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Interviews Available

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**SCHOOL OF THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO'S  
THE WALK 2010 FASHION SHOW GALA BENEFIT,  
HELD FRIDAY MAY 7 AT THE MODERN WING,  
RAISES \$310,000 FOR STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP FUNDING**

Johnson Publishing Company Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Linda Johnson Rice presents \$25,000 Eunice W. Johnson Fellowship to SAIC Fashion Design Department Senior Luis A. Rodriguez

Alumnus Gary Graham receives SAIC Legend of Fashion Award

CHICAGO — More than 400 fashion and art lovers converged on **Griffin Court** of the **Art Institute of Chicago's Modern Wing** (159 East Monroe Avenue) Friday, May 7 for the **School of the Art Institute of Chicago's (SAIC) THE WALK 2010**, SAIC's gala benefit held in conjunction with its 76th annual fashion show. This marked the return of SAIC's annual fashion show to the Art Institute of Chicago for the first time in 15 years. More than \$310,000 was raised.

This year's WALK chairs were **Marilyn Fields** (Chicago) and **Greg Cameron** (Chicago). The WALK co-chairs were **Stephanie Sick** (Winnetka), **Donna LaPietra** (Chicago and Mettawa), and **Bisi Williams Mau** (Winnetka).

"The talents of SAIC fashion design students are tremendous, and I was so proud to help raise funds for THE WALK 2010 by sharing this wonderful event with leaders and lovers of fashion throughout Chicago," said Greg Cameron. "SAIC Fashion Design Department faculty members truly lead the way in guiding the next generation of cutting edge designers, and it was so exciting to see the culmination of students' work at THE WALK this year," added Marilyn Fields.

THE WALK 2010 began with a pre-show cocktail and hors d'oeuvres reception at 6 p.m. in Griffin Court. At 7 p.m., special guest emcees **Christian Farr** (of NBC 5 Chicago) and **Karen Jordan** (of ABC 7 Chicago) kicked off the evening and introduced special guests **William Ivey Long** and SAIC alumnus **Gary Graham** (BFA 1992).

Long presented Graham with the 2010 SAIC Legend of Fashion Award, and then Graham announced 3 SAIC seniors who won Gary Graham Scholarships: Adrienne Guariglia of Chicago (\$2,000); Grace Lee of Fairfax, VA (\$1,000) and Katie King of Battle Creek, MI (\$500).

Next, Johnson Publishing Company Chairman and Chief Executive Officer **Linda Johnson Rice** introduced a video tribute to her mother Eunice W. Johnson, followed by a brief runway show featuring designs from the Ebony Fashion Fair collection. Linda Johnson Rice then announced **Luis A. Rodriguez** as the \$25,000 Eunice W. Johnson Fellowship winner.

"The Eunice W. Johnson fellowship is a tremendous tribute to my mother's lifelong passion for the arts, fashion and philanthropy. She was a woman ahead of her time and worked extremely hard to showcase the very best on the runways since 1958," said Rice. "Through Ebony Fashion Fair, up-and-coming designers and models gained exposure and furthered their fashion careers. This award represents my family's long-standing relationship with the Art Institute of Chicago and the importance of introducing new and innovative ideas to the world. It is an honor to provide this unique opportunity to one of SAIC's talented students."

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SAIC Fashion Design Department Chair **Nick Cave** thanked everyone for coming and then the FASHION 2010 runway show began, featuring more than 200 innovative student-designed garments worn by 60 professional models from Factor Model Management.. The evening concluded with an elegant post-show dinner in Terzo Piano at 8 p.m.

"The School of the Art Institute of Chicago's Tribute to Eunice W. Johnson connects the pioneering fashion legacy of Ebony and Jet magazines, Fashion Fair Cosmetics and the Ebony Fashion Fair to the next generation of fashion designers and patrons who were in attendance at THE WALK 2010 and SAIC FASHION 2010 events," said Nick Cave. "SAIC is humbled, grateful and inspired by the support that the Johnson family has provided to our students throughout the years. The new Eunice W. Johnson Fellowship is just one of many examples of their enormous level of generosity."

A highlight of THE WALK 2010 was the presentation of the SAIC Legend of Fashion Award to SAIC alumnus and New York-based designer Gary Graham (BFA 1992). In 2009, Vogue Editor in Chief Anna Wintour announced Graham as a finalist of the prestigious Council of Fashion Designers of America/Vogue Fashion Fund. Graham launched his line in the fall of 1999, and his background in costume and textile design is apparent, season after season, in his collections imbued with a casual luxury and a sense of history. He is attracted to contrasts (light and dark, fitted and flowing) and cause and effect, discovering the particular beauty in each. This approach is reflected in his trademark fitted jackets, fluid dresses, blouses, and slouchy knits—all rendered in a rich and varied palette, with texture achieved by meticulous washing and dyeing processes that are a Gary Graham trademark. His incorporation of quilting, embroidery, patchwork, and washed leathers create a highly individualized look with impeccable finish. Gary Graham collections are available in specialty boutiques and department stores worldwide, including Chicago-based boutique Robin Richman (2108 N. Damen Avenue).

#### **ADDITIONAL SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS**

SAIC also recently announced seniors who won the following fashion scholarships:

\$10,000 Cornelia Steckl Fashion Fellowship – Grace Lee (of Fairfax, VA)

\$5,000 Senior Book Award – Gina Fama Rockenwagner (of Venice, CA)

\$5,000 Senior Book Award – Rachel Goldberg (of Glendale, CA)

\$1,500 Menswear Award -- Adrienne Guariglia (of Chicago, IL)

\$500 Senior Book Award - William Alexander Simon IV (of New York, NY)

#### **SPONSORS**

THE WALK 2010 was generously supported by Sage Foundation (Brighton, Michigan), The MacLean Family, Cary D. McMillan, Linda Johnson Rice, Exelon, Marilyn and Larry Fields, Jack Shainman Gallery, Turner Construction, Mr. and Mrs. Todd E. Warnock, Marilyn Alsdorf, Bluhm Family Foundation, Greg Cameron and Greg Thompson, Chicago Sun-Times, Karen and Jim Frank, Harris Bank, Dania and Patrick Leemputte, Macy's, Patty and Mark McGrath, The Neisser Family Fund, Richard and Ellen Sandor Family Foundation, Bill and Stephanie Sick, and Yves Saint Laurent.

Support for NightWalk 2010 is generously provided by Time Out Chicago (media sponsor), Art + Culture (partner), and Akira Chicago.

Model hair and makeup is generously provided by Aveda Institute Chicago.

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### **ABOUT GRIFFIN COURT**

The two pavilions of the Art Institute of Chicago's Modern Wing are connected by the Kenneth and Anne Griffin Court. Visitors enter Griffin Court from the Millennium Park entrance at Monroe Street. Griffin Court is a light-filled double-height circulation space that offers views of Pritzker Pavilion to the north and access to the Thomas and Margot Pritzker Garden and to the galleries devoted to photography, new media, and special exhibitions.

The Art Institute of Chicago is a museum in Chicago's Grant Park, located across from Millennium Park. For more information, please visit [www.artinstituteofchicago.org](http://www.artinstituteofchicago.org) or follow the Art Institute of Chicago on Twitter @artinstitutechi.

### **ABOUT THE SCHOOL OF THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO FASHION DESIGN DEPARTMENT**

The success of the School of the Art Institute of Chicago'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, Castelbajac, Zac Posen, Threearfour 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 [saic.edu/fashion](http://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 across the globe. Located in the heart of Chicago, SAIC's educational philosophy 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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