

## Featured Supporter of the College of Architecture, Art, and Design



### Paul Maczka

president

Bare eld Workplace Solutions

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“Bare eld Workplace Solutions, is a full-service office furniture and office supply dealership that has served Mississippi for sixty years. We are committed to customer satisfaction and take pride in our company and our role in the community.”

Bare eld Workplace Solutions has been serving Mississippi as a full-service office furniture and office supply dealership since 1946. The company's president, Paul Maczka, purchased the company eight years ago when he moved to Jackson from Charlotte, N.C., where he had been running another Steelcase dealership. The authorized Steelcase furniture dealer, which is also a supplier in the education and healthcare arenas, has six Mississippi locations: Jackson, Natchez, New Albany, Vicksburg, Greenville and Meridian.

Several people in the company are Mississippi State graduates, including Interior Design Manager Emily Kimbrell.

“Obviously Mississippi State means a lot to my organization and the people that I employ here,” the president said. “We work with a lot of Mississippi State grads at the various architecture firms in the state, and we have enjoyed a great relationship with those folks and thought it was a worthy cause.”

Maczka said the establishment of the Bare eld Design Studio is just an extension of the company's current involvement with the Interior Design Program.

For the past two years, Bare eld's regional Steelcase representative, Brian Clark, has been providing a design competition for students using Steelcase and its partner companies as the source for furnishing needs. MSU graduates Kimbrell and Ginger Human have served as judges for the design competition, which includes a scholarship prize for the student winners. The project has been an incredible opportunity for students to be able to work with industry partners and learn about real-world products. Clark has also helped coordinate the tours of Steelcase showrooms in Atlanta and Dekalb and a trip to the Polydivision design space in Atlanta. He even met a group from the program when they toured Steelcase facilities on their recent junior field trip to Chicago.

Maczka said he hopes the money will continue to help students in the program and further the design competition to help students understand the company's products and receive scholarship money. He also hopes students will be able to tour some of the Bare eld locations to learn more about the company.

In addition to helping support the Interior Design Program at Mississippi State, the company also supports a number of other organizations through its Bare Cares Program. Bare eld just launched a new website and has even dedicated an area for people to make donations to the American Red Cross and the Boys & Girls Clubs of America. They are also currently helping redo a Boys & Girls Club in the Jackson area.

“It's just one of our core values as an organization to be involved and contribute to our community,” said Maczka. “We try to be active in our community and try to give back to our community whenever we can.”