MIAD promotes Vang to Director of Development; welcomes two new advancement team members

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MILWAUKEE… Jonathan Winkle, Vice President of Institutional Advancement at the Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design, has announced the promotion of La Vang to Director of Development. He also announced the hire of Brenda Hughes as Grant Development Manager and Carol Davis as Donor and Alumni Relations Coordinator. MIAD is Wisconsin’s only independent, four-year college of art and design.

Vang, who was promoted to Director of Development from her previous yearlong position as MIAD’s Manager of Annual Giving, has nearly 10 years’ experience in development, donor relations and corporate sponsorship. At MIAD, the Shorewood resident was instrumental in securing significant major gifts for the 2005/06 fiscal year. Her previous positions include Resource Development Manager at Neighborhood Housing Services of Milwaukee and Director of Development at the Benedict Center.

Hughes (of West Allis), MIAD’s new Grant Development Manager, has 18 years’ experience in non-profit fundraising, most recently at Skylight Opera Theatre and the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra. At the MSO, she led a grant team that generated a 100% increase in sponsor and grant income over two years, and she secured an inaugural Joyce Foundation award for diversity in the arts that was one of only three awarded to Midwest arts organizations.

Davis (of Shorewood) comes to her role as Donor and Alumni Relations Coordinator from the United Performing Arts Fund, where she worked for six years, most recently as Associate Campaign Director. In addition to her years of donor support experience, she is a visual artist by training and the parent of a recent MIAD alumnus.

“MIAD’s advancement team is now positioned for the fundraising and alumni relations success the college so richly deserves,” said Winkle. “The breadth of skills and experience in the department, which includes Communications Director Vivian M. Rothschild, will help us to support the college’s curricular mission to its 650 students, and its community outreach and gallery programs, which serve thousands of area youth and adults each year. With 80 percent of our alumni working in Wisconsin, we are privileged to be a part of the college’s commitment to a unique brain gain that shapes our region’s economic and creative future.”

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. Its unique academic approach blends curricular and extracurricular experiences, a community service course requirement, and liberal studies in 11 majors toward the bachelor of fine arts degree. With 80% of its 2,000 graduates living and working in Wisconsin, the college contributes a vital “brain gain” to the state that shapes its creative and economic future.