



CUDA's Newsletter of latest posts

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LGBTQIA+ perspectives on inclusive public space

A study by the University of Westminster and Arup revealed some important information about LGBTQIA+ perspectives on inclusive public space. Public seating featured in many of the responses to different survey questions along with design features everyone would like. Consequently, this study is a good example of how focusing on a marginalised group can improve the built environment for everyone. ...

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Autism-friendly museums and co-design

Museums Victoria worked with autistic user/experts to co-design museum spaces and resources. Taking a flexible approach is essential to meaningful participation of autistic people. The experience showed the concept of co-design can be interpreted in different ways. Of course, design outcomes of autism-friendly museums are good for everyone - universal design. Participants reported improved design outcomes, increased knowledge, and positive ...

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Social inclusion through participatory planning

The relevant ministries of the five Nordic countries are concerned that cities are becoming more socially divided. For countries known for supporting social justice and inclusion, this is a relatively new development. So what is going on, and what to do about it? Fortunately Nordic

countries have laws supporting the concept of social inclusion through participatory planning. However, it's more ...

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Autistic-led insights on airport accessibility

Airports are typically noisy, busy, and confusing all adding to the general travel anxiety many people experience. But for many autistic people the crowds, noise and confusion is even more challenging. So finding out more about their experience could lead us to better experiences for everyone. A study analysing reports from six Australian airports revealed some autistic-led insights on airport ...

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The goals of universal design

Steinfeld and Maisel devised the 8 Goals of Universal Design in 2012 as a way of making the 7 Principles more practical. That was more than 12 years ago. The concepts of universal design are evolving so it's time to take another look. A group of five passionate universal design campaigners in Poland have a great page on their website with their version of universal design. An excellent example of understanding the concept and applying the language that suits the context.

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Practitioner views of designing inclusively

The concepts of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion have evolved from different fields of endeavour and therefore there is no single way to explain them. But the concept of universal design can unify them. Consequently, debating the differences between inclusive and universal design does little to progress the cause. In the end they mean the same thing. We don't need more research and discussion about meaning, we need action - research on implementation. Checking in with practitioners and their views of designing inclusively is a good start.

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Autism and built environment

City life can be noisy, busy and confusing at the best of times. Neurodivergent individuals, such as those with autism, can find this level of stimulation distressing in the built environment. People with dementia and mental health conditions can also find city life and streets distressing. Consequently, it becomes easier to stay home as much as possible.

Plus Sensory awareness in architecture, and a book on cognitive accessibility, autism and the built environment.

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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.

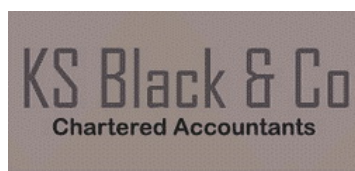
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Model Universal Design Position Statement

Has your organisation been wanting to draft a universal design position statement and not sure where to start? Well, CUDA has devised a model document to get you going. 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 ...

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