

Matthew Lam and Benjamin Ma, recipients of an honourable mention at the FORM 2020 Student Innovation Competition

*Students in Architecture – Undergraduate program
University of Waterloo School of Architecture*

Matthew Lam

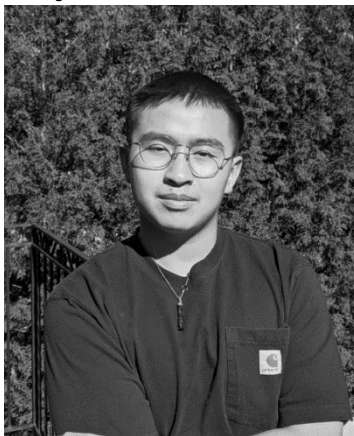
Going into his 2nd year at the University of Waterloo School of Architecture, Matthew Lam has dreamt of studying architecture since he was a kid and Waterloo's program was ideal for him, as it offered opportunities for work and travelling abroad.

His passion for interior design comes from his strive to improve the spaces people inhabit. His inspirations come from traditional Japanese and Scandinavian minimalism styles.

Matthew intends to finish his undergraduate degree while building meaningful connections in school and hopes to, one day, start up his own studio as an architect and designer.



Benjamin Ma



Benjamin always had an innate passion for designing things and decided to fuel his passion and creativity by studying architecture at the University of Waterloo.

In his spare time, Benjamin enjoys designing everything from small logos to clothing; he loves the fact that other people can wear or use something that he created.

His passion for interior design comes from the fact that, while working on architectural projects in the course of his program, Benjamin thinks that the furniture inside a space is really important to defining the atmosphere. Benjamin is inspired by the minimalism trend, to which he adds a touch of spirituality or emotion.

Benjamin wishes to work in a global architectural firm to get a better grasp of the architecture industry around the world, and then, open his own architectural firm.

Creators of the *Duality* design

Matthew and Benjamin collaborated to create the *Duality* design. Acting as a catalyst between technology and nature, *Duality* reflects the balance created by the desk and the chair. The natural Formica laminates intend to express a certain calmness.

They enjoyed the experience and the opportunity to familiarize themselves with how surfacing materials work. Getting a sense of what material is available allows students to design with a sense of realism and accuracy.



“Entering competitions really helps us gain experience and it’s important in the design field to get our names out there,” said Benjamin Ma. “We want to establish ourselves and explore different avenues of design – not just architecture.”

“I wanted to participate because being more involved in the design community outside of school is something I am always looking to do,” added Matthew Lam.