

CREATING SUSTAINABLE SPACES

BY CANDACIA GREEMAN, LM ADVANCEMENT ASSOCIATE

ELIZABETH BYLER '13 has a passion for human flourishing! This is evident in her work at Eden Environments, a B2B (business-to-business) green interior design and consulting service where they work to create sustainable spaces for people to thrive. Elizabeth is especially proud of a renovation project where they started with a \$0 budget, and "through negotiation, donations, re-using items, and selling some items, by the end of the project, the company had a new space and about \$500 - people who walked in expressed amazement at the new space."

At LM, Elizabeth was able to nurture her curiosity and creativity - one of our core values - leading her to a career that involves designing spaces that are accessible and life-giving to all. She notes, "Some of my fondest memories of Lancaster Mennonite were being involved in the drama department and Chapel Planning Committee. Danielle Hofstetter allowed me to fly as her Stage Manager, working with lighting, sets, and actors to produce a whole different world, showed me the power of environments."

Elizabeth believes there is a "need for people to keep cheering you on" as a small business owner, and she values being able to do that for others. She also promotes collaboration over competition, and has worked with **ISAIAH (RIVERA) SANABRIA '11** and **JOSEPH BYLER '10** to develop Eden Environments' marketing strategy and materials. For Elizabeth, this focus on community and helping others is at the heart of what it means to work for the greater good.



ZOETROPOLIS & BEYOND

BY JON HEINLY '03, LM DIRECTOR OF ADVANCEMENT

Nurture creativity and curiosity is an LM value that is embodied in the professional journey of **MATT HOSTETTER '09**. While working in finance, Matt engaged with entrepreneurs and business owners with curiosity and openness, which eventually led to him becoming a business owner, which he hadn't imagined while at LM. Now a co-owner of Zoetropolis Cinema Stillhouse and The Sugartank Recording Studio, he seeks to "cultivate a space in the community that is inclusive, collaborative, and culturally enriching" where clients are able to "express themselves freely, while remaining open to different perspectives."

It is this same sense of curiosity that makes Matt thankful for his opportunity to build relationships with so many international students at LM, and he encourages current students to "Keep an open mind!"—because the "ability to relate to a diverse group of people is one of the most valuable traits to have as a professional."

As he did during his time at LM, Matt continues to express his creativity through music as a working musician and Music for Everyone board member. Musically he collaborates with LM alumni **TUCK RYAN '13**, **JACKSON TROUT '19**, and **JOSH MORALES '12**. Matt finds fulfillment in entertaining people, and along with his Zoetropolis partners, including LM alumnus, **TAYLOR KINNEY '00**, he is committed to

bringing the community together for entertainment, curiosity, and creativity.

Overall, Matt seeks to "connect with people from all walks of life" and put them in the position to succeed in their areas of strength.



PHOTO PROVIDED BY MATT HOSTETTER

