



Prasanna Lachagari, M. Arch '20
Design Director | Partner | SDI Architecture

Prasanna Lachagari grew up in Hyderabad, India. While pursuing her Bachelor of Architecture at Jawaharlal Nehru Architecture and Fine Arts University, Hyderabad, India, Prasanna began teaching perspective sketching. In the span of five years, she taught and mentored more than 500 students, helping them navigate their plans, often revolving around getting into their dream architecture school. Prasanna still continues to mentor her students and assist them through their careers in architecture.

Upon receiving a Bachelor of Architecture in India and becoming a licensed Architect, she moved to the United States to continue her education. In 2019, she graduated with her Master of Architecture and received commendations for excellence on her master's thesis from The Boston Architectural College. Prasanna's thesis investigated how architecture can help heal racism through self-reflection and promoting positive interactions.

Prasanna is now the Design Director at [SDI Architecture](#) in Boston, MA. In 2019, she became a Founding Partner of SDI's sister firm, SDI Design India in Hyderabad, transforming a Boston-based firm into an international company. Recently, Prasanna earned a spot as one of the Top 100 Leaders in Real Estate and Construction at the annual [World Real Estate and Construction Forum](#) and was honored as one of the [Boston Business Journal's 40 Under 40](#).

Currently, Prasanna is working on a non-profit effort to support the citizens of Kakinada, India by designing home accessories that can be made by residents, thereby providing stable jobs and income. Simultaneously, she is designing a school for the same community to educate underprivileged children. In the United States, Prasanna is working with the non-profit organization Hoops 4 Life to develop an educational and athletic complex in Waterbury, Connecticut, which will offer students options for career paths they may not have considered. She is also working with a developer to design a cultural center in southern Idaho, which includes a heritage museum, public market, and University of Idaho outreach center.

As a young entrepreneurial woman of color in a male-dominated industry, Prasanna is grateful to be able to effect positive change. As she continues to grow within the industry, she is focused on finding new ways to express herself and continues to learn about the intersectionality of race and architecture.