



CUDA's Newsletter of latest posts

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Inclusive: does that include disability?

Grant Maynard says that using the word 'inclusive' is leaving out people with disability. Racism, sexism, ageism, homophobia and transphobia are taking the spotlight. Events that celebrate the International Day of People with Disability cater specifically for people with disability. So is this a good thing on just one day of the year? In the week of International Day of ...

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Opportunity in neurodiverse design

When the term 'neurodiversity' entered our language it gave us a new world view and perspective on humanity and diversity. It challenges the notion that there is such as thing as a 'standard' brain. Design disciplines have seen opportunity in sustainable design. Now there is opportunity in neurodiverse design. Workplaces should design for brains not just for bodies. But what ...

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Fare free public transport: social outcomes

Policy decisions to provide fare free public transport is based on the assumption that it will reduce car use. However, several case studies show this is not the case. Car owners are strongly connected to their vehicles for many reasons. While more journeys might be made on free transport, it could lead to walking less. Nevertheless, free public transport is ...

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Myth busting ageing at work

Based on evidence, Philip Taylor's blog article busts some well-worn myths about ageing and work. Population ageing has led to a lot of debate about prolonging working lives to reduce pension costs. There's also much said about labour shortages as many current workers retire. But older people say they are discriminated against in the workplace. So, what is the reality? ...

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Universally designed playground has more use

Applying universal design principles to playgrounds means that more people will use them. That's what a study of three playgrounds in the United States found. Two were standard playgrounds meeting ADA standards, and one was universally designed. Result? Not only did the universally designed playground receive higher use, there was also more physical activity overall.

Plus an article on caregiver perceptions of inclusive playgrounds.

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How not to build a library

If ever there was an example of how not to design a public library, this has to be it. All because the architects failed to check with any user groups. The design did meet basic ADA standards. However, bookshelves lay empty, bleacher seating is sealed off for safety reasons, baby strollers block the walkways, and that doesn't include the issues for people with disability - patrons and staff alike. New York City is now suing the architects for the costs to remedy the access issues.

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Conferences and calls for papers

This page has the latest information on upcoming conferences and calls for papers. New to the list: Neurodiversity Forum 2025: Inclusive Design for All. 26 March 2025. A free one day forum, Manly, Sydney. Focus is on the built environment. Ageing Well and e-Health:

ICT4AWE 2025, 6-8 April 2025, Portugal, hybrid. NTRO International Conference, The Transport Revolution: Solutions led by innovation , 7-9 May 2025, Melbourne. ...

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Model Universal Design Position Statement

CUDA has devised a model document to help organisations develop their own universal design policy or statement. The CUDA Universal Design Position Statement covers all the basics in a straightforward way. At the end of the document, organisations can insert links to their own policy documents that relate to the position statement. There's a one page plain language version too.

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Livable Housing Design Course

This short online course is tailor-made for professionals in the housing and home modifications sectors who want to know how to apply the Livable Housing Design Standard in the National Construction Code. It covers the technical details of the different ways to achieve a level entry, circulation spaces, bathroom details, and more. Good for anyone doing home modifications.

Use the coupon code **LHD20** to get a \$20 discount at the checkout page.

Check out [more information about the course](#) and sign up.

CUDA provides this course under licence from the Australian Building Codes Board.

Introduction to Universal Design - free online course

CUDA's online course is free and a certificate of completion will be sent once all sections of the course are completed. That includes the final questionnaire. It covers different definitions, diversity, stereotypes and the application of universal design.

Sign up here and get started in the free Introduction to Universal Design course. It will take less than an hour.

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