



2021 Women in Building Services: Jaclyn Ruggiero, BBS Architects, Landscape Architects and Engineers PC

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Name: Jaclyn Ruggiero

Title: Architectural and Interior Designer

Company Name: BBS Architects, Landscape Architects & Engineers

What led you to your current profession?

I guess you could say that creativity and technicality run in my family as both my father and grandfather have extensive engineering and architectural backgrounds. The year I was born, my father started his own commercial construction company which exposed me to architecture at a young age. He would walk me through job sites, teach me AutoCAD commands and encourage me to critique designs while driving around town! I went on to attend Roger Williams University's School of Architecture.

In the past year, what project, transaction or accomplishment are you most proud of?

I am most proud of the completion and grand opening of the Bayshore Universal Pre-K Learning Center. This was one of the first jobs I was assigned lead interior designer on. Being involved from early-stage design meetings all the way through construction was truly a great learning experience. It makes me so happy to see students enjoying the building and all its awesome interiors.

What trends will dominate your industry in the coming months?

Biophilic design, outdoor and indoor multi-purpose learning centers, and post-pandemic spatial planning.

Who was/is your mentor and how did s/he influence/help you in your career?

My coworker/department manager, Tracy Hansen, has played a major role in helping me succeed as an architectural and interior designer here at BBS. As a young intern spending the summer months at BBS, Tracy guided me through a variety of projects, sharing huge amounts of knowledge along the way. Even now as a full-time employee, I continue to learn from Tracy daily and admire the way she presents her ideas with clients.

What did you want to be when you grew up?

When I was younger, I wanted to be a veterinarian or a pediatrician. In high school, I shied away from the medical field and realized I was better suited for architecture or engineering.

How do you contribute to your community or profession?

I believe my biggest contribution to my profession is my 3D rendering and digital presentation skills. I am often able to use these skills to showcase BBS's fresh vision and to help clients better understand the spaces we design.

What books or social media influencers would you recommend to other women?

Any Architectural Registration Exam review books—we need more licensed female architects!

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