

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Time Dwindles for High School Seniors
Seeking Fashion School Awards Scholarships
*March 25 Deadline Set for Entries in Aspiring Designer Competition***

CHICAGO, IL, March 10, 2009 – High school seniors with an eye for fashion have only until March 25 to submit entries to the “Fashion Forward 2009” design competition and earn the chance of winning a full scholarship to any one of the ten campuses of the International Academy of Design & Technology (the Academy). This contest is in association with *Teen Vogue Magazine*.

Tom McNamara, senior vice president, Art & Design, said a local winner will be selected from each campus and all will receive a three-day, two-night expense-paid trip to the 2009 IMAGINE Fashion Show in Chicago where the national winner will be named.

“Local winners will receive a \$5,000 scholarship to the Academy campus of their choice, but the national winner will win a full scholarship to the Academy campus of his or her choice, valued at more than \$50,000. In addition, the national winner will have the added excitement of winning a trip to New York to attend Teen Vogue’s Fashion University and of seeing his or her design featured in an advertisement in *Teen Vogue Magazine*,” he said.

The contest is open to all legal residents of the United States who are high school seniors with an expected graduation date prior to December 31, 2009. The contest application, along with detailed instructions is available here: http://www.fashiondiner.com/contest/ff_application.pdf

Participants must sketch their garments, select fabrics and submit their designs. Once local winners have been selected, in addition to submitting a finished, originally designed garment based on the Academy’s specifications, hopefuls are required to submit an 8 1/2” by 11” binder that summarizes their individual design ideas. This “Process Book” must include a written summary of the overall concept; a listing of the professional designers and other factors that influenced the design; sketches, illustrations, photographs or digital images of the project as it evolved; and a list of people the entrant contacted, along with the advice they provided.

“The competition is intended for young women and men who are serious in their quest for a career in fashion design,” McNamara said. “The submission requirements are challenging, but no more so than the challenges they will face in the demanding, but wonderfully rewarding industry they are seeking to enter.”

Hopefuls should submit entries to one and only one of the Academy’s ten campuses, which are located in Chicago, Detroit, Las Vegas, Orlando, Sacramento, San Antonio, Schaumburg, IL, Seattle, Nashville, and Tampa. The first round of judging will be conducted by a panel of Academy faculty and employees at each local campus. The final round will be conducted by a national panel of Academy faculty and employees, along with a special guest judge from *Teen Vogue Magazine*.

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About the Academy

The International Academy of Design & Technology provides educational programs that are designed to prepare students for professional opportunities and career success in select design and technology fields. The Academy has been an established institution for more than 25 years and has 10 campuses across the US. At the Academy, students are part of an energetic community that shares ideas, solves problems, and finds new ways to approach work today and in the future. While enrolled at the Academy, each student is given an opportunity to grow vocationally, intellectually and professionally.

The Academy offers a variety of programs in the fields such as Fashion Design, Interior Design, Visual Communications, Graphic Design, Digital Media Production, Fashion Merchandising and Game Design & Development. Programs vary by location. The Academy also offers fully-online degrees in certain programs. The International Academy of Design & Technology is accredited by the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools. The Academy is a member of the Career Education Corporation (NASDAQ:CECO) network of universities, colleges and schools.

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