hulick have founded and created the first West Coast college-

based materials library focused exclusively on showcasing sustainable and/or recycled materials for designers, artists, and the creative industry to research and utilize in their projects. The new SFSU Sustainable Materials Learning Library, headquartered in the SFSU campus Humanities Building, will be accessible to the SFSU community and the wider general public to educate library patrons on the latest developments in sustainable materials that contribute to a circular economy and climate action.

“

JD Beltran and her students have finally realized this dream, which will be an asset in educating the campus and public as to responsible design for our future.”

Mari Hulick



San Francisco State University School of Design Student Founders of the Sustainable Materials Learning Library

The SFSU School of Design team adhered to the creative use of sustainable materials in every step of this exciting endeavor. The Sustainable Materials Learning Library infrastructure itself is constructed solely from sustainable materials; SFSU students, along with SFSU Staff Richard Ortiz and Justin Wong and Professor Beltran invented and

designed an ingenious mobile wall system to showcase the sustainable material samples tiles,

utilizing sustainable plywood sheets supported with novel cubic hempcrete bases. Sets of these mobile walls will display the learning library's collection of samples of sustainable and/or recycled materials that SFSU students have sourced from manufacturers and industry resources all over the world.

Professor Carvalho also announced that this year, for the first time ever, San Francisco State University is participating in the international 2023 Biodesign Challenge. The SFSU School of Design has been invited to showcase the new sustainable materials library and its Product Design students' sustainability projects at the Biodesign Challenge Summit in New York. SFSU student teams hope to travel to New York this coming June to present their work as participants in the Biodesign Challenge at the New York Museum of Modern Art, and currently is [fundraising resources](#) to be able to make the journey.

Carvalho commented that SFSU Students are generating ingenious and creative ways to combine product and service design, technology, and science to address some of the most pressing environmental and social problems facing our collective future. He remarked that through research, experiments, creative work, and dialogue with field-specific experts, students in his innovative product design course have proposed solutions to issues such as rising sea levels, microplastics contamination, loss of biodiversity, and community engagement towards sustainable local action. Some of these brilliant solutions will be showcased at the Biodesign Summit Showcase in New York.

The new SFSU Sustainable Materials Learning Library also is being showcased at the campus



San Francisco State University School of Design Director Mari Hulick sourcing the QR coded database for the Sustainable Materials Learning Library



SFSU Staff Richard Ortiz and SFSU Professor JD Beltran pose in front of their newly designed and built sustainable mobile wall display system

DesignSpace Gallery (FA115) in a SFSU Design Exhibition, PERENNIAL PLANET. The PERENNIAL PLANET exhibition features not only the inaugural Sustainable Materials Learning Library tiles highlighting ingenious new sustainable materials such as mycelium composites, hempcrete, bamboo, algae rubber, organic cotton, hempwool, newspaperwood, adobe, and recycled glass, but the innovative creations and concepts by SFSU students from Professor Carvalho's product design course developed for the 2023 Biodesign Challenge.

PERENNIAL PLANET

DesignSpace, Fine Arts Bldg 115

April 28 - May 5, 2023

Closing Reception: Friday, May 5, 11:00am - 12:30pm

SFSU Professor JD Beltran has an extended history of launching projects for sustainability that address the causes and impacts of climate change, including launching Do1Act.org (an educational resource for spreading knowledge and sparking collective action towards reversing climate change) and establishing the [Center for Creative Sustainability](#), a consultancy for fostering initiatives for sustainability through community projects and partnerships. Professor Beltran remarked how incredibly rewarding it has been for her to witness the ingenuity and hard work of the SFSU students who have launched this invaluable new materials resource. The library's founding team is looking forward to growing the SFSU Sustainable Materials Learning Library to inspire future designers and artists in new ways of thinking, and in progressing a circular economy that can preserve our planet for future generations.

School of Design Director, Professor Mari Hulick added that the School of Design has been discussing the establishment of a Sustainable Materials Learning Library at the School of Design for many years. "JD Beltran and her students have finally realized this dream, which will be an asset in educating the campus and public as to responsible design for our future."

SFSU SUSTAINABLE MATERIALS LEARNING LIBRARY FOUNDERS

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Professor JD Beltran

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SFSU Staff Richard Ortiz

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For more information about the School of Design at San Francisco State University see <https://design.sfsu.edu/>

For inquiries about the SFSU Sustainable Materials Learning Library, please write jdbeltran@sfsu.edu.

For inquiries about SFSU's participation in the international Biodesign Challenge, please write fcarvalho@sfsu.edu.

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