

NDCLA

Nippon Design Center USA, Inc.

March 19, 2025

Job Description: Mid-Level Designer

Classification: Full Time

Experience: 3-5 years

Works: In-Person at Culver City, CA

Reports to: Japanese Art Director and CEO

Nippon Design Center USA, Inc. (NDCLA) seeks a Designer to be part of the creative and thoughtful team. We seek a detail-oriented, enthusiastic graphic designer who understands high-quality and high-end design. This position will be based in Culver City, CA. (This is not remote work.)

Who We Are:

We are a global creative multidisciplinary agency. Nippon Design Center (NDC) was founded in Tokyo in 1959. For over 60 years, it has supported Japan's cultural and industrial development through design, including the design work for the 1964 Tokyo Olympics. NDC continues to support corporate visual identities for Japanese companies that have since grown globally. To further promote globalization, Nippon Design Center USA, Inc. (NDCLA) was established in Los Angeles in March 2022. Understanding both Western and Eastern values, NDCLA seeks the source of inspiration, explores ideas with curiosity, and creates new values through simple, bold, and clear design.

We have clients in Japan, China, South East Asia, Europe, and America. We are a diverse group of designers and strategists, and we produce human-centric experiences through design, interior design, brand campaigns, and digital platforms. We work thoughtfully and collaboratively throughout the process with in-house, outside contractors, and global office staff.

About the Position:

Designer is passionate about graphic design across all areas, including art, retail, social, digital, environment and sustainability, experiential and immersive art, and especially Japanese culture and design.

Designer manages projects from initiation to completion, leading design through conceptualization, execution, and production with support from the Project Manager and Art Director. Ability to create logotypes, VI design systems, website/SSN, packaging,

storefront, and brand guidelines within a highly collaborative, multi-disciplinary global environment and present high-quality design executions.

Must demonstrate a proven track record in developing strategically driven ideas, design, and creative assets, with a strong understanding of graphic design and typography. Highly conceptual, overflowing with ideas, exploring ideas, hands-on design creation, and capable of collaborating with internal and external partners.

Experience working in the design industry **for at least 3 years** and willing to share knowledge and mentor junior designers and interns.

Responsibilities (what you'll do):

- Manage projects from initiation to completion, leading design and strategy through research and exploring, conceptualization, execution, and production.
- Document design systems in comprehensive guidelines and finalize template and asset files for final delivery.
- Create presentation and proposal files to convey ideas to clients.
- Realize projects with the highest level of creativity and quality and respect for the client's needs, schedules, and budget.
- Confident presentation skills to clearly convey ideas to clients, the Art Director, and cross-functional team members.
- Other duties as assigned.

Experience and Knowledge Required:

- A strong understanding of design principles, graphic design, and typography.
- Demonstrate ability to translate core branding equities and tone through various applications and activations (cohesive branding approach).
- Experience with various design projects (packaging, branding, digital, space, signage, etc.)
- Ability to see the large picture while staying focused on the details.
- A growth mindset, openness to learn from others, and courage to inspire others.

Qualifications Required:

- BA or BS degree in graphic design or related field.
- 3-5 years minimum professional experience in Graphic Design, Art Direction, Branding, or a similar field at a design agency.

Skill, Programs, and Tools Requirements:

- Expert skills in Adobe Suite: Photoshop, Illustrator, and InDesign.
- Advanced digital production skills: Thorough knowledge of all facets of digital art, commercial printing, graphic reproduction, photomanipulation and production techniques.
- Figma, Premiere Pro or Aftereffects Knowledge a Plus

- Experience with animation graphics, 3D/2D motion design, and UI Design a plus.
- Proficient in Word, Excel, Google Docs, and Dropbox
- 2nd language, Japanese or Chinese is a plus.

Benefits

- Health, Dental, Vision, and Life insurance are 100% supported by the Company (after 90 days of probation period).
- Excellent Work/Life Balance - Paid Time Off and Paid Holidays.

Location and Schedule

Culver City, CA (In-Person)

8 hours a day, Monday through Friday

Occasionally, overtime or weekend event work.

Application Process:

- Please read the Requirement and Skill sections first.
- The successful candidate will have a portfolio that includes creative work that encompasses print or packaging projects, digital projects, and branding projects. Portfolio work should showcase strong problem-solving skills, unique concepts, and outstanding typography.
- Please send resume, portfolio link, and reference.
- Please submit or include the link on your resume to ndcla@ndc.co.jp
- Please include "Graphic Designer Position" in the subject line.
- The company does not sponsor employment visas.

Compensation is based on experience.

Equal Opportunity Policy

NDCLA is an equal-opportunity employer and is committed to diversity and inclusion. NDCLA fosters a work environment that is free of discrimination and harassment, whether based on race, national origin, gender, gender expression, religion, ethnic background, age, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or any other criterion prohibited by applicable federal, state, or local laws.

We believe that diversity and inclusion among our team and environment are vital to producing creative and inspiring work, and an inclusive culture makes for stronger, more innovative, engaged, and effective teams.