

JOB DESCRIPTION: - SENIOR DESIGN LEAD, Birmingham UK

About Harrison

As a company, we are an interconnected group of global studios located in Birmingham, UK, Dallas, TX, and Melbourne, Australia. Harrison is an exceptional strategic brand design agency, with extensive expertise and experience with a 360-degree approach to guest experience in Restaurants, Bars, Retail, Hotels, Entertainment and Stadia design. We are driven by our core beliefs in customer journey planning, brand storytelling & strategy, creativity and brand identity expertise. We are relentlessly focused on the guest experience; we are passionate about crafting beautiful, engaging stories that add character and differentiation to genuinely bring brands to life. We are seeking someone with a spark of being original, creative, and imaginative in designing global and local brands to nurture, support, and spur on our talented team.

The Role:

A Passion for Design

We are looking for a confident, experienced Senior Design Lead to provide our creative teams with guidance, inspiration, and strategic direction to launch new inspiring projects as well as work strategically with existing clients to evolve and develop their brands. Our ideal candidate will be hands-on with developing the design alongside our creative team and will need a high level of creativity and an excellent understanding of Interior and Graphic Design.

You will need to be able to develop strategically driven concepts for all projects and allocate & schedule the required resources to bring the creative vision to life. It is important you can inspire lead, monitor, and direct projects throughout the creative process to completion.

We aim to achieve the best possible outcome both creatively and commercially. This person will work to meet the client stakeholders' expectations, while also staying focused on the wholistic guest experience, and work to strengthen client relationships along the way.

A Creative, Forward-Thinking Leader

Being an expert at brand & client communication is key, saying what you mean and hearing what others mean to say, whether in a one-on-one conversation or in a formal presentation.

Relationship building is a large focus of this job both with the team internally as well as externally with the clients. You'll be good at this, not just because it's your job, but because you're relationship driven and are have experience working with different personalities, reading and commanding the room you are in, and understanding how to work with varying levels of seniority within the same meeting. Diplomacy is key yet you do not fear confrontation, realizing that working through differing opinions via mediated discussion can produce the best possible outcome for Harrison and the client's we're serving. You thrive leading a team and understand the various contributions and value that other individuals bring to the table helps us achieve the vision of the design is met.

The business design leader and mentor to the team

You are a strategic thinker and a lifelong learner who understands branding and thrives when you understand the in's and out's of a client's business. You drive the team to work to understand insights that solve a client's challenges whether in the design work or via their brand strategy.

You are a team leader and a player who understands team interaction and the team members' roles, allowing them to shine. You perform well in a team environment, fostering communication and cohesion between internal teams and functions.

What we are looking for

- A candidate who is passionate about branding and environmental design with at least 15 years of experience.
- A minimum of 5 years' experience as a senior design lead who wants to develop and build a career here at Harrison.
- Over 8 years of broad creative and management experience with a global sophistication and the ability to adapt to different cultures and people.
- A candidate who can lead the creative vision, strategy, and execution of multiple design projects, from concept through final production of both the interior and brand design.
- The ideal candidate will have a high-level understanding of brand & motion design varying across mediums from social media, website and mobile and beyond.
- A Bachelor's degree in Interior Design, Architecture, Graphic Design & Communications, or a related field.
- Experience leading design projects with cross-discipline teams and design leaders.
- Liaising with other UK, USA & Australian design directors on overall design strategy and live projects.
- Overseeing all aspects of the strategy, branding & graphic design, and interior design direction on all projects, as well as having a good understanding of the guest journey, and how they navigate a hospitality or retail environment.
- Participate actively in business development meetings/conferences as needed.
- Direct and motivate architectural, interior, project managers & graphic design teams.
- Provide our UK team with guidance and ideas to launch impactful and imaginative new projects and work strategically with existing clients to evolve and develop their brands.
- Work alongside other design directors. You shall lead and continue to build our multi-disciplined design team in the UK, developing concepts and strategies for a particular client and will monitor its progress. The goal is to achieve the best possible outcome for our projects, visually and essentially, to meet customer expectations and drive ROI and sustainable growth.
- Conceiving and implementing concepts, guidelines, and strategies in various creative projects and overseeing them to completion.
- Lead brainstorming/creative sessions to generate ideas to ensure the creative boundaries are fully explored.
- An understanding of architecture & interior design, including brand positioning, brand development, concept creation, and schematic design.

- Develop engaging ways of presenting our designs to clients & oversee the creative design output.
- Comfortably and confidently present designs to our clients and developers.
- Coordinate with consultants, suppliers, and vendors.
- Experience producing high-quality design and design intent drawings in AutoCAD or REVIT. As well as working in Adobe suites and PowerPoint to create presentations.
- Direct brand teams in producing art working and signage packages.
- Travel throughout the, UK, EUROPE, USA and internationally on company business.

Finally - our commitment to Diversity & Inclusion

Diversity brings creativity, which is at the heart of everything we do. We are actively engaging in creating an environment free of discrimination, where our people and their uniqueness can shine and be celebrated. We're working to set a standard for the industry, creating a culture of equity and belonging. We may not be perfect and know there is work to do, but we are committed to this as part of our core business values.

Harrison is committed to creating a culture of equity and belonging. We believe that true creativity is sparked by diverse backgrounds, ethnicities, and experiences, and creative is at the heart of what do. We are committed to letting our employees shine and be celebrated and work to maintain an environment free of discrimination. Harrison is run by humans, so while we may falter at times and know there is still work to be done, we are committed to fostering a safe and friendly work environment where all are welcome and appreciated.