

LA ROCHE UNIVERSITY
2026 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI CIRCLE AWARD RECIPIENT



William (Will) J. Michael '97, NCIDQ
Account Executive
MDC Interior Solutions

Will Michael is a 1997 graduate of La Roche University with a B.S. in Interior Design. Since 2018, he has served as an Account Executive for MDC Interior Solutions in Glendale Heights, Illinois, representing the company throughout Pennsylvania and West Virginia and working with designers, architects, and contractors on commercial interior projects. Among his accomplishments, Will is especially proud of

rebuilding a successful territory, developing lasting client relationships, and earning President's Club recognition in 2025.

Throughout his career, Will has worked for Scurci-Myers Design Associates, George Conte Design Associates, and DRS Architects. His projects have earned recognition from ASID, Master Builders, AIA, and People's Choice Awards, as well as hospitality industry honors. His work at a luxury resort even appeared on Season 12 of *The Bachelorette*.

"I am proud of every project I have worked on over the years. Each one was driven by passion," Will said. "While I love developing the vision and working through the design process, installation day was always the most exciting because that was when the project came to life. Seeing people use and react to a space I designed was especially rewarding."

Will chose La Roche for its FIDER-accredited interior design program and proximity to home. He credits his experience with giving him the independence and confidence to find his own creative voice.

"My time at La Roche was a transition period for the Interior Design Department, with Wendy Beckwith at the helm alongside professors Crispin Zuback and Dev Nagar," he said. "But it was adjunct professor Thom Demko who gave me my moment of awe. I was fortunate to have him for drawing and rendering, and while I never fully captured his skill set, I found my love for pen, ink, and marker, a passion that still drives my creative process today," he said.

Will also fondly remembers all-nighters in the design studios of Ketteler Hall, the sounds of basketball games overhead, and, most importantly, the camaraderie and creativity he shared with his classmates.

"With a career now spanning 30 years, I am truly honored to be selected for this award," Will said. "Knowing that only a select few graduates of the Interior Design program have received this recognition makes it even more special."

Will is the proud father of two daughters, Olivia (21) and Gabriella (19), and enjoys traveling with his husband, Brandon. He is especially grateful to his parents for the love and support that made his education and career possible.