



Art + Design Faculty, Students Got to Work Creating Better Face Shields at ESU

By ESU
 EASTROUDSBURG - In the midst of the pandemic that has left so many people feeling isolated, two East Stroudsburg University professors and three students collaborated on designing face shields that can make human contact safer and communications easier.

The collaboration started late last March when art + design professor and department chair Darlene Farris-LaBar and assistant professor Xue (Stella) Dong got the idea to create headbands that attach to transparent face shields, making them lighter and less bulky. Working in ESU's 3D printing Stratasys Super Lab, they designed the model and then got help from Joe Sinclair, founder of the Verde Mantis 3D printing company at the ESU Innovation Center, to mass produce the personal protective equipment (PPE). <https://quantum.esu.edu/insider/esus-art-design-faculty-take-the-lead-in-3d-donations-to-area-hospitals-in-need/>.

To make sure the multitudes could benefit from their work, the professors posted the instructions for how to make the face shields and headbands online, giving permission for all to use the formula.

"ESU put the file on its website and we just said 'Take it for free,'" Farris-LaBar said. "We had places in Seattle, in France, Innovation in Easton, GoggleWorks in Bethlehem, they were all 3D printing our work. I had a family in my neighborhood who had two old 3D printers and he was just mass producing these."

"People have been willing to volunteer and give their time unselfishly to help the supply chain," she said. ESU's Office of Accessible Services Individualized for Students – OASIS – reached out to Dong and Farris-LaBar because they had hearing impaired students and faculty on campus who found it difficult to communicate when everyone was wearing masks.

"We're trying to solve other problems," Dong said. "Like when you're wearing a mask, it's really hard for other people to see your expressions and it's hard to project the sound outside."

The next step was to engage ESU students in the endeavor. "We really wanted to involve students to remind them of their social responsibilities and also put them in a creative mindset," Dong said.

So over the summer, three students became paid researchers working on their own PPE prototypes to improve face shields.

A \$2,500 Out of the Box grant from ESU's Office of the Provost paid for the purchase of materials and each student was paid \$600 through an ESU Summer Undergraduate Research Experience (S.U.R.E.) grant.

Senior Katrina Stenger worked on making a mask that was clear so when a person is in a conversation, other people can better read their facial expressions.

"It was a very fun, creative process," said Stenger, from Stroudsburg, who is majoring in integrated art + design with a double concentration in product design and graphic design. "It's an inspiration for students. We're the future, we're the young minds at work, and we're trying to contribute."

Madina Khan, a senior from Copenhagen, Denmark majoring in business management, fashioned a face shield that enhanced voice amplification to make it easier for people to talk and be understood while wearing it.

"It was genius what she came up with," Stenger said. Jadelyn Cardenales, a sophomore from Perth Amboy, N.J., studying integrated art + design, created clips so face shields could be clipped onto ball caps. In addition, Cardenales got an idea for making the pandemic experience and PPE less frightening for kids.

"She was also creating little tiny [face shields] for stuffed animals so they could go to children's hospitals and it would make the experiences of seeing the doctors wearing them friendlier and fun for the kids," Farris-LaBar said. A video of the students' work is available on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OVMBMDvFWSQ&feature=youtu.be>

Attention Employers: How Can We Help?

By State Rep. Joe Emrick
 BANGOR - The House Majority Policy Committee launched a COVID-19 Economic Recovery Business Survey this week. The goal is to gather feedback for use by the caucus' Economic Recovery Task Force as it works to develop and implement policies to re-strengthen the state's struggling economy.



The survey is open to employers in all sectors and businesses of all sizes. The brief survey seeks information about your business or industry and then invites feedback about the challenges facing your particular business or industry, the type of assistance that would be most beneficial, the one most impactful thing state government could do to support your future success, and any other ideas to kickstart the Commonwealth's economic recovery.

Please take a few moments to fill out this survey and share your insights and expertise. We must get the Commonwealth on the road to recovery as soon as possible and we can only do that by working together. Click here to take the survey. We will be taking responses through March 19.



MT. BETHEL PLAZA

GRAND OPENING & RIBBON CUTTINGS AT MT. BETHEL PLAZA

Four New Business' to Open March 20th

Stone Lake Winery, Paul's Precision Cuts, Comunale Chiropractic, P 4 Blood Laboratories
 Saturday, March 20th, 12 noon, Mt Bethel Plaza, Mt Bethel PA., Where Route 512 Meets Route 611
Events and specials will be at many of the Plaza shops throughout the day

Join Us In Welcoming:

Scott and Jacki Douglas owners of Stone Lake Winery

Their business features a wine bar, tastings, sales & special events. Family owned and operated.
 Open Wed-Thursday 11 am to 7 pm, Friday & Saturday 11 am to 9 pm, Sunday 11 am-5 pm

Paul Antoniou owner of Paul's Precision Cuts

Paul is a Mt. Bethel local, who formerly worked in New Jersey and wished to operate a family barbershop in the area he grew up in. 570-291-7622 Open Tues-Friday 10 am - 6 pm & Saturday 9 am - 2 pm.

Comunale Chiropractic Sports, Spine and Wellness Center

Dr. Dan Comunale, owner, offers a full range of treatment serving all generations with emphasis in sports chiropractic medicine. 570-234-0995

P4 Clinical Lab

Lab testing in a convenient location. Monday-Friday, 8 am - 4 pm. Walk-ins accepted. 570-897-5022

Events and specials will be at many of the Plaza shops throughout the day including:

- Mt Bethel Beverage: Sampling Bud Lt Lemonade and Mich Ultra Organic Seltzers
- Dylaggio Music - Signups for Private Lessons
- Method Karate - Open House Demonstration
- Todas Design - Free Consults
- Mt. Bethel Auto - Free Raffle Drawing
- Mt Bethel Pharmacy - Gift bags
- Comunale Italian Market - Lunch Specials
- Mt. Bethel Pizza
- Duddy Chiropractic
- Mt. Bethel Hardware
- New Panda Garden
- Dr. Stephen DiMarco - Mt. Bethel Eye Care
- Dr. Jon Raso - Mt. Bethel Medical
- Mt. Bethel Post Office