MIAD hosts national FATE (Foundations in Art: Theory & Education) Conference March 28-31

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MIWAKKIE… Art and design college educators from around the country will gather in Milwaukee March 28-31 for the 11th Biennial FATE (Foundations in Art: Theory & Education) Conference hosted by the Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design, Wisconsin’s only independent four-year college of art and design.

The theme “Shift • Connect • Evolve” reflects the conference’s focus on preparing foundations-level (first-year) educators for the shifts accompanying the millennial generation of college students, increased use of technology and blurring boundaries among all disciplines of art and design. Some 250 attendees are registered from across the country, and more than 135 educators from the U.S. and overseas will make presentations.

The conference begins Wednesday, March 28, and continues through Saturday, March 31, with panel sessions, presentations and workshops at the Hyatt Regency. Carol Becker, Dean of Faculty and Senior Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs at The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, will present the keynote address on Thursday evening, March 29, at the Milwaukee Art Museum. Becker is the author of numerous articles and several books, most recently, “Surpassing the Spectacle: Global Transformations and the Changing Politics of Art.”

MIAD will host a special 30th anniversary celebration at its campus on Friday evening, March 30, where the inaugural FATE Master Educator Award and FATE Emerging Educator Award will be presented.

“MIAD is honored to join previous esteemed art and design colleges in hosting the FATE conference,” said Conference Director and MIAD Dean of Foundations Jan Feldhausen. “The varied and innovative sessions reflect the commitment of art and design educators to remaining relevant for the new generation of art and design students.

“MIAD Foundations faculty Steve Horvath and Jason Yi, and staff Josie Osborne and Andrea Bostwick, were instrumental members of the conference Program Committee, and MIAD Faculty are participating in such sessions as ‘Regenerative Teaching;’ ‘Technology, Inquiry, and Anything Goes! New Approaches to Teaching Foundations Art History;’ and ‘Writing Across the Curriculum: Critical Thinking From the Start.’”

In conjunction with the conference, MIAD Foundations students are participating in the inaugural Juried Foundations Exhibition through April 1 in the college’s East Gallery. Alec Regan received the first-place cash award, the Ellen Vincent Award for Excellence, established in memory of former MIAD Foundations Professor Ellen Vincent. Jessica Nieczyperowicz received the second-place award funded by Utrecht, and Ryan Cain received the third-place award funded by Sax/MIAD Art Store. University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Foundations Director Lee Ann Garrison served as juror.

For a complete listing of conference information visit miad.edu.

MIAD is Wisconsin’s only college devoted exclusively to the education of professional artists and designers. Founded in 1974, it is accredited to award the bachelor of fine arts degree in 11 majors. With 80 percent 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.