

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 26, 2011

Press Contacts:

Ann Wiens / 312.560.9780

awiens@saic.edu

John Eding / 312.499.4211

jeding@saic.edu

SCHOOL OF THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO (SAIC) IS TOP PRODUCER OF FULBRIGHT RECIPIENTS AMONG U.S. COLLEGES OF ART & DESIGN

Chicago, IL — Four recent alumni from the **School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC)** won Fulbright awards for 2011–12, the largest number of Fulbright recipients hailing from a single U.S. college of art and design this year.¹ **Alexandra Dietz** (BFA 2010) is working on a photography project in India; **Liliya Lifanova** (MFA 2010) is working on a performance piece in Russia; **Ania Sremski** (MA 2011) is pursuing art historical research in Egypt; and **Stephanie J. Victa** (MFA 2010) is building sculptural work in the Philippines. From fall 2000 to fall 2010, SAIC helped send 27 students abroad on Fulbright awards, more than any other college of art and design in the nation.

“Our students and alumni are examining the role of the artist in the larger global context, exploring ways that artists and arts scholars can contribute to the dialogue around national and international issues. What better way to study this than by practicing their disciplines around the world?” said **Elissa Tenny**, SAIC Provost.

“The Fulbright awards are a wonderful acknowledgement of the value of art and design in our global community. I am especially proud of our students who will participate this year and am confident they will make important contributions on this international stage,” said **Lisa Wainwright**, SAIC Dean of Faculty.

¹ “Top Producers of U.S. Fulbright Students by Type of Institution, 2011-12.” *Chronicle of Higher Education*, October 23, 2011, <http://chronicle.com/article/Top-Producers-of-US/129452/> (accessed October 24, 2011).

The Fulbright competition is administered at SAIC by the Fulbright Program Advisor in the **Office of Career Services.**

This year, under the Fulbright program, almost 1,700 American students, artists, and young professionals in more than 100 different fields of study have been offered grants to study, teach English, and conduct research in more than 130 countries throughout the world beginning this fall. Of the 1,700 Fulbright Scholars, 19% are at the doctorate degree level, 17% are at the master's level, and 65% are at the bachelor's degree level. Students receiving awards for this academic year applied through 600 colleges or universities. Lists of Fulbright recipients are available at fulbrightonline.org/us.

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 that is 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 saic.edu.

About the Fulbright Program

Since its inception in 1946, the Fulbright Program has provided more than 300,000 participants—chosen for their academic merit and leadership potential—with the opportunity to study, teach and conduct research, exchange ideas, and contribute to finding solutions to shared international concerns. In the past 64 years, more than 44,000 students from the United States have benefited from the Fulbright experience. The Fulbright Program is sponsored by the United States Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

The Fulbright Program also awards grants to American teachers and faculty to conduct research and teach overseas. In addition, some 3,850 new foreign Fulbright students and scholars come to the United States annually to study for graduate degrees, conduct research and teach at U.S. universities, colleges, and secondary schools.

###