High School Students to Attend 77th Annual SAIC Fashion Show in Millennium Park with Support from Chicago Bull Kyle Korver’s Seer Outfitters

SAIC to Stage Four Shows on May 5, 2011

CHICAGO—The School of the Art Institute of Chicago presents its 77th annual fashion show, Fashion 2011, on Thursday, May 5, 2011. For the first time, more than 35 Chicago-area high school students will be in attendance thanks to support from Chicago Bulls player Kyle Korver and his company, Seer Outfitters.

Students from Chicago’s Young Women’s Leadership Charter School and Marwen, a not-for-profit arts-based community organization, will have the opportunity to attend one of the afternoon shows, experiencing all the excitement of a professional fashion show—stunning design, tight choreography, exquisite garments, and cutting-edge looks—by SAIC students who incorporate and combine techniques from the fields of sculpture, performance, art, design, technology, architecture, and installation.

Seer Outfitters is a clothing company established by Kyle Korver and his brother Klayton. It is associated with the Kyle Korver Foundation, which supports programs to serve those in need in Chicago and several other cities.

The Korver brothers say, “Sometimes, all a child needs is the opportunity to believe in themselves. We are excited to help students experience art by means of a professionally staged fashion show. The chance to see amazing work, created by SAIC students only a few years older than themselves, will surely impact and inspire their own creativity, perhaps igniting their dreams into possibilities.”

The high school students will have the opportunity to find inspiration in a spectacular runway show featuring more than 250 original garments created by undergraduate students in SAIC’s internationally renowned Fashion Design program, led by Department Chair Nick Cave. Seniors will create complete collections of five garments; Juniors will show three prime examples of their designs; and each Sophomore will present one avant-garde look in muslin.

EVENT DETAILS

Fashion 2011 will be presented three times on Thursday, May 5: 9:00 a.m. is a general admission dress rehearsal. Tickets are $40. 12:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. shows are general admission seating. Tickets are $75. Tickets to the 9:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m., and 3:00 p.m. shows are on sale now. Tickets are available online only at www.saic.edu/fashionshow.
THE WALK 2011 Presented by Swarovski begins with a cocktail reception at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 5, followed by a runway show honoring Ikram Goldman and Student Award announcements at 7:00 p.m., and concludes with an elegant post-show dinner at 8:00 p.m. Tickets are $500 to $1,000, and tables are $5,000 to $25,000. Proceeds benefit SAIC scholarships. Call 312.899.1439 for tickets, tables, sponsorships, and more information.

THE WALK 2011 Presented by Swarovski, with additional presenting sponsorship from the MacLean Family, is also supported by Exelon, Macy’s, Mesirov Financial, Ariel Investments, Grey Goose, Blue Plate, Aveda Institute, Frost, Factor Runway, and Artists by Timothy Priano. Chicago magazine is the exclusive print media sponsor.

ABOUT THE SAIC FASHION DESIGN DEPARTMENT
The School of the Art Institute of Chicago’s Fashion program provides a creative and intellectual context in which the nature and potential of fashion is closely examined and reimagined. Uniquely situated within a vibrant contemporary school of art and design, SAIC offers undergraduate, graduate, and post-baccalaureate Fashion programs that build on the connections and relationships between art and fashion that have been evolving in the past century, and that reach an unprecedented level in contemporary practices today.

SAIC’s Fashion program is housed within the Sage Studios for Fashion Design located in the historic Carson Pirie Scott building. The 25,000-square-foot studio space includes the Fashion Resource Center, a hands-on collection of late-20th- and 21st-century designer garments and accessories representing extreme innovation, which allows SAIC students the opportunity to explore the most progressive achievements in the world of dress and fashion.

The success of SAIC’s Fashion Design program and SAIC’s interdisciplinary approach to education is reflected in a list of alumni that includes such notable designers as Halston, Cynthia Rowley, Lawrence Steele, J. Morgan Puett, Eunwha Kim, Maria Pinto, Gary Graham, and Matthew Ames. SAIC graduates hold senior design positions in firms as varied as Yeohlee, Jones New York, Levis, Nike, Charles Chang Lima, and Tommy Hilfiger, and design for Anna Sui, Calvin Klein, Tiffani Kim, Betsey Johnson, Triple5Soul, and Moschino. Upon graduating, many have chosen to intern for international houses such as Viktor & Rolf, Alexander McQueen, Wendy & Jim, Casteibajac, Zac Posen, Threeasfour and William Ivey Long, or to launch their own fashion lines. The current chair of SAIC’s Fashion Design Department is critically acclaimed designer Nick Cave. For more information, please visit www.saic.edu/fashion.

ABOUT THE SCHOOL OF THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO
A leader in educating artists, designers, and scholars since 1866, the School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC) offers nationally accredited undergraduate, graduate, and post-baccalaureate programs to nearly 3,200 students from around the globe. Located in the heart of Chicago, SAIC has an educational philosophy built upon an interdisciplinary approach to art and design, giving students unparalleled opportunities to develop their creative and critical abilities, while working with renowned faculty who include many of the leading practitioners in their fields. SAIC’s resources include the Art Institute of Chicago and its new Modern Wing; numerous special collections and programming venues provide students with exceptional exhibitions, screenings, lectures and performances. For more information, please visit www.saic.edu.