

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **JESSICA BARDSLEY WINS PRINCESS GRACE AWARD**

Chicago, IL—The School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC) is pleased to congratulate Jessica Bardsley (MFA 2011) on winning a Princess Grace Award. This year's award winners represent 18 states around the country and 11 organizations that are new to partnering with the Princess Grace Foundation—USA. They will travel to New York City as guests of the Foundation, where they will receive their awards at the annual black-tie Princess Grace Awards Gala, held in the presence of HRH The Princess of Hanover, on November 10, 2010 at Cipriani 42nd Street.

Bardsley's award-winning project, *THE ART OF CATCHING*, blends the historical, the mythical, and the personal in one eye-opening journey through the abandoned structures and lonely landscapes of the Florida Everglades. The essay film explores local and family history, tips for catching a skunkape, the travelogue of an imagined ornithologist, as well as contemporary stories of people lost in the swamp.

Bardsley is an experimental video and filmmaker whose works blend documentary and diaristic forms, with a particular interest in landscapes and travelogues. Her works have screened at venues like Antimatter Film Festival, video\_dumbo, Big Sky Documentary Film Festival, Experiments in Cinema, Anthology Film Archives, and more. Jessica received her BA in Cultural Studies from the New College of Florida and is presently an MFA candidate at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

The Princess Grace Foundation-USA, a public charity, was formed after the death of Princess Grace in 1982. The Foundation awards scholarships, apprenticeships, and fellowships to assist artists at the start of their careers. Since the Foundation's inception, more than 650 Awards, totaling more than \$7 million, have been given to recipients.

Some notable Princess Grace Awards recipients in Theater include: 2008 Tony® Award winner for Best Direction of a Play, Anna D. Shapiro; Pulitzer and Tony® Award-winning playwright Tony Kushner; and Academy Award® winner Eric

Simonson. Film recipients include: Stephen Hillenburg, creator of *SpongeBob SquarePants*; Greg Mottola, director of *Adventureland* and *Superbad*; and Cary Joji Fukunaga, writer and director of *Sin Nombre*.

For more information, please visit [www.pgfusa.org](http://www.pgfusa.org).

#### **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 across 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 [www.saic.edu](http://www.saic.edu).

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