MIAD Senior Exhibition celebrates state’s creative future in largest show of its kind; M&I Foundation sponsors

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For more info: Vivian M. Rothschild, Communications Director; 414.847.3239, cell 414.507.7364 vivianrothschild@miad.edu (IMAGES on ftp site)

Summary: MIAD 2011 Senior Exhibition, April 15 – May 14, 2011; Opening Reception, April 15, 5 – 9 p.m.; 273 E. Erie St.; Tues. – Sat. 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Free. 414.847.3200. miad.edu.

MILWAUKEE… As creativity and the entrepreneurial spirit drive the region’s growth, MIAD seniors will show their contributions to the future at the state’s largest annual show – the MIAD 2011 Senior Exhibition. The exhibition opens Gallery Night, Friday, April 15, 5 – 9 p.m., at the Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design, Wisconsin’s only independent, non-profit and dually accredited four-year college of art and design. It is generously sponsored by M&I Foundation.

The exhibition celebrates the innovative works of 135 artists and designers representing the college’s 11 Bachelor of Fine Arts majors and 15 minors. It continues through May 14 at MIAD’s Third Ward Campus, 273 E. Erie Street. Hours are from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tues. - Sat.


Among this year’s works (profiled in more depth on MIAD’s website, with a slideshow):

- Body Style, a line of women’s underwear that “approaches the female form with honesty,” finding design solutions for the four main female body types: apple, pear, hourglass and ruler by Industrial Design (ID) major Alexis Napier-Short; and ELEVATE, a mobile, height-adjustable workstation to help elementary teachers enhance their performance and integrate student/teacher interaction by ID major Eliseo Carmona, Jr.
- Unique², a customizable iPad application to help children with autism lead their daily lives and become more independent and successful as adults by Communication Design major Kate Bonar, who has volunteered for the “Special Olympics since the time I could walk.”
- “From THEM, by ME, to YOU,” a teaching book for young designers that relates life principles to the basic elements and principles of design by Communication Design major Paul Altott, who was offered a full-time job on graduation by Kohl’s Creative after completing his summer internship in 2010.
- “Monarch Mudras, Sunflower Sutras: An Exploration of East Meets Midwest” – six works by nationally recognized illustrator Lillian Duermeier that portray the aesthetics of Buddhist art with the artist’s observations of growing up as a Midwestern Buddhist.
- “Passage,” an exhibition of photographic prints by Georgia Lloyd, that explores the ideas of the beauty and pain inherent within the natural and “human” world; and a comprehensive website and soon to be publication – “We Were Here All at Once” – of Photography majors’ year-long body of work.
- “The Institute for Species Systemization,” a mixed-media installation/performance by Gallerie M curator Danielle Rosen that includes a psychological testing site to allow participants to engage in linguistic inquiry and social phenomena. Rosen is one of several Integrated Studio Arts majors, including Small Space Gallery co-curator Sara Caron, whose projects invite interaction and participation from viewers.

Many of the works at the MIAD 2011 Senior Exhibition are for sale, and the seniors are on hand to talk about their work on Gallery Night. Graduating seniors will receive their B.F.A. degrees at Commencement on May 14.


MIAD is Wisconsin’s only independent, non-profit college of art and design offering the Bachelor of Fine Arts degree - the most highly regarded undergraduate degree in the visual arts that is dually accredited at the national level. The college’s graduates are creative thinkers whose leadership skills make them uniquely suited to address our 21st century economic and societal challenges.