

BENCHMARKS



THE MAGAZINE OF NORTH BENNET STREET SCHOOL SUMMER 2017

PLAIN LIVING AND HIGH THINKING

BY MIGUEL GÓMEZ-IBÁÑEZ CF '99
President of NBSS

I HAD THE OPPORTUNITY to read a book by David Scalet called *The Simple Life: Plain Living and High Thinking in American Culture*. I am a member of the Board of Directors of the National Board of Simple Living and High Thinking (NBSS). I was born in 1960, and I have been a member of the NBSS since 1999. I have been a member of the NBSS since 1999. I have been a member of the NBSS since 1999.

While plain living and high thinking may be unattainable for a society, it remains an enduring aspiration and the underlying ethos of North Bennet Street School.

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Yours truly,
Miguel Gómez-Ibáñez
President of NBSS

Lives and Livelihoods campaign at nbss.edu/campaign.



LOOKING FOR
SOME GREAT
SUMMER READING?

Check out our list of recommended books at nbss.edu/blog

The Cabinet & Furniture Making program has a library of over 300 books (many of them rare) available to students.



ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF CRAFT

Each year, NBSS celebrates the annual celebration of craft in the Greater Boston area. The event is a celebration of the craft industry and the people who create it. It is a chance for us to come together and share our passion for craft. The event is held at the American Trade School in Boston. For more information, visit facebook.com/NBSSboston.



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A NEW GENERATION OF CRAFTSPEOPLE

Why Skilled Trades are on the Rise

BY JESSICA JOHNSON

In a world of digital technology and prefabricated objects, traditional trades are often overlooked. Unfortunately, much of the modern world has forgotten how much detailed work and raw talent it takes to create even the most basic of handcrafted items. But there's a resurgence on the horizon. Perhaps due to a need for stability in an ever-changing economic and social climate, or perhaps due to a widespread nostalgia for a simpler way of life—interest in traditional craftsmanship and vocational trades is growing.

WHAT ARE SKILLED TRADES?

Occupational categories that require specialized training and education, often through an apprenticeship or vocational program. Skilled trades are found in a wide range of industries, including construction, manufacturing, and transportation. Some of the most common skilled trades include electricians, plumbers, welders, and machinists. These professions are essential to the functioning of modern society and are often overlooked in favor of more traditional academic paths.

As the economy evolves, the demand for skilled trades is increasing. Many of these jobs are well-paying and offer a clear path to career advancement. For those who enjoy hands-on work and learning through experience, skilled trades can be a rewarding and profitable choice.

CRAFTSMANSHIP IN MODERN SOCIETY



2017 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

ERIC SCHANDALL PT '67 married 50 years and a graduate of the Pennsylvania State University. He received the 2017 Graduate Award from the Pennsylvania State University.

Eric Schandall is a graduate of the Pennsylvania State University. He received the 2017 Graduate Award from the Pennsylvania State University.

The Distinguished Alumni Award is presented to graduates of the Pennsylvania State University who have achieved outstanding success in their careers and have made significant contributions to their communities. Eric Schandall is a graduate of the Pennsylvania State University and received the 2017 Graduate Award from the Pennsylvania State University.

AFTER 32 PRODUCTIVE YEARS, Cabinet & Furniture Making Instructor Alex Krutsky will be retiring from NBSS. Matt Wajda will be joining the Cabinet & Furniture Making program faculty this September. He will be on site three days a week and takes over the role from Alex Krutsky CF '81, who recently retired.

We are proud to announce that long-time NBSS Continuing Education Instructor Matt Wajda will join the Cabinet & Furniture Making program faculty this September. He will be on site three days a week and takes over the role from Alex Krutsky CF '81, who recently retired.

Matt began teaching others while still a student, working as an Assistant in the School's Continuing Education Department. He soon moved onto teaching short term woodworking courses at NBSS, and for the last few years has been among the pool of regular guest lecturers in the Cabinet & Furniture Making program.

In addition, Matt taught machine

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150 NORTH STREET
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02109

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NBSS.EDU

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