

# An Homage to Chicago Design

## CDA Designers Homage Poster

Visual Arts/Graphic Design Studio Course (upper level high school or undergraduate university)

## Project Overview

*Homage — n. special honor or respect shown publicly*

As designers, we have deep cultural roots right here in Chicago. During WWII, Chicago became home to the New Bauhaus and throughout the years. Our history has grown and developed over the years into a bright culture and community. Use the Chicago Design Archive to learn more about our design heritage here in Chicago through research and application. Each student will design a poster that pays homage to a designer from Chicago design history they have researched and analyzed. The poster content should be relevant to the selected designer and the design should visually represent the qualities of their work.

## Objectives

- Grow more familiar with the Chicago Design Archive and the history of design in Chicago.
- Practice using a digital archive for research.
- Visual analysis of professional design work, identifying visual characteristics.

## Specs

- 3-5 min Oral Presentation
- 18" x 24" Poster
  - Print with Bleed + Crop Marks
  - Cut to size
- Must Include
  - Designer's Name
  - Content Relevant to the Designer('s Work)

- Visual Characteristics of the Designer's Work
- Photo Documentation of Printed Poster

## Process

1. Select Designer
  - a. Select a designer from the Chicago Design Archive whose work appears in the collection. Be sure they are clearly linked to Chicago!
  - b. Identify key projects and characteristics of the designer's work
2. Research Presentation
  - a. Research your designer (their work, their influence, the cultural context, etc.)
  - b. Make a 3-5 min presentation in Google slides to be shared with the class
  - c. Identify visual characteristics of the designer's work.
3. Pencil Sketches
  - a. Bring together ideas and aesthetics from your selected designer's work
  - b. Using paper and pencil, make 5 sketches of design ideas
4. Digital Iterations
  - a. Select 2 pencil sketches to make into digital sketches.
5. Physical Mockup
  - a. Narrow down to 1 design direction
  - b. Create full-scale tiled mockup of your poster for critique
6. Final Poster
  - a. Print with bleed and crop marks and cut to size
  - b. Document your physical poster and post your final PDF and documentation photos

