

**Media alert**

**High schoolers design toys, 'build characters'  
during MIAD Pre-College 2006 Summer Program**

**Event:** MIAD Pre-College Explore Design Exhibition  
**Date:** Saturday, July 1, 2006  
**Time:** 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.  
**Place:** MIAD, 273 E. Erie St., Main Floor and East Gallery

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Eleven Wisconsin students are among those who will exhibit the toy and story characters they designed in MIAD's Pre-College "Product Design: Toy and Character Creation" class in a two- and three-dimensional exhibition on Saturday, July 1, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. The class is part of MIAD's two-week Pre-College Explore Design summer program, and the exhibition also includes works in architecture and interior design.

Drawings tell stories of political commentary, action figures, super heroes and toys – imagine a bunny that is both angelic and devilish – all of which visitors can see in intricate three-dimensional models. Also exhibited are models of small-scale architectural projects by high schoolers in the Pre-College Architecture/Interior Design course, and works of students in the Fine Arts Pre-College courses, which include graphic design, painting, drawing and photography.

Three of the Milwaukee students participated in the class with the help of scholarships from the State of Wisconsin's Department of Public Instruction to free- or reduced-lunch students. Shiela Wiest is the course instructor; Jill Kunsmann is director of Pre-College and Continuing Education.

MIAD's Pre-College High School Program, which also includes a two-week CORE program and a three-Week MAJORS program for advanced students, draws close to 200 high-school students from around the country for intensive summer art and design training. MIAD college students serve as teaching assistants under the direction of MIAD faculty in a program that is among the best in the nation (a 2005 MAJORS student from Houston has work being shown this month in Washington, D.C.'s Corcoran Gallery of Art.) Approximately 30% of Pre-College students matriculate as MIAD college students on completing high school.

MIAD is Wisconsin's only college devoted exclusively to the education of artists and designers. Founded in 1974, it enrolls 650 talented students from across the country who are taught by artists and designers recognized regionally and nationally for their professional and educational accomplishments. With 80 percent of MIAD's 1,800 BFA graduates living and working in Wisconsin, the college contributes a vital "brain gain" to the state that shapes its creative and economic future.