

BUSINESS NEWS

Four Hands names architect and announces new corporate headquarters, showroom

Michael Hsu Office of Architecture has been tapped to design the spaces



Adelaide Elliott // Associate Editor • January 31, 2020

f
in
p
✉



Indoor/outdoor resource Four Hands has announced plans to open a new and expanded corporate office and flagship showroom in Austin, Texas, and named Michael Hsu Office of Architecture as its designer.



Four Hands, which is currently based in Austin, has already begun construction on the new project. According to a release, the space should be completed sometime this summer.

“The design for Four Hands’ new space is nostalgic and refined,” says Michael Hsu, founder and principal of Michael Hsu Office of Architecture. “It is directly inspired by the Four Hands’ brand, culture and product. We incorporated a lot of natural light to create a comfortable environment for staff and to showcase the Four Hands furnishings.”

Across the new showroom and office, the space is set to feature a palette of warm, light and neutral tones to “serve as an understated backdrop to showcase” Four Hands’ furnishings. The availability of natural light was given special consideration in both spaces for both employee well being and showroom aesthetics.

Accommodations for the brand’s long term business goals were given special attention throughout the design process of the new headquarters. To ensure all needs were met, the design team consulted closely with members from every corporate department, giving the expanded 35,100-square-foot its structure. Organized by a central spine through its existing warehouse space, the space will be retrofitted with custom Four Hands furnishings and feature two volumetric “houses,” residential in nature, with open office space located at the perimeter. Other features, like floor to ceiling windows around the perimeter, large skylights over a feature tree in the central common area, were included to encourage employee well being.

A full list of new and upgraded facilities and amenities planned for the campus include:

- A multi-use meeting space: The six new meeting rooms and five phone rooms will be equipped with state-of-the-art communications technology and conferencing tools.
- Photo studio: The 2,700-square foot studio will be used to create original photo and video content for promotional purposes.
- Breakout areas and community spaces: Spaces designated as breakout areas and community spaces will feature lounge-like office furniture from Four Hands.
- Indoor kitchen: The upgraded kitchen will feature commercial-grade appliances, a fully stocked bar, cold brew on tap and seating for up to 40 employees.
- Outdoor kitchen and patio: The outdoor lounge space will have updated landscaping and a pergola with furniture from Four Hands’ outdoor furniture lines.
- Fitness center: The renovated fitness center will have new gym equipment.
- Wellness room: The upgraded wellness room will provide a refrigerator and comfortable seating for employee use. It was designed to primarily serve nursing mothers, but will be open to all employees seeking a private space during the workday.

Four Hands’ flagship showroom’s renovation is designed to better serve as an international design hub and provide an upgraded shopping experience for its wholesale customers and local Austin designers and consumers.

With lifted 14 foot ceilings and full height windows throughout, the roughly 14,500-square foot showroom will include designer workspace and collaboration stations with interactive touch displays that allows users to virtually browse Four Hands’ complete collection of furnishings. Other new features coming to the showroom include an expansive wall art display to showcase its curated collection of wall art from emerging artists around the country.

“As Four Hands continues its evolution as a lifestyle brand, we found ourselves needing a space to better suit our growing team and company culture,” says Four Hands CEO Matthew Briggs. “Michael Hsu Office of Architecture understood our vision and worked closely with us to create a world-class design experience. For me, the new space feels like the Four Hands brand, while also reflecting the creativity of our team and innovation of our designs.”

The company’s office and showroom expansion are just the latest in a string of growth focused moves made by Four Hands recently. Having doubled its revenue over the last five years, Four Hands has been bolstering its business since 2018 through the acquisition of art studio Wonderwall Studio, now Four Hands Art Studio, and technology firm Adaptlev. Four Hands currently employs 415 full-time team members across the globe, and has announced plans to hire 60 new U.S.-based employees by the end of 2020.

Editors’ Picks



Designing Better: How sustainable is the industry?



Before + After: an architectural update to a mid-century California house



Career Builders

DESIGNERS TODAY

WEBINAR SERIES

Join our editorial team each month as we delve into the most current design trends, tips, news and more with industry leaders and experts.



CLICK TO LEARN MORE

Sponsorship Opportunities Available



Adelaide Elliott // Associate Editor

Adelaide “Adie” Elliott is an associate editor focusing on retail coverage for Furniture Today and Casual Living. Previously, she also served as the web editor for both those brands and Designers Today. Before being promoted in May 2019 to web editor, Adelaide worked as Furniture Today’s editorial intern for a year. Get in touch with her on Twitter at @AElliott or by email at aelliott@designerstoday.com.