

March 26, 2008

Ms. Rosemarie Rossetti Universal Design Living Laboratory 1008 Eastchester Drive Columbus, OH 43230-6230

Dear Rosemarie:

Thank you for your inspiring keynote message to our members at our INTERIORS 08 conference in New Orleans. Our members went away enthused and energized to see first hand the value their interior design work can have for everyone, including those with physical challenges, whether permanent or temporary.

We admire and support your personal goal to build the Universal Design Living Laboratory as a way to educate builders, architects, designers and others about the value of Universal Design. Your new home will offer not only those with physical limitations, but also those who wish to remain in their homes as they age, the opportunity to learn how to improve their lifestyles at home, while providing a real-life example of how to make a home function for everyone, visitors included, of all ages and abilities.

One of the most powerful messages you convey is that a home is not truly sustainable if it does not incorporate the principles of Universal Design. All can live in a home throughout a lifetime, without major modifications, if it is designed to be accessible and visitable from the start. It will be more comfortable, easier to access, flexible, inclusive, safer, more ergonomic, and more adaptable, respecting the needs, independence and dignity of all.

With sincere respect,

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