

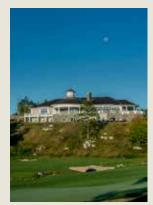
DESIGN WIRE

BY EMMA SIMARD



Brighton, U.K.-based design studio **GOMI** has found a use for discarded single-use plastics. Plastic waste is an ever-growing issue, and Gomi was seeking a solution; they have been able to transform nonrecyclable, flexible plastic waste into an easily workable material, and with it the design studio has created Bluetooth speakers. "With our Bluetooth speakers, we want to intercept a waste stream that would otherwise be landfilled or incinerated," says Gomi's cofounder Tom Meades in an interview with *Design Milk*. Every speaker takes about 100 plastic bags to make, and each one is hand-marbled so no two are alike. The project is currently being crowdfunded on Kickstarter.

Bar Harbor's iconic **CRITERION THEATRE** has received funding to replace its dated sound system. In addition to the sound system, the theater will also receive updates to its lighting and HVAC systems. Mark Tipton, Criterion's development director, says in a news release, "We wish to improve the efficiency of our productions and the overall quality of our live performances and film screenings for the benefit of all of our patrons." Currently, the theater must rent sound and light systems for their large-scale productions, which costs \$40,000 a year. Criterion is one of two Art Deco theaters in Maine and the only one with its original auditorium still intact. Seattle-based **TEW FOUNDATION** and **JUNIPER FOUNDATION** are supporting the renovation.



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KNICKERBOCKER GROUP'S
project, the BOOTHBAY HARBOR
COUNTRY CLUB, received one

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and energy-efficient, as well as for its social and economic impact, level of difficulty in development, and job creation. MEREDA is Maine's leading organization of commercial real estate owners, developers, and related service providers.



For those who don't enjoy traditional camping, the MAINE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION, AND FORESTRY and TENTRR, an outdoors start-up, have partnered to bring "glamping" to Maine. The idea behind glamping is to get hotel-happy people out in the woods to experience elevated camping in one of Maine's many state parks. Ten fully equipped campsites will be installed in seven to ten state parks, each secluded and surrounded by the best of Maine's beauty. Tentrr's sites are stocked with a canvas tent on a raised platform, a bed or cot, a woodstove, fire pit, grill, picnic table, and benches, and a sun shower and camping toilet.

The Portland planning board has approved a new complex for artists and craftspeople on the western waterfront. Developer **CYRUS HAGGE** is working with architect **TRACIE REED** to create a four-story center for artists and craftspeople who are being displaced by Portland's rising prices and gentrification. "What is happening right now is people are being pushed out of their arts studios and their manufacturing places. We want a space for people to work," Hagge told the *Press Herald*. Individual rooms will range from small studios to 4,000-square-foot manufacturing floors. The new 17,500-square-foot space will be energy-efficient and located near the Veterans Memorial Bridge on Cassidy Point Drive.



Japanese designer **TOKUJIN** YOSHIOKA has redesigned the 2020 OLYMPIC TORCH. Yoshioka used aluminum waste from temporary housing that was created after Japan's devastating 2011 earthquake and tsunami as a way of "transforming materials that witnessed the rebuilding of shattered lives into a symbol of peace," he says in an interview with Design Milk. The design of the rosegold torch was considered from every angle—it is easy to grip, and the front of it is clearly indicated for the visually impaired. The handle of the torch splits into five sections to mimic a cherry blossom, which is Japan's flower. Each individual

section, representative of a single flower petal, releases its own flame to join as a larger flame, another symbol of peace and unity embedded in the design.

vintage | contemporary | oriental





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