

# PORTFOLIO

**GALLERIES** A behind-the-scenes peek *page 03*

**COMMUNITY** Reaching beyond the classroom *page 04*

**TECHNOLOGY** Digital Media students create programs *page 09*



## CONTENTS

- 02 President's Column
- 05 Faculty Notes
- 06 Campus News
- 06 Student Notes
- 10 Alumni News
- 12 Gallery News

## SHOWCASE

- 02 RETIREMENT**  
After nearly two decades of service, Dr. Evans announces his retirement.
- 04 WE'RE BLOGGING**  
It's the newest way to keep up with Kendall.
- 06 REACCREDITATION**  
Dean Shangle shares the steps of this important process.



# PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Early in January, I announced that I will be retiring from the position of President/Vice Chancellor of Kendall College of Art and Design of Ferris State University, effective June 30, 2012. When I retire, I will have completed eighteen years at Kendall College of Art and Design, having been initially appointed Dean of the Faculty in June 1994 and Vice President for Academic Affairs shortly thereafter and then Interim President and President of Kendall. My hope in announcing at this time is to leave ample time to conduct a search for the next President of Kendall College of Art and Design of Ferris State University.

I started at Kendall in June 1994. During my first months at Kendall, I had the opportunity to work closely with the Executive Committee of Kendall's Board of Trustees as it weighed the issue of whether to continue Kendall as it was or to seek a relationship with Ferris State University. I felt Kendall was especially fortunate to have Tim Schad as the Chair of its Board of Trustees and Bruce Parsons as Chair of Ferris State University's Board of Trustees—both leaders of vision and courage and with a commitment to the possibilities inherent in a merger of Kendall with Ferris.

Following the decision to merge Kendall with Ferris, I was privileged to work with President William Sederburg to effect a merger that would realize the potential and the commitments both Boards made to sustaining Kendall's identity as a relatively autonomous Grand Rapids institution—an undertaking that involved many decisions, all of which were addressed through the Merger Task Force and the efforts of Rick Duffet, Sandra Davison-Wilson, and Scott Hill-Kennedy.

I feel especially fortunate to have been able to work with the faculty and staff at Kendall. Many were with the College at the time of the merger, while others joined the College as it grew from an enrollment of 520 to its Fall 2010 enrollment of more than 1,400 students and from six undergraduate programs to its 15 undergraduate and four graduate programs, as well as its certificate courses in the University's MBA program, and from a budget of \$5 million to its current budget of \$16 million.

My goal between now and June 2012 is very simple: to leave the College in as strong a position as possible.

But beyond that, I hope to have the opportunity to report on a fairly regular basis both what is happening at the College and what is happening through the College's activities and collaborations with its many external constituencies—and in particular, I hope to be able to communicate with and about our alumni. As is true of anyone who arrives at an institution, I knew almost no one in the first graduating class at my first commencement in 1995 and almost no one among the alumni. Over eighteen years, commencement has become a particular pleasure, since I personally know many of the graduates. Having the opportunity to know many alumni is a special privilege as well. Ranging from graduates of a year or two ago to graduates of longer ago, KCAD's alumni have graciously welcomed me when I have had the chance to visit them or they have visited with me when they are in Grand Rapids. I treasure all of those relationships and hope that during the next 18 months I will be able to share with a "larger" world some of what they are doing.

To that end, I am working with a number of people to develop a blog through which I can keep in touch with anyone who wishes to keep in touch with me. In fact, given the way digital communication works, by the time you read this column, the blog may be up and running. One way or another, I will let you know when the blogging has begun.

Oliver H. Evans, Ph.D., President/Vice Chancellor

## GALLERY TIMELINE

The first Kendall Gallery opened in November 1952 at Kendall School of Design at 145 Fountain Street NE, with an exhibition of watercolors by George Godden of Grand Rapids. The purpose of the gallery was twofold: to provide a place for local professional artists to show their work, and to give Kendall students an opportunity to view and study professional work. The Gallery, which was open Wednesday evenings, also gave the public more opportunities to visit the school.

The second Kendall Gallery was at the College Street campus and officially opened on Nov. 21, 1982, with David Greenwood as Gallery Director. The mission statement on its opening announcement read, "The Kendall Gallery of Art is a showplace for the highest quality creations in various fields of art and design. This facility will serve to enhance the curriculum of the school itself as well as provide the Grand Rapids community with a new forum for viewing and discussing visual works in both fine and applied arts. Exhibitions will rotate on a monthly basis." Greenwood, Marilyn Martin and Paul Wittenbraker served as part-time Gallery Directors during the '80s and '90s.

On Nov. 16, 1997, a ribbon-cutting ceremony reopened an expanded and renovated Gallery in its current location with an exhibition of Massari prints on loan to Kendall from Grand Rapids' sister city, Perugia, Italy. Chad Jay became the first full-time Gallery Director, and served until 2000. During the 2000/2001 academic year, Susan Bonner was acting Gallery Director.

During the 1997/1998 academic year, Gallery 104 (formerly Kendall Student Gallery) was founded and dedicated to undergraduate exhibitions, with occasional MFA thesis exhibitions. Students in the Gallery Internship program run it each semester, and a student exhibition committee selects shows through a jury process.

Sarah Joseph became Director of Exhibitions in August 2001. During her tenure, gallery space has grown to include more space for graduate thesis exhibitions and shows by outside artists.

In 2007, the Visiting Artists/Guest Lecturers Committee was formed to coordinate the schedule of guest speakers, facilitate events in conjunction with guest speakers and invite guests to Kendall. Since its inception, the committee has hosted numerous events and brought an impressive slate of speakers to Kendall to enhance the College's commitment to art education.

In 2009, Gallery 114 was founded as the primary space for MFA thesis exhibitions, with some exhibitions by visiting artists and faculty.

Kendall graduate Michele Bosak was hired as Assistant Director of Exhibitions, shortly after the inaugural ArtPrize. During the event, Kendall served as a venue for exhibitions and hosted the ArtPrize Speaker Series, which features lectures from a variety of artists and designers.

**Left :**  
Drawing and Printmaking students attend a Career Day lecture by visiting artist Justin Quinn, who gave a gallery talk about his "Recent Work."

**Right:**  
Framed work hangs in Gallery 114, which is dedicated to MFA thesis exhibitions.



## KENDALL GALLERIES: BRINGING ART TO THE PUBLIC

It is a cold December afternoon, and Sarah Joseph, Director of Exhibitions, anxiously waits for a phone call to reassure her that several 200-lb. crates filled with pieces for an upcoming exhibition in the Kendall Gallery are safely on their way from the Ferris State University gallery director. The scent of fresh paint fills the air as students prepare Gallery 114's walls for the Annual Scholastic Art Award Competition. Her door is in constant motion as students run in to ask questions, seek advice or simply find a pair of scissors to trim down exhibition tags. Assistant Director of Exhibitions Michele Bosak lends her personal scissors, with a reminder to return them. It's just another day overseeing the various exhibition spaces that make up Kendall's galleries.

Kendall's galleries provide various high-quality exhibitions and programming that include gallery talks, panel discussions, lectures, symposia and educational printed materials that contribute to the university's educational goals, enrich the surrounding communities and develop a greater understanding of art.

Kendall has also established a Visiting Artists Committee that hosts nationally and internationally recognized artists, designers and art professionals, and facilitates their involvement within the university and throughout the community. As a part of its community participation, the Kendall Gallery is a member of the Grand Rapids Gallery Association, and the college is a sponsor of the city's annual Gallery Guide.

According to Joseph, a variety of factors come into play when planning exhibitions for the galleries. "Many times, our galleries are the public's first exposure to, and impression of, Kendall. Therefore, we consider the diversity of both the campus and community audiences, and we select shows that focus on exploring and representing work that has multidisciplinary perspectives."

Kendall's galleries include the Kendall Gallery, which hosts visiting artists, Kendall/Ferris faculty and alumni exhibitions, juried competitions, and the annual Studio Excellence Awards shows. The Atrium space serves as a gallery venue and as a spot for lectures, workshops and demonstrations. Other spaces include Gallery 114, founded in 2009, which features MFA thesis exhibitions and some exhibitions by visiting artists and faculty, as well as the Scholastic Art Achievement Regional Exhibition. And Gallery 104 hosts undergraduate exhibitions, with occasional MFA thesis exhibitions. Two students in the Gallery Internship program run Gallery 104 each semester, and a student exhibition committee selects exhibitions through a jury process.

During Joseph's tenure, the number of exhibitions has increased from 15 to 35 shows per year among the Kendall Gallery, the Atrium space, Gallery 114 and Gallery 104. And attendance rates have dramatically increased since the open hours and the number of galleries have expanded, from 2,800 visitors for the 2005/2006 academic year to approximately 8,850 for 2008/2009. But it was Kendall's participation in ArtPrize that provided an explosion in attendance. Says Joseph, "In 2009, 10,000 people toured the galleries during ArtPrize, and in 2010, approximately 25,000 came to see work. That's just the number of people who came to the galleries; we didn't count people who simply entered the building or stopped to view Jeff Zimmerman's piece on the outside north wall." In addition to assisting with the galleries at Kendall, Assistant Director Bosak selected and oversaw the installation of work at the Women's City Club, another ArtPrize venue.

Both Joseph and Bosak are eagerly anticipating the additional gallery space that will become available when Kendall expands into the former Federal Building across the street. The new venue will nearly double the combined exhibition space, to almost 7,000 square feet, and that figure does not take into account display cases or wall space in corridors. The high ceiling and ability to control lighting will be welcome features of the new space. "We will be able to show pieces that are simply too large for our current galleries," says Joseph. "We will also be able to create more video and multimedia installations, as well as display any permanent collections we may acquire." Joseph hopes that student exhibitions will be a regular part of the new gallery space. "Michele (Bosak) and I are looking forward to creating shows that span several galleries, creating contrasting exhibitions or ones with different themes."



**Left:**  
Detail of photograph displayed at the Kroc Center  
Interior Design students team up to develop space planning, furnishings and project management.

**Below:**  
Kendall's blog features school events and other news from a unique perspective.

**Facing page, left to right:**  
Art Education students volunteer at Grand Rapids' Kids' Food Basket.  
From left, Dennis Dittrich, President of the Society of Illustrators, Kendall Illustration Professor Jon McDonald, and Murray Tinkelman, professor, University of Hartford.

## KENDALL IN THE COMMUNITY: COLLABORATION AND CONNECTION

**Kendall College of Art and Design prepares students for leadership in the visual arts, design, art history, and art education; provides innovative, collaborative education that fosters intellectual growth and individual creativity; and promotes the ethical and civic responsibilities of artists and designers, locally and globally.**

One method the college employs to accomplish its mission is community involvement that reaches beyond simple student internships to encompass classwide collaborative projects that span individual design disciplines to embrace the business of design as a whole.

Recently, Kendall acknowledged the importance of collaboration between business and design by creating a new and innovative undergraduate degree in Design Collaboration. The new degree will require majors to have a studio minor, so students will bring strong backgrounds in diverse disciplines to their Collaborative Design classes and carry knowledge from those courses back into other art and design disciplines. Furthermore, one of the great benefits this degree brings is the connection with business and industry, as Kendall looks at design education as it currently exists to see what kind of expectations there are for designers as they enter the workforce.

But what about those students who want to focus their career in a specific discipline? Are there opportunities for them to blend their talents with other programs to bring design to the community? The response is a single word—yes—and the opportunities to bring their skills to the community are many.

### CONNECTING WITH COMMUNITY

In a time when public arts budgets continue to dwindle, Kendall's Continuing Studies program recognizes and fills the gaps in arts education in West Michigan by providing quality noncredit art and design experiences to more than 2,000 people annually. For more than 30 years, students ranging in age from 5 to 105 come for a variety of art education experiences, from summer camps to fulfilling a long-awaited dream in their retirement.

Longtime involvement with the community is nothing new to Kendall. One of the longest-running collaborations has been a course requirement for nearly 25 years. Since 1986, Professor Ron Riksen's Graphic Design classes have designed the Varnum Riddering Schmidt & Howlett law firm's annual picnic poster.

The Varnum poster was a project in search of a class. On the other hand, each semester, the Collaborative Design class, led by Assistant Professor Gayle DeBruyn, searches out organizations in need of design solutions. Students from different disciplines work together to create solutions for myriad challenges. Recent projects have ranged from addressing issues related to peanut allergies; to using design to help organizations such as Kandu Incorporated, a nonprofit organization that builds work skills and creates opportunities for people with employment barriers; to helping the Grand Rapids Public Museum bring its eight facilities under one identity.

An offshoot from the Collaborative Design classes' efforts was the exhibition "Michigan—Land of Riches," organized and curated by Assistant Professor Paul Amenta. Held in the "old" Public Museum building on Jefferson Street in Grand Rapids, the collaborative exhibition ran in the spring and re-opened during ArtPrize. It included work from more than 200 students, 30 faculty members and numerous alumni from six universities/colleges in the state of Michigan. Amenta hosted SITE:LAB, a one-night event featuring student, alumni and faculty art installations at the new home of LaFontsee Galleries.

Students also had an opportunity to exhibit their work at a donor gala for contributors to the new \$65 million Salvation Army Ray & Joan Kroc Corps Community Center. Grand Rapids' community and business leaders saw dozens of beautiful photographs and sculptures created by Kendall students and alumni. The Kroc Center plans to hold regular exhibitions featuring Kendall work.

During the 2010 fall semester, students in Joan Sechrist's Advertising Design class and Valerie Garrett's Interior Design Studio IV class collaborated to develop six companies' visual and environmental brands. Students established an original business premise, its mission, brand personality, proposed



### KENDALL ENTERS THE BLOGOSPHERE

Kendall is continually reaching out to connect talented students to each other, to the faculty and to the professional world. And while we are at it, we want the world to know about this special place. That is why in September 2010 Kendall added a blog to its website.

Designed to enhance and to add to the wealth of communication available about Kendall, the Kendall blog is conversational and informal, not bound by the conventions of news stories or anything traditional. It's a perfect fit for a college that encourages, celebrates and fosters creativity in its everyday life and curriculum.

Susan J. Smith, a longtime observer of the arts and creative people in the area, will be a regular blogger. Smith's career encompasses more than 30 years as a writer, including 20 years either on the staff of or in a freelance capacity for the *The Grand Rapids Press*, focusing on design and fashion. She has also been active in community life in Grand Rapids, enjoying all it has to offer. Smith also writes her own blog, *DesignDestinations*, and occasionally contributes to the travel section of *MLive.com* with a travel blog called *Going Places*.

Also contributing to the Kendall blog is Pamela Patton, editor of the Kendall *Portfolio*. Patton has written and edited *Portfolio* for six years, and contributes to the Kendall website and alumni social media pages on Facebook and Twitter. From time to time, the blog will also feature guests who will share their experiences and thoughts about campus life at Kendall.

Easily accessible from the [kcad.edu](http://kcad.edu) home page or at [kcad.edu/blog](http://kcad.edu/blog), the blog will change as the needs and interests of students, potential students, alumni and blog readers evolve. We hope a dialogue develops and that you will join us in the conversation.

### FACULTY NOTES

On Oct. 22, Assistant Professor **Paul Amenta** hosted SITE:LAB, a one-night, curated event featuring student, alumni and faculty art installations at 833 Lake Drive SE in Grand Rapids, the future home of LaFontsee Galleries.

**Suzanne Eberle**, professor and chair of the Art History program, presented a lecture on "Ghosed Bodies: Fashion, Fine Art and Symbolism" at the Northern Illinois University Art Museum. Eberle's lecture explored how the absence of corporeal bodies and the resulting shapes of fashion address concepts of beauty and themes of social manipulation, loss, memory and desire.

Photography Professor **Darlene Kaczmarczyk** and adjunct faculty member **Eleanor Gatewood** were featured artists in an exhibition held in conjunction with "Time for Light," the Midwest Society for Photographic Education regional conference, held Sept. 30–Oct. 2 at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo. Kaczmarczyk also presented a paper titled "Fireworks, Flowers, and Food: Scene Modes Explored." Kaczmarczyk and Gatewood also had solo exhibitions at locations around Kalamazoo as part of the ArtHop. Kaczmarczyk also judged the eighth annual Artlink Regional Art Exhibition.

Illustration Professor **Jon McDonald** opened his Grand Haven exhibition, "Slavery's Chill," during a special reception and a "Walk Through the Paintings" lecture on Nov. 3. The exhibition showcased 12 portraits depicting the history and emotion of slavery. The Grand Haven Schools Foundation also inducted McDonald into its 2010 Hall of Fame. A graduate of Grand Haven High School Class of '65, Professor McDonald received an Illustrator's Certificate from Kendall College in 1969, and in 1972 earned an MFA in painting with a drawing minor from the San Francisco Art Institute. He has taught courses in illustration, painting and rendering for 29 years.

Several Illustration faculty members attended the Society of Illustrators Educators' Symposium in New York City. Topics ranged from "The Artist as Brand" to upcoming trends and directions in illustration. Opening night of the conference included a panel discussion featuring Pixar Animation Studios.

**Anne Norcross**, Assistant Professor of Art History, was asked by Laurence King Publishing Ltd. of London, England, to review its new edition of the art history survey text *The Visual Arts: A History*, which is published in the United States by Prentice Hall. The review process was completed in fall 2010.

Painting Professor **Diane Zeeuw** spoke on "Aesthetic Denigration" on Oct. 1 at Davenport University as part of the West Michigan Presidents' Compact Committee conference. WMPCC member institutions are committed to promoting diversity and sensitivity to people of diverse cultures and to addressing issues of racism at our various institutions and within the West Michigan community.

advertising campaign and corporate headquarter locations through brand elements and an office systems furniture product made and distributed by Herman Miller. Numerous nonprofit organizations and programs also turn to Kendall's students and programs to benefit from their design expertise.

In 2008, Assistant Professor of Graphic Design Jason Alger realized that his students could provide a valuable service to area businesses and nonprofit organizations that cannot afford the services of a professional design studio. He developed Konnect, a working graphic design studio within Kendall that provides the means for students to gain valuable experience working on real-world projects, yet in a classroom setting and under the supervision of an instructor. Konnect nonprofit clients have included Neighborhood Ventures, Heartside Business Association, the Friends of Grand Rapids Parks and the Plumbing Manufacturers' Institute.

And in a newly created program led by Adjunct Instructor Michelle Kleyla, Interior Design students have been working with Grand Rapids area nonprofit organizations that could use their expertise in space planning, furnishings and project management. It's a win-win situation: students gain vital experience outside the classroom, and cash-strapped organizations get professional-level design consultation.

### CONNECTING WITH CHILDREN

Kendall's Art Education students and faculty participate in, and donate their time to, a number of diverse programs that have one thing in common: children.

Nine arts and humanities organizations, including Kendall, teamed up last spring to serve more than 2,000 West Michigan middle and high school students who came to Grand Rapids to gain a deeper awareness of their local and global communities through the ARTcation program for area schools.


Created by the UICA, ARTcation is a communitywide collaboration that uses downtown Grand Rapids as a learning laboratory. Donna St. John, Assistant Professor, Art Education, wrote the ARTcation hands-on workshop and co-led it with Kristen Morrison, Kendall Art Education Placement Officer, and Art Education students collaborating with the Grand Rapids Art Museum's Education program.

ARTcation was also offered during ArtPrize 2010. Kendall's Art Education students again enthusiastically volunteered for the two-day experience that reached out to students in both the elementary and high school age groups. And Kendall reached out to area high school educators and their students in another way during ArtPrize. St. John, who is also Coopersville High School's Art Education teacher, and Morrison developed a Teachers' Guide to ArtPrize.

But the Art Education program's involvement with youngsters doesn't end there. Once a week, students voluntarily go to Kids' Food Basket to pack more than 3,100 nutritious sack suppers for underprivileged children. Volunteerism at Kids' Food Basket has expanded into the Painting and Industrial Design programs as well, and students are working together to design and paint a mural on the walls of the new Kids' Food Basket headquarters.

Helping those in need is an offshoot of the Canstruction® competition, which Kendall has co-sponsored for two years. This annual design and build competition challenges local architectural firms to construct fantastic, giant-size structures made entirely out of canned food. At the close of the competition, all the food used in the structures is donated to local food banks.

### FUTURE PARTNERSHIPS

Kendall faculty, staff and the institution as a whole will continue to develop innovative ways in which the College can serve and partner with the community, such as its current partnership with Design West Michigan. A prime example is the Material ConneXion library. Founded in New York City in 1997 by George Beylerian, a Senior Advisor with the Steelcase Design Partnership and friend of Kendall, Material ConneXion fills a need in creative circles at organizations ranging from Old Navy to Herman Miller—anywhere materials are specified and where the future of the built environment is planned. In 2010, Kendall opened the first cooperative academic library. Once the 148 Ionia Building opens, the Kendall Material ConneXion library will find a permanent home on the fourth floor, and will open to the local business community of Grand Rapids. 



# CAMPUS NEWS

## PREPARATION FOR REACCREDITATION

Accreditation is the process whereby an association or agency recognizes an institution, such as Kendall College of Art and Design of Ferris State University, as having met certain qualifications or standards. Periodic reaccreditation is a lengthy process in which an institution evaluates its work, seeks independent and outside evaluation of its educational objectives, and meets the established standards of the body from which it seeks reaccreditation.

Kendall has been accredited by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design since the NASAD accreditation of its AFA program in 1978 and its BFA program in August 1979. The Higher Learning Commission has accredited Ferris State University since 1959.

Max Shangle, Dean of the College at Kendall, has been leading a team of program chairs and staff members through the lengthy and involved process, which review educational quality, institutional integrity and academic improvements. The process will culminate with on-campus visits from each accrediting agency.

Shangle points out that both visits are reaccreditation visits. “We were last NASAD-reaccredited about 10 years ago, which coincidentally was about the time of the merger with Ferris. It just so happens that Kendall and Ferris are simultaneously undergoing reaccreditation—Ferris is seeking reaccreditation from the HLC and Kendall from the NASAD.”

Shangle says, “The Higher Learning Commission self-study process and accreditation is primarily Ferris’ process, but as a college of Ferris, Kendall has contributed information and support throughout its self-study assessment and is specifically included in areas such as educational programs, building and classroom facilities, and student resources. Although there are five criteria for the HLC accreditation, we have been asked to focus our self-study efforts on two significant areas: ‘How does Kendall contribute to Ferris?’ and ‘How does Kendall assess its own programs and students?’”

Over the past few years, in preparation for the NASAD visit, Kendall faculty and staff have been making sure the curriculum and programs align with NASAD guidelines, and that course descriptions and student outcomes are also aligned. Although the lion’s share of responsibility for generating reports falls on program chairs, alumni have also contributed to the program review process. Furthermore, some programs, such as Interior Design, have called on the expertise of advisory committees composed of industry leaders and other discipline-specific accrediting agencies such as the Council for Interior Design Accreditation.

Says Shangle, “It’s easy to get accustomed to offering the same curriculum and teaching the same way, but efforts to continuously assess and improve are a fact of life in education. Therefore, all programs have gone through an evaluation—not just in preparation for the NASAD visit but as a part of what we need to do in order to ensure that courses are fresh and relevant and meet Kendall’s mission of preparing students to become leaders as artists and designers.”

NASAD evaluators will look at every aspect of the institution, including student work and graduation transcripts, student services, staffing levels, studio space, technology, and classroom facilities.

The HLC will visit Kendall on April 18–20, and the NASAD evaluators are scheduled to visit April 25–27. Shangle says, “Both teams are coming at the end of the academic year, during the student exhibition and the Studio Excellence exhibition. Although it will be stressful, it will also be a very exciting time to be around the school, see the best of the student work, and note the involvement and engagement from every program.

“Getting ready for all this is a challenge, not because we’re lacking but because we want to show all that we have going for us. Enrollment has never been higher, the facility has never looked better, and students are happy to be here and are happy with the education they are getting. But the real challenge is making sure that all the good work, engagement and student achievement happening here is recognized. Of course, they may find us lacking in certain areas, and we want that; we want to make the College stronger. The bottom line is, reaccreditation is the validation of what we are constantly doing, making sure that the programs we offer are the best they can be.”

This page, left to right:  
“Pressure” by Drawing major Emily Blocker  
Photography major Jennifer Elias with her work in the Midwest Society for Photographic Education student exhibition  
Painting by Steven Vinson

Facing page, top:  
1/4 scale models of a chair and a multi-functional cabinet by Celia Moh scholarship winner Andrew Golombisky  
Facing page, second row:  
1/4 scale chair models by Celia Moh scholarship winner Joseph Sadony  
Facing page, far right:  
The Design West Michigan website



## STUDENT NEWS

Jake Blok (Sophomore, Furniture Design) received an Honorable Mention in the Accent Furniture/Tables category for his curly maple and bubinga (African rosewood) cabinet in the International Woodworking Fair Design Emphasis competition.

Interior Design majors Laura Truer, Dana Haak and Anne Sprague took first, second and third places, respectively, in the West Michigan Chapter of the National Kitchen and Bath Association Student Design Competition. People’s Choice Awards went to Gabe Olson Fahlen and Heather M. Schuller.

The Manufacturing Jewelers & Suppliers of America Education Foundation Group recently awarded a scholarship to Alexander Walker (Junior, Metals/Jewelry Design).

Tessa Mosher (Junior, Illustration) and Lacey Peacock (Senior, Photography) had their work selected for the annual “Arts in the House” exhibition, which will run through summer 2011.

Elizabeth Wertenberger (Senior, Interior Design) was recently crowned Miss Southwest Michigan 2011. She’ll now go on to compete for the title of Miss Michigan in June.

The International Interior Design Association’s “Finish 2 Fashion 2010: Cities Around the World” was a competition for design teams and manufacturer sponsors to create one-of-a-kind outfits made solely from interior finish materials. Kendall’s team included Interior Design students Jessica Kronlein and Abigail Kiel.

At the IIDA’s opening donor reception, dozens of photographs created by Kendall Photography majors Brittanie Bondie, Nataliya Chekhovskaya, Jaclyn Clark, Myles Cronk, Kristen Eakin, Jennifer Elias, Sara Fifarek, Justine Gunneson, Ellen Harz, Bud Kibby, James LaCroix, Amrine Tomlinson, Nicole Turner, Amanda VanVels, Lauren Wagner and Katie Zychowski were exhibited.

Illustration major Jacqueline Sarach is one of six recipients of the unique ATHENA scholarship, established by the Grand Rapids Chamber of Commerce. Recipients can use the money for whatever helps them achieve their degree, from tuition fees to child care or transportation expenses.

Work by Photography majors Brittanie Bondie, Jennifer Elias, Bud Kibby, Amrine Tomlinson, Lynae Umlor and Kelsey Wahowiak and graduate students Bridgette Broughman and Emily Gerlach, was included in the Midwest Society for Photographic Education student exhibition, juried from more than 300 pieces from colleges in a six-state area.

Dual Enrollment student Audrey Benjaminsen won first place in the WMU Frostic School of Art 2010 Artemya High School Competition for “Scrutiny.” She attends Stoney Creek High School and her art teacher is Diane Heath.

Photography senior James LaCroix had an exhibition of his black-and-white, larger-than-life portraits at the Division Avenue Arts Cooperative in Grand Rapids.

Drawing major Emily Blocker had two drawings accepted in the Great Lakes Drawing Biennial held at Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti.

The senior class of the Photography program exhibited work at the Java Lounge coffee shop in Grand Rapids. Seniors Brittanie Bondie and Charity Schwartz curated and hung the exhibit.

The MFA Club is hosting its first Michigan Emerging Graduate Artists juried show at Kendall’s Gallery 114. MEGA is open to all MFA candidates and senior-standing BFA candidates within the state of Michigan. The juror is Cara Brewer Thompson.

MFA Painting students Timothy Kranz and Steven Vinson are participating in the National Wet Paint Exhibition 2011 at the Zhou B. Art Center in Chicago. Curated and organized by Sergio Gomez, MFA, the exhibition runs through March 12, 2011.

## TWO STUDENTS SELECTED FOR MOH SCHOLARSHIP

Seven new students have been selected to receive the prestigious Celia Moh Scholarship for the 2010/2011 academic year, including two from Kendall College of Art and Design: Andrew Golombisky and Joseph A. Sadony IV. Students around the country from top universities with home furnishings programs are eligible to apply for the prestigious scholarship, which covers full-time tuition and fees, room, board, and books for its recipients. In addition, the scholarship hosts an annual networking and resource-building trip to the High Point Market and provides informal internship and career guidance for its scholars.

In addition to being a Celia Moh Scholar, Golombisky was the first winner of the Distinction in Design furniture design competition, which allowed him to complete his final semester of college as a design intern with Theodore Alexander in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. Following his graduation in December, Golombisky joined Theodore Alexander as a full-time designer-in-residence.

Sadony is a senior at Kendall and is active in the Furniture Club, setting up tours and participating in events. Upon graduation, he aspires to design for a freelance firm and would welcome the opportunity to travel. Sadony enjoys drawing, photography, being outdoors, biking, surfing and reading.

Professor Max Shangle, chair of Kendall’s Furniture Design program, stated, “We are rewarded by the caliber of students at Kendall, and we are gratified that their accomplishments are frequently recognized by the Celia Moh Scholarship committee.”

The scholarship was established in 2001 by furniture industry entrepreneur Laurence Moh to honor his wife, Celia. He is best-known as the founder of Universal Furniture and, later, Fine Furniture Design & Marketing. The program’s strategically managed \$3 million endowment has provided nearly 60 full scholarships in just nine years.

## REPORT INDICATES MANUFACTURERS RELY ON DESIGN FOR SUCCESS

A new survey reveals the continuing importance of design in the West Michigan economy. The survey aimed to identify the key factors of growth for West Michigan business and was done late in the summer by the W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research in Kalamazoo. More than 2,200 West Michigan companies were surveyed, with 376 responding. Seventy-five percent of those indicated they either “agree” or “strongly agree” that their success over the next five years will rely on their ability to compete in product or service design. Design even placed higher than many traditional factors business owners and managers usually hope for, such as less government regulation and engineering the waste out of their current processes.

The survey was commissioned by Kendall on behalf of Design West Michigan, a professional organization of design practitioners, which is affiliated with and supported by Kendall. “This report is important because it provides evidence of the role that design and design thinking play in a business’s success,” said Oliver H. Evans, Kendall president. “Beyond that, the overriding significance of this report is its development of a research methodology that can identify the impact of design. The report goes beyond the anecdotal and breaks new ground in developing research that supports design’s significance.

For a college that prepares its graduates for careers as designers, this report affirms both the reality and value of the new paradigms in design education Kendall is developing and implementing. As a part of Ferris State University, with its commitment to economic development and the professional preparation of its graduates, Kendall College of Art and Design is proud to have been able to support Design West Michigan and the Upjohn Institute in this significant study.”

The survey asked companies to rate 19 key factors impacting their success in the next five years. Lower taxes was rated the highest, followed by “being price competitive,” “controlling labor costs,” “ability to enter new markets,” and then “ability to compete on product design,” which got a 75 percent rating. “Ability to redesign existing products” was rated 48.1 percent, above “growth of medical devices industry” (39.9 percent), “growth of auto industry” (37.2 percent) and “growth of furniture industry” (32.7 percent).

The report also found that about one out of every four firms indicated they will likely or very likely hire a new production or system designer during the next five years — a higher rate than either information technology or accounting professionals, both of which had seen strong hiring rates in the past. The survey also showed that the average rate of sales growth over the past five years was 9.9 percent for those firms with an expressed interest in design, while companies that weren’t as interested reported an average sales growth rate of 5.6 percent.

George Erickcek, senior regional analyst at the Upjohn Institute who worked on the survey, jokingly described it as a “stealth” survey because it was written in a way that did not reveal that its focus was on the role of design in West Michigan business.

John R. Berry, executive director of Design West Michigan, said he was “not aware of any study in the U.S. that has looked at relating design to business success.” He noted, however, that there have been such studies in Great Britain and perhaps in Sweden and Finland. Berry said the British Design Council was established by an act of Parliament about 25 years ago. It is a nonprofit organization that is “helping Britain use design to build a stronger economy and improve everyday life,” according to its website. The government set up the organization “because they believed design was important to the economic future of the country,” said Berry. “They wanted to have an organization that could help people understand design, promote design and validate the value of design.”

Most of the firms targeted for the surveys were concentrated in the manufacturing sector because companies that make complex products are the most likely to utilize and benefit from design as a competitive advantage.

Source: Grand Rapids Business Journal





**This page, left to right:**  
Students, friends and faculty bid Mary Laham a fond farewell at her retirement party.  
Professor Mary Laham

**This page, below left:**  
Mary with longtime friend and retired professor Jan Vonk

**This page, left to right:**  
Packaging art for “Math Mining Adventure” software

Cover and inside page from “Cooking 1-2-3 Children’s Recipes and Math Workbook”

**This page, below:**  
Packaging for “Adventures in Typing” educational software (CD)

**This page, below right:**  
“Monster Tales” American history iPad® app



## PROFESSOR MARY LAHAM RETIRES

**Some students cannot wait to get out into the world and put their knowledge to work.** Other students cannot wait to share what they have learned with others. Interior Design Professor Mary Laham falls into both of those categories.

After having taught here since January 1968, Laham has retired from Kendall College of Art and Design.

She has called Kendall home for nearly her entire professional career. Raised in Holland, Mich., and a graduate of Holland High School, Laham attended Michigan State University for one year before transferring to Kendall. “I switched to Kendall because I was eager to get into my interior design classes and, unlike MSU, Kendall offered students the opportunity to get into design earlier.” She also holds a BFA in interior design from Aquinas College and an M.Ed. from Grand Valley State University.



Laham graduated from Kendall in 1967 with a Certificate in Interior Design—and a job. She had started working as a designer at Stow-Davis Furniture while still attending Kendall, and continued working there for a short time following graduation. When she saw the opportunity to return to Kendall as an instructor, she seized it, and began teaching in January 1968. “It’s easy for me to remember my start date,” says Laham, “because I got married in March of the same year. In fact, I’ve been teaching longer than I’ve been married.”

Returning to teach at the very school she attended just months before was certainly challenging. “I was just 23 years old, and some of my classmates were still attending Kendall, and I was now their instructor. I learned very quickly that I couldn’t be friends with the same people I was hired to teach. Of course, as I grew older, that problem disappeared,” Laham laughs.

An Allied Member of ASID for 30 years and a professional member of IIDA, Laham has taught nearly every class in the Interior Design curriculum, and has seen her classes go through multiple changes. “I think there have been about 25 changes in the curriculum over the years,” says Laham. “And of course, the technology has changed dramatically. It’s far more important that students know all the different design programs.” Having said that, however, Laham’s longtime favorite class, as well as her specialty, is the Presentation Techniques class, in which students draw and render their design concepts in 3-D, using graphite pencils, Prisma pencils and markers.

Laham has no definite plans for her retirement, except to spend winters in a warmer climate and spend time with her grandchildren. “I would like to find a way to stay involved with the school,” says Laham. “It’s so much fun to see students grow and develop into world-class designers.”

## LETTERS TO MARY

Kendall asked alumni and faculty to share their memories of Mary Laham. Here are excerpts from a few that were sent.

Mary has been an advisor, an instructor and an inspiration. I began my studies at Kendall in 2005 with Mary as my advisor and one of my instructors. She was welcoming and helpful during my transition as a nontraditional student in the program. I also had Mary as a Presentation Techniques instructor. I remember the first time she showed us how to draw perspectives with the grid system. She was drawing away at the whiteboard, and I was speechless, watching how skillfully she created a space with a dry erase marker!

I took two years off, and when I returned I was afraid I would not remember how to draft a floor plan, render a sofa or even pick out materials! My first day back, I went to see her to enroll in Advanced Presentation Techniques to get back some of that drawing experience. As I walked into the office, Mary got up from her desk with a huge smile and gave me such a welcoming hug that my anxious feelings went away!

*Amanda Sherman*

In the mid-80s, I attended Aquinas College at the same time as Mary, and we had a human biology class together. Our final project was to dissect a fetal pig. Our professor, a nun, had a sarcastic sense of humor.

Our final exam was to meet individually with our professor and to verbally identify the different pig parts. When Mary came back into the room, she looked really relieved, saying that, first thing, the nun pointed to the pig’s ear and asked, “Mary, what is this part called?” At first she thought it was a trick question, so she hesitated, then slowly answered, “... an ear?” The nun replied, sarcastically, “VERY GOOD, Mary!” (And when I went in for my pig identification, I didn’t get off so easily!) Good luck to Mary in her retirement!

*Sarah Slattery, Adjunct Instructor*

I am privileged to be among those who not only learned from Mary as a student but also learned from her as an educator. She has been a role model to so many, myself included. She has always represented the polished professional who has it all together. I have admired Mary with the perfect accessories, while draped in knowledge of the profession.

Thanks for all that you have done, for all that you have meant and for all the knowledge that you have imparted, both in your words and your actions. Enjoy this next chapter in your life, Mary!

*Tara E. McCrackin, LEED AP ID+C, IID Assistant Professor, Interior Design Coordinator, Material ConneXion Resource Center*



## PRESENTED CONCEPTS

Five teams presented the following concepts to School Zone representatives on Dec. 6.

**“Math Mining Adventure” Software That Teaches Kindergartners Math**  
*Team: Jacob Emmons, Project Manager; Lisa Dubois, Lead Artist; Evan Shiemke, Production Artist*

School Zone loved the concept, noting it had possibly the best fusion of fun activities with educational problems.

**“Adventures in Typing” Educational Software (CD) for Ages 8+**  
*Team: McCoy Khamphouy, Project Manager/ Concept and Layout; Elise Rahn, Lead Artist; Jessica Bradham, Production Artist, Animator*

School Zone said this project, which utilized a planetary exploration theme, won out due to its marketability, stating that a typing game could be very appealing to buyers.

**“Cooking 1-2-3” Children’s Recipes and Math Workbook for Ages 6–8 Math 1–2**  
*Team: London Parker, Project Manager; Claudia Pimentel, Lead Artist; Kristina Uhazie, Production Artist*

This scrapbook-style workbook combined basic math skills with simple recipes. School Zone representatives found the concept and execution of art top-notch.

**“Crazy Games! A Bazillion Outdoor Games You’ve Never Heard Of” Math Workbook, Ages 7–10**  
*Team: Alex Lightbody, Backgrounds; Jessica Pulte, Concept/Lead Artist; Megan Stein, Layout*

School Zone representatives were taken with this concept, which addresses the obesity and sedentary lifestyle epidemics of children in America.

**“Monster Tales” American History iPad App, Ages 10–12**  
*Team: Bryan Smith, Concept; Marcus Morris, Layout; Meghan Kimball, Backgrounds*

School Zone said, “This game has fantastic art and character design, and great marketability. The illustrative style looks professional, and the title seems very sellable.”

## STUDENTS PARTNER WITH SCHOOL ZONE TO DEVELOP EDUCATIONAL PRODUCTS

School Zone Publishing Company offered 15 Concept and Production Art students in the Digital Media program an extra lesson in real-world digital design.

School Zone’s challenge presented a unique opportunity to learn what it takes to design, produce and bring new products profitably to market. As part of the course, students worked individually and then in teams to develop new concepts for flash cards, educational software, workbooks or iPad applications—with School Zone design professionals mentoring each step.

Grand Haven-based School Zone started in 1972, and started selling in volume to Wal-Mart when Sam Walton made a commitment to education and wanted a School Zone kiosk in every store. Since then, the brand has become internationally recognized for children’s educational software, workbooks, flash cards, and apps for the iPad and other mobile devices. It was recently awarded a contract with Intel for the launch of School Zone apps on Intel’s new netbook, which was introduced in California on Sept. 23. School Zone retails products at Wal-Mart, Sam’s Club, Costco, Walgreens, Target, Meijer, the Apple Store and iTunes, to name a few. School Zone has won numerous awards, including an Apple Developers Award and an award from the Apple Worldwide Developers Conference; the other winner that year was Adobe. Currently, School Zone has four or five apps in the top 100 of the iTunes store’s children’s category.

“We were delighted when Kendall approached us with the idea to provide a very hands-on experience to their digital media students,” said Barbara Peacock, managing director of School Zone and a 1991 Kendall graduate. “Over the years, we have developed and refined an approach that ensures our award-winning educational products will resonate with children, parents, teachers and retailers. As a part of our interaction with Kendall students, we explored what it takes to take a product from idea to retail shelf. Key to this process is balancing art and innovation with practicality and return on investment. We must be smart in how we develop and introduce new products so that, at the end of the day, we have fun, educational products at a price point that parents and retailers find attractive.”

The Kendall students made a trip to School Zone to hear from CEO Jonathan Hoffman, Peacock and her design team just how the process works. Students had a long list of questions, from the graphic styles that appeal to children, to the need to balance education and entertainment, to taboo subject matter for the younger set.



They began defining their initial products, building off School Zone’s successful formula for new product development. The students explored a wide number of genres and added their own unique flavor—for example, animated ninjas who slice sushi rolls to teach fractions, and miners who blast rocks by correctly answering basic addition and subtraction questions.

They found out that making “easy” products isn’t always so, well, easy. “Partnering with School Zone gave our students an extraordinary opportunity to see what it takes to work at a studio entirely focused on the children’s market,” says Susan Bonner, assistant professor of Digital Media. “With help, we have begun exploring how digital imaging and digital media work together with branding, marketing and placement strategies. We appreciate this opportunity to see how the design principles and techniques we have learned in the classroom need to adapt to meet the demands of the marketplace.”

The 15 students polished their rough concepts and presented them to School Zone. Product developers then evaluated all concepts and selected five designs to move forward. The resulting five teams presented their final product and packaging concepts on Dec. 6 to Hoffman, Peacock, Designer Brandon Miltgen (also a Kendall grad) and Technical Director Todd Hertz for final judging. Peacock and her team felt that the projects were on target for introduction to the market.

This collaborative project benefited both organizations, allowing School Zone Publishing to become involved in talent development, and providing Kendall’s Digital Media students real-world experience.



**Facing page, left to right:**

Cover illustration for children's book by Lori McElrath-Eslick

“Mall” by Kieran Johnson is one of two pieces selected for ONWARD '11.

**Facing page, bottom:**

Images from Alice Gadzinski's exhibition, “Fancy That”

**This page, top to bottom:**

Peter Jacob, Director of Alumni Relations  
Terence Frixen, Kendall Alumni Board President

# ALUMNI NEWS

**Alice Gadzinski** ('10, Photography/Studio Excellence Award winner) brought a campy look to the Shouldice Library Art Gallery at Lake Superior State University with her exhibit, “Fancy That.”

Numerous Digital Media alumni have found jobs in their fields. **Jamie Carroll** ('10, Digital Media) is an illustrator/ animator at School Zone Publishing in Grand Haven, MI. **Tieka Dierlof** ('10, Digital Media) is an interactive designer at the Williams Group, in Grand Rapids, MI. **Alex Krumwiede** ('10, Digital Media) is a Flash developer at Raytheon Corporation, in Detroit, MI. **Kristin Chapman** ('09, Digital Media) has been hired as an illustrator/ animator at Hero Interactive, in Benton Harbor, MI. **Diana Frurip** ('09, Digital Media) is an interactive and motion designer at Sanborn Media Factory in New York, NY. **Abigail Southworth** ('09, Digital Media) has been hired at Biggs-Gilmore in Kalamazoo, MI, as an illustrator/ designer. **Danielle Taylor** ('09, Digital Media) is a graphic and motion designer at Great Lakes Narrowcast in Comstock Park, MI. **Joe Hunter** ('08, Digital Media) is an interactive/ motion designer at It Works! Marketing, in Grand Rapids, MI. **Mallete Pagiano** ('08, Digital Media) is an interactive designer at Concept to Promotion, in Benton Harbor, MI. **Kyle Morris** ('07, Digital Media) is an illustrator/ designer at ePrize, in Detroit, MI. **Jenn Roon** ('07, Digital Media) is a graphic designer/illustrator at Mars Hill Church in Grand Rapids, MI.

**Brandon Alman** ('10, Fine Arts Printmaking) has created Dinderbeck, a new studio and gallery space in Grand Rapids. Alman is a partner in the endeavor with fellow alumni **Anthony Mead** ('10, Fine Arts/Printmaking) and **Lucas Schurkamp** ('09, Graphic Design).

**Nataliya Chekhovskaya** ('09, Interior Design) has won a photo competition for GOOD, an integrated media platform for people who want to live well and do good. Her photo of an abandoned asylum building in Traverse, MI, captured the GOOD community's admiration for its strange and slightly gloomy beauty.

Kendall MFA Photography graduate **Kieran Johnson** ('09) was selected as an emerging photographer in the international contest, ONWARD '11! This year's competition had 614 photographers from 22 countries submitting 2,240 photographs. Legendary photographer Larry Fink made his selections over a two-day span, arriving at a final selection of 70 photographs by 63 photographers. The ONWARD '11 exhibition will take place at the Project Basho Gallery in Philadelphia, Feb. 10 through March 27. The two winners of ONWARD '11 will be announced at the opening reception on Feb. 12.

**Pete Fecteau** ('07, Digital Media) has been selected as a 2011 Code for America Fellow. Code for America was founded to help the brightest minds of the Web 2.0 generation transform city governments. Starting in January, Fecteau and the other 19 Fellows will be challenged to not only build innovative apps for each of their cities but also become the leaders of the ongoing movement to make government more open and efficient.

**Walter Merchant** ('07, Industrial Design) is interning at Johnson Control International's Shanghai studio this winter. JCI was one of the first internships Merchant can remember trying for, and now it will be his last one while he is attending the University of Cincinnati.

Sculpture and Functional Art alumni **Jovannah Nicholson** ('09) and **Timothy Maddox** ('07) displayed work at the donor gala for contributors at the new \$65 million Ray & Joan Kroc Corps Community Center in Grand Rapids.

**Jessica Ward's** ('05 Fine Art/Drawing) artwork is inspired by eating disorders, which she herself has struggled with since adolescence. She lives in Los Angeles with her husband, **Bob Ward** ('05), who is the creative advertising administrator at Gnomon School of Visual Effects in Hollywood, CA. She had her first gallery show in 2008 and has been exhibiting her work internationally since. [www.jessicawardart.com](http://www.jessicawardart.com).

**Kim Dabbs** ('02, Art History) has been awarded the Michigan Art Education Association Distinguished Service Award. Dabbs is executive director of Michigan Youth Arts, and received Kendall's Distinguished Alumni Award for Community Service in 2010. The MAEA has been presenting Distinguished Service Awards since 1989. These awards recognize individuals, companies or institutions that are significant contributors to visual arts education in their communities or within the state of Michigan.

Children's book illustrator **Lori McElrath-Eslick** ('00, Illustration) has created illustrations for *The Good Fire Helmet*. Published in May 2010 and written by Tim Hoppey, it is the story of 6-year-old Christian, who believes that an old fire helmet makes him brave, while his 10-year-old brother, Tommy, finds courage within himself, especially when he needs it most. McElrath-Eslick was also featured in a recent issue of the children's magazine *Skipping Stones*.

On Oct. 22, Kendall College of Art and Design Professor Paul Amenta hosted SITE:LAB, a one-night, curated event featuring student, alumni and faculty art installations at 833 Lake Drive SE in Grand Rapids, the new home of LaFontsee Galleries. Participants in SITE:LAB included Kendall alumni **Sam DeBourbon** ('09, Digital Media), **Todd Emeott** ('08, Interior Design), **Tim Stoepker** ('08, Industrial Design), **Zack Lownds** ('08, Industrial Design), **Joey Ruiter** ('07, Industrial Design), **Michele Bosak** ('04, Sculpture), **Tim LaDuke** ('04, Photography), **Terry Frixen** ('03, Photography), **Sara Molina** ('03, Interior Design), and **Ann Rosinski** ('95, Interior Design).

**Ali Cavanaugh** ('95, Painting) and 52 other female artists premiered in a first-of-its-kind exhibit called “Women Painting Women” at the Robert Lange Studios in Charleston, SC.

**Janet Hampton** ('94, Illustration) has opened a new store, Art Art Collections, 109 Washington Ave. in downtown Grand Haven, MI. Art Art Collections features a variety of mixed media—such as paintings, photography, jewelry and functional art—from nine artists who live along the Lakeshore.

**Sue Lee Burns** ('83) started Baabaazuzu 18 years ago when she discovered her husband had thrown her wool sweaters in with the regular wash, resulting in shrunken sweaters. Instead of tossing them, she cut them up and used the pieces to make matching jackets and hats for her (then) small daughters. Recently Baabaazuzu's cold-weather creations were shown on ABC Television's new celebrity sporting competition, “Skating With the Stars.”

**Nikki Dykstra** (Interior Design) recently opened her second Lee & Birch store in Grand Rapids—within walking distance of Kendall. The store features home decor, women's clothing and accessories. Dykstra's original store is located at 255 Seminole Drive, Suite 102, in Muskegon.



## IN MEMORIAM

**Corey Allen Parker** ('05 Illustration), age 34, of Cleveland, Ohio, passed away on December 30, 2010 at the University Hospital/Cancer Unit in Cleveland. Most recently he was working for the American Greeting Card Company as an illustrator. Condolences may be left at: <http://eye-likey.blogspot.com/2011/01/corey-parker-remembered.html>



## LETTER FROM KENDALL DIRECTOR OF ALUMNI RELATIONS:

A fresh new year is ahead of us, and your alumni board has been working on many new projects in order to provide an even stronger alumni network in 2011. The first is an increase in our use of social networks. Please find us on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn. A quick reference list appears below. We're looking forward to updating you on our events, volunteer opportunities, alumni accomplishments and more, so look us up and stay connected.

The second is an increase in live networking events that we call Kendall Alumni News & Schmooze. We are committed to providing quarterly local (West Michigan) News & Schmooze events, and we are also planning live networking events in regions with concentrated alumni groups across the country. The first of our regional events was held in New York on January 18 at the Art Director's Club of NYC. We were excited to see all of our alums who are making waves in the NYC art and design community. We are also committed to biannual regional receptions in High Point, North Carolina, at the International Home Furnishings Market.

If you live in a region that is home to a concentration of alumni, we would be thrilled to come to your area with a live networking event. Please let me know about regions you think we're missing.

The third major initiative is our Select Volunteers List. Terence Frixen is leading an effort to attract West Michigan alumni who are interested in being alerted to local volunteer opportunities. This would come with no obligation. It's a simple idea. We've heard from many alumni who would like to get involved in the numerous volunteer efforts in our community, and we'd like to respond to that request. If you are interested in staying connected to local art- and design-related organizations, please get in touch with Terence.

If you know of an organization that would benefit from this kind of volunteer support, please contact me. My goal is to connect you more closely with the organizations you care about and to connect you to networks that will benefit you in your career. Please help me accomplish this goal by cluing me in to your interests and networks.

All my best to you in the coming year!

*Peter Jacob, Director of Alumni Relations*

## LETTER FROM ALUMNI BOARD PRESIDENT:

As 2010 has come to a close and a new year is just beginning, I am excited about the growing alumni volunteer list. My goal this year is to increase the Kendall alumni presence in our region and in communities where alumni live, all over the country. Not only do our volunteers support the community's goals, but our activities allow you to connect with groups that may potentially benefit you and your career.

We are all after the same goal: to represent our talents and to provide connections for you and to all Kendall alumni. I feel that this begins with each of us serving in our communities. There are many great volunteer opportunities for you to reconnect with Kendall. Be the first to know. Send your e-mail to me at [terence.frixen@gmail.com](mailto:terence.frixen@gmail.com) or [kendallalumni@ferris.edu](mailto:kendallalumni@ferris.edu), and I'll be sure you're in the loop on all our events and activities.

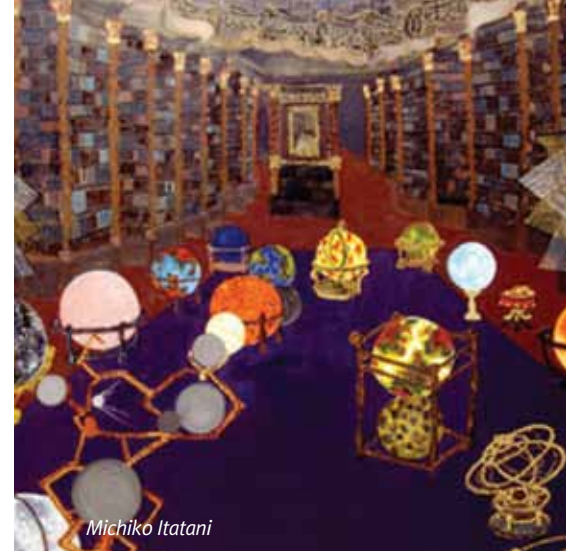
*Terence Frixen, Kendall Alumni Board President*

## QUICK REFERENCE FOR KENDALL ALUMNI SOCIAL MEDIA SITES:

Facebook – Kendall Alumni

Twitter – @KCADAlumni

LinkedIn – Kendall College of Art and Design Alumni



*Michiko Itatani*



*Jason DeMarte*



*Andy Bloxham*



*Ashley Feagin*

## GALLERY NEWS

### SPINNING YARNS: PHOTOGRAPHIC STORYTELLERS

Photography Exhibition Curated by Libby Rowe

**Feb. 14–March 12**

*Kendall Gallery, Gallery 114*

Texas photographer Libby Rowe has curated this exciting exhibition of photography, which includes work by Bess Bieluczyk, Andy Bloxham, Muireann Brady, Joy Christiansen Erb, Jason DeMarte, Alex Emmons, Ashley Feagin, Carol Golemboski, Jay Gould, Darren Harvey-Regan, Christopher Jordan, Priya Kambli, Morgan Konn, Nate Larson and Marni Shindelman, Rachel Reisert, Christine Shank, Erin V. Sotak, Grace Weston, and Ruth Zelanski.

### MICHIKO ITATANI PAINTINGS

**March 22–April 20**

*Kendall Gallery*

Artist Michiko Itatani was born and raised in Kobe, Japan. In the early 1970s, Itatani moved to Chicago, where she studied, and now teaches, at the Art Institute of Chicago; was a founding member of NAME Gallery; and is a fixture of the city's art and critical scene. Itatani's work springs from her continuing immersion in literature and has over the past three decades explored themes of self/others, micro/macro, the body, and questions about theoretical space/hyperspace.

### MEGA (Michigan Emerging Graduate Artists) Show

**March 18–30**

*Gallery 114*

A juried exhibition open to graduate-level students across the state. Juried by Cara Brewer Thompson.

### MFA Painting Thesis Exhibition

**April 7–27**

*Gallery 114: Philip Ruehle and Melissa Sirk*

*Student Gallery: Tanya Bakija*

### MFA Thesis Exhibition

**May 3–17**

*Gallery 114: Dana Toader, Painting; Bridgette Broughman, Photography*

*Student Gallery: Jan Ensing, Painting*

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