

Career Day Presentation

Rebeca Portuondo: Owner and Lead Designer for Port Homes.co



- My job is to advise and ensure that renovation needs on the project are being met and that the project is completed in a timely manner and on budget. I oversee installation of materials and work as a liaison between the contractor and owner. I design and ensure quality control over all hard finishes and furnishings ordered. Additionally, I order all materials and oversee delivery of such materials to ensure a timely and efficient completion of project.

- I began my business two years ago after many years of overseeing my own home renovations. Growing your business is about a lot of hard work but also where opportunity meets a bit of luck. You just have to be ready to take the opportunity when it presents itself.

- Social Media is crucial to running a business. It is free marketing! My media is www.porthomes.co and my IG is Porthomes.co

-I have no degree in the design field except experience, Youtube and research. I have a college education and have had many different jobs over the past 20 years that I feel prepared me to run my own business. But if I were to study this at school now learning CAD and other digital programs for design would give me a leg up and save my business money because I wouldn't outsource the work to someone else.

-When it comes to salary it depends. If you have a degree in design it could be anywhere from \$30,000-\$75,000 working for a design firm depending on experience. If you do it on your own the sky is the limit as the business grows. Example: My first year I made \$40,000 and my second I doubled it.

- If you want to start in this field and have no experience, school is an important tool to start. It's a good place to make contacts, foster relationships and find a job after graduation. The only way to have your own business in this field is to work for at least 7-10 years under people gaining knowledge and experience. If in the future you want to try your hand at this, like I did, you better practice on your home many times over so that you gain knowledge and experience there. Everything else I still You tube and research. We have all the information at our fingertips!