Scholarship for Interiors

Richard A. Rankin Scholarship for Interiors

Longtime University of Kentucky Design Professor Terry Rothgeb has given the College of Design $25,000 to establish a scholarship in honor of Richard A. Rankin, the first director of UK Interiors. Rankin led the UK Interiors program from 1972 to 1979. At that time, Rankin was one of the more noted interior design educators in the United States. “He had the vision and insight to hire excellent faculty and design professionals from across the country to teach interiors at the highest level,” Rothgeb said.

The goal is to raise an additional $25,000 toward a $50,000 endowment to fund the Richard A. Rankin Scholarship in perpetuity. “This is a wonderful way to support School of Interiors students and to honor Richard Rankin’s legacy,” Rothgeb said. “I hope that this scholarship will provide ongoing financial support for highly creative students to study Interiors and advance the profession in new and exciting ways.”

Rothgeb, who retired from UK in 2011, was one of the early faculty members recruited by Rankin. According to Rothgeb, Rankin was progressive in his approaches to building the UK Interiors curriculum, committed to community service, and fostered collaboration among faculty. “Richard Rankin helped me become aware of things I had never noticed before. He believed that design is design is design. As my mentor in graduate school, he introduced me to programming the design elements and principles in initial concept development, which I continued in my design studio instruction.”

This matching scholarship gift offers alumni and friends the opportunity to share in honoring Richard Rankin. To donate to the Richard A. Rankin Scholarship for Interiors, scan the QR code or mail a check to Don Witt, University of Kentucky, King Alumni House Suite 203, Lexington, KY 40506-0119.

Visit kentuckycan.uky.edu to learn more about ways to give, or contact Don Witt, Assistant Vice President for Philanthropy, at dwitt@uky.edu