Think aspiring inventors of cars and consumer products; designers of eco-friendly interior and architectural environments; communicators of interactive and social marketing messages; animators and videographers; and talented artists of all media and disciplines, from painting to sculpture, drawing to illustration, photography to printmaking, comics to fashion design.

At exactly noon on Saturday, more than 500 talented art and design high-school students will literally hit the ground running to show their portfolios to 40 college representatives from across the country during National Portfolio Day 2007. The event continues until 4 p.m. and is hosted by the Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design, Wisconsin’s only independent, four-year college of art and design.

With some 500 parents, art teachers and guidance counselors in tow, these high-school students will experience for the first time the sheer volume of so many talented people in one place. The art and design college hopefuls will share their dreams and receive feedback on their portfolios – all to further their artistic development and help them make decisions regarding their education and careers.

The 40 participating colleges are all accredited by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design and represent states from coast to coast, such as California, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Illinois, Maryland, New York, Colorado, Indiana and Ohio, and the District of Columbia.

More information is available at miad.edu.