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CUDA's Top Ten Posts for 2023

This is the final edition for 2023 and I take this opportunity to wish all subscribers good cheer for the festive season. There will be topic specific Summer Editions in January. Meanwhile, here are the Top Ten posts for 2023

Jane Bringolf, Editor.

No.1: 7 Principles of Universal Design

A group of architects, product designers and engineers devised the 7 Principles of Universal Design in the mid nineties. The late Ron Mace led this team and is often referred to as the "father of universal design". The 7 principles are a good starting point for thinking about design from an inclusive perspective. They can apply to any building, open ...

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No. 2: Introduction to Universal Design: FREE online course

Introduction to Universal Design free online course is in visual, audio and text formats and there are quick quizzes at the end of each module. This course is good for newcomers to the concepts and a refresher for others. There's a certificate at the end it will take less than an hour.

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No. 3: Guide to gender neutral bathrooms

Gender neutral bathrooms are also good for other groups of people who are often neglected in the assignment of sanitary facilities. Prevailing social attitudes are probably the biggest barrier to gender inclusive public bathrooms for people who identify as transgender. A guide to gender neutral bathrooms is a great help. The Creating Bathroom Access & Gender Inclusive Society bathroom guide ...

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No. 4: Wayfinding Design Guidelines

Wayfinding requires designers to organise and communicate the relationships of space in the environment. Basically, it is the naming and marking of places, identifying destinations, and providing directional information. The Cooperative Research Centre for Construction Innovation produced a comprehensive, if somewhat technical, set of wayfinding design guidelines. The guidelines covers basic principles, and very detailed design solutions and strategies, covering ...

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No. 5: Differentiated Instruction and UDL. What's the Difference?

Schools work hard to meet the needs of their learners. There are various frameworks of inclusivity, which sometimes can be confused. So what is the difference between Differentiated Instruction (DI) and Universal Design for Learning (UDL)? Inclusivity is not just for students with disabilities, but also for all students, educators, parents, families and community members. Inclusivity is an attitude or ...

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No. 6: Easy Read UNCRPD

We hear people talk about the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), but how many of us have read it? It's a big document and not easy to read. It covers every aspect of life and every person of every age. The CRPD matters to all of us. Eventually disability will touch each of us and ...

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No. 7: Livable Housing Handbook

The Livable Housing Design Standard applies to all new Class 1a and Class 2 buildings. Class 1a buildings are detached houses, row houses, terraces, townhouses and villa units. Class 2 buildings are apartment buildings and the design requirements apply inside the apartment. Public access requirements cover the public areas. To aid practitioners, the Australian Building Codes Board has produced a ...

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No. 8: Quotable quotes on universal design

There are many definitions and explanations of universal design. But sometimes the way people talk about it expresses it better. Here are some quotable quotes on universal design. This banner was hanging at the Center for Inclusive Design and Environmental Access (IDEA) located at the University at Buffalo in 2004. The text reads, "The essence of universal design lies in its ...

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No. 9: Toilet design for Western and Muslim cultures

Western toilets are designed for sitting. But this is not the preference for all cultures. Squat toilets are widely used in Asia and are considered better for a healthy bowel system. However, they are not great for Westerners and people with physical disability. Water for cleansing is rarely used in Western countries, but it's considered more hygienic than paper. So, ...

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No. 10: Danish Design Ladder and universal design

Discussing universal design and inclusive practice helps individuals to understand the concept of inclusion. But it's organisational culture where the change is needed. Everyone has to have the same universal design mindset. The Danish Design Ladder is one way to apply universal design to organisations. Design isn't just for products and

websites. Design thinking is also good for designing business strategies ...

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Livable Housing Design Course

This short course is tailor-made for professionals in the housing and home modification sectors. The course delves into the technical details of both the new Livable Housing Design Standard and the enhanced standard. The new standard for mainstream housing is similar to the Silver level of the Livable Housing Design Guidelines, and the enhanced standard is similar to the Gold level. This is a good course for anyone involved in home modifications as well, especially for bathroom fitouts.

CUDA presents this course under licence from the Australian Building Codes Board, and is endorsed by the Building Designers Association, Australia.

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