



COLLEGE *for* Creative STUDIES

Dear friends of CCS,

I hope you enjoy this issue of *C Magazine*, which presents a summary of the exciting work being done by CCS alumni, students and faculty, and illustrates how the College has grown into an anchor organization for the region.

FOR MORE THAN 100 YEARS, CCS HAS BEEN A LEADER IN ART AND DESIGN EDUCATION. AS MANY OF YOU KNOW THE COLLEGE IS CURRENTLY IN THE MIDST OF AN EXCITING REDEVELOPMENT OF THE HISTORIC ARGONAUT BUILDING IN DETROIT'S NEW CENTER. WITH THIS AMBITIOUS PROJECT, THE COLLEGE IS CREATING AN INTEGRATED URBAN EDUCATIONAL COMMUNITY FOCUSED ON ART AND DESIGN, WHICH WILL PROPEL CCS TO THE FOREFRONT OF INTERNATIONAL DESIGN EDUCATION.

With two campus sites, the College will be in a stronger position than ever to attract and retain talented students, faculty, and staff from around the world. The Argonaut Project will position the College as a driving force in the transformation of the region. In addition to the new educational opportunities at the middle school, high school and higher education levels the project will attract, develop and retain talent in the creative industries; spur innovative research; and renew the infrastructure of an important urban neighborhood. The result will be more jobs, more entrepreneurial businesses and more reasons for talented people to stay in Detroit.

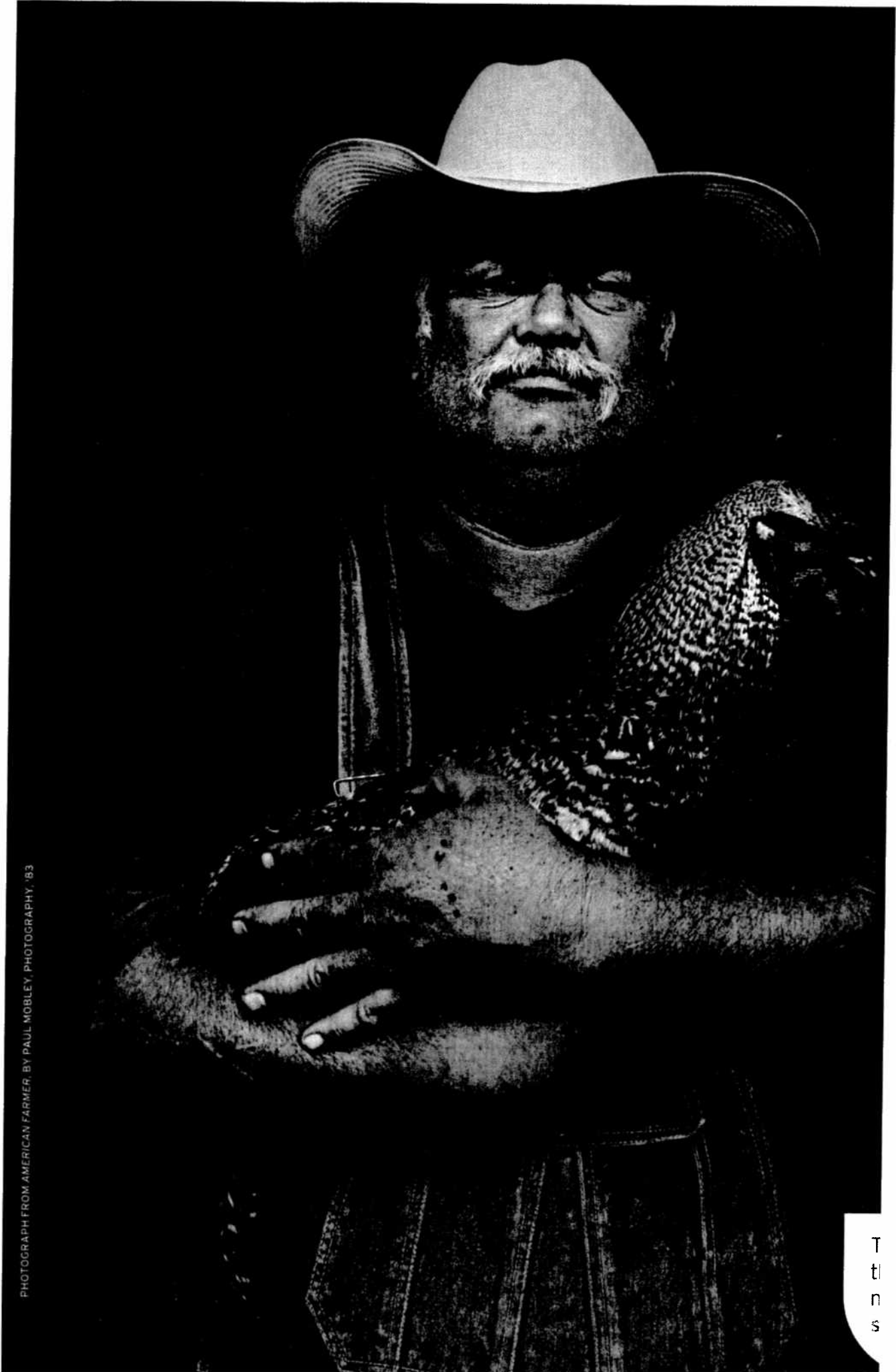
The College faces many challenges during these uncertain economic times. Thanks to the leadership of our Trustees, the success of our alumni, the support of our generous donors and the hard work of our faculty and staff, we are confident that CCS students will continue to receive the best education possible and will go on to make a significant impact on the world.

Sincerely,



Richard L. Rogers, President

PHOTOGRAPH FROM AMERICAN FARMER, BY PAUL MOBLEY, PHOTOGRAPHY, '83



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Calendar

05/07 7:30p.m.

Woodward Lecture Series

Ed Ruscha

Woodward Lecture Series are free and open to the public. The scheduled lectures take place in the Wendell W. Anderson, Jr. Auditorium, inside the Walter B. Ford II Building.

05/14

Commencement

Detroit Opera House

05/15

Student Exhibition Opening

Collector's Preview:

5:30 p.m. – 7 p.m.

General Exhibition Opening:

7 p.m. – 10 p.m.

05/16-05/29

Student Exhibition

Saturday – Wednesday,

10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Thursday and Friday,

10 a.m. – 8 p.m.

09/08

Argonaut Campus Opens

First Day Henry Ford Academy:

School for Creative Studies

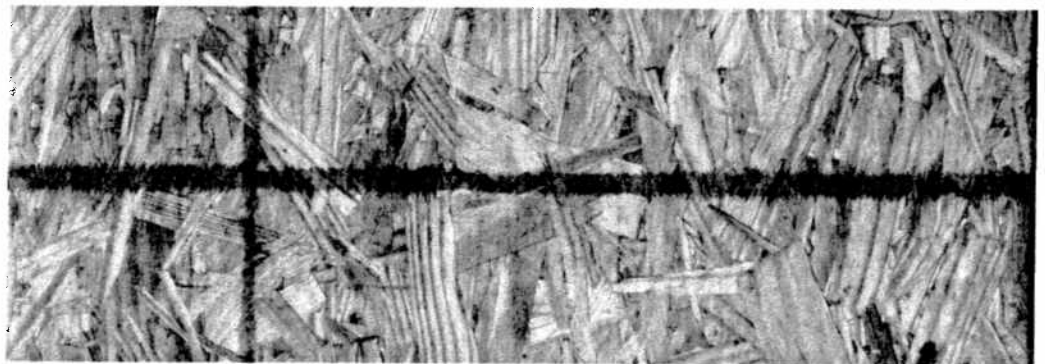
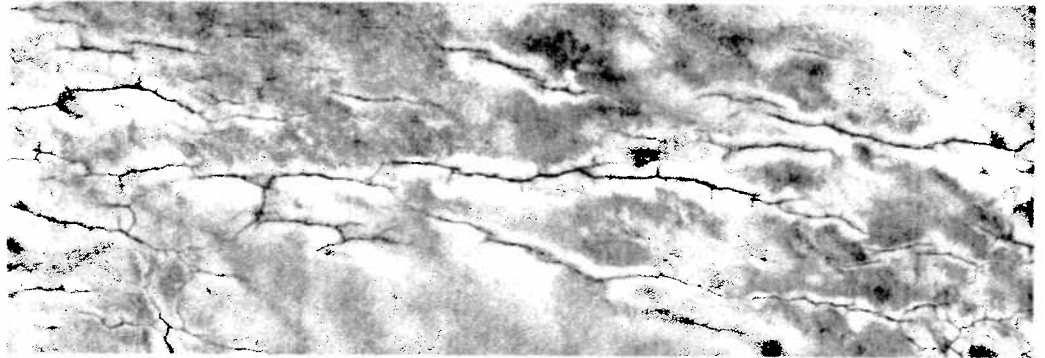
10/23-10/24

Detroit International Wine Auction

Featured Vintner: Bob Bertheau,

Chateau Ste. Michelle Winery

**For up-to-date information
about any event please visit
www.collegeforcreativestudies.edu.**



Getting ready: The CCS Student Exhibition provides a great opportunity to see and purchase student artwork including Bailey Sisoy isgro's ceramic gorilla cup (top left); "Giacometti," (top right) an illustration by Chelsea Kirchoff; and prints from Matt Chung's photographic collection entitled, "Detroit Surfaces."

Come for the art, stay for the party

For graduating seniors who will soon leave CCS, the Student Exhibition in May is the ultimate gallery experience. The budding artists pull out all the stops and show what they've learned during their college years.

"I'm super excited," said graduating senior **Bailey Sisoy Isgro**, a Crafts ceramics major. "It's kind of the accumulation of our years of very hard work. It's absolutely nerve-wracking."

Other students are looking back over their educational careers at CCS, wondering where the time has gone.

"The entire school turns into a gallery with all of the classrooms and hallways used as exhibition space."

"It's such a surreal feeling because you come into the school as a freshman and you look at these walls," said **Chelsea Kirchoff**, an Illustration student. "You see this work and you think how can I come up with all this work? I can't believe I'm going to have a whole wall of art."

The college is hosting its annual Student Exhibition and Sale from May 15 to May 29 on campus. The Student Exhibition Opening on Friday, May 15, brings hundreds of visitors and allows students to sell their work and keep the profits, helping them to jump-start their art careers.

Matt Chung, a Photography graduating senior, said the Exhibition is a fun night for students who have put in years of hard work. He will show pieces from his photographic collection entitled, "Detroit Surfaces."

"It's just a completely different experience," he said. "It's like this great reward and it's such a fun night. You look at all the accomplishments."

Bunny Kratchman, a long-time supporter of the arts and former president and CEO of ArtServe Michigan, says she wouldn't dream

of being anywhere else on May 15 but at the Student Exhibition Opening. She and her husband Michael have been attending the show for about 12 years and always come away inspired by what they see.

"I think there is wonderful work coming out of CCS," she said. "It's very sophisticated and technically good. By the time the students are seniors, many of the things that we have purchased don't look like student work."

Chelsea Kirchoff will show and sell fun, colorful and whimsical illustrations. "I want people to smile when they see it," she said.

Bailey Sisoy Isgro will have about 40 pieces of her functional pottery – large decorative platters, cups and bowls, many on which she's carved animal and female mythological symbols.

Gilda Snowden, interim chair of the Fine Arts department at CCS, says the end-of-year show is always highly anticipated in the community.

"The entire school turns into a gallery with all of the classrooms and hallways used as exhibition space," she said. "It is the most beautiful time on campus."

She added that she's proud of the graduating seniors this year and believes they are a critical part of revitalizing the region and the state's economy.

"The creative sector is vital for attracting new people and new companies to the state," she said. "You cannot have a vital community without the creative aspect." – *Elizabeth A. Katz*

📌 Tickets for the Student Exhibition Opening on Friday, May 15, are \$350 for the Collectors' Preview and Private Reception and \$50 for General Admission. The Exhibition will be open to the public from May 16 – 29. Admission is free. Hours are 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., Saturday – Wednesday and 10 a.m. – 8 p.m., Thursday and Friday. For additional information or to purchase tickets call the Events Office at 313.664.7464 or visit www.collegeforcreativestudies.edu/seo.



Molly Valade joins board

CCS Fine Arts alumna Molly Valade recently joined the College's Board of Trustees. Valade, of Grosse Pointe, Mich., is an avid painter and a board member of the Friends of Modern Art, an auxiliary of the Detroit Institute of Arts. Valade also serves on the Board of Trustees of the Grosse Pointe Historical Society and is an Advisory Board Member of the Mothers' Club of Grosse Pointe South High School. Additionally, Valade and her husband Mark, CEO of Carhart Inc., have a private art collection that is steeped in the great art community.

Ed Ruscha

Woodward Lecture Series welcomes one of America's greatest painters

Some of the biggest names in contemporary art have come to CCS this year in celebration of the 10th anniversary of the College's Woodward Lecture Series. On Thursday, May 7, one of America's greatest painters, **Ed Ruscha**, will give a free public lecture.

One of the most consistently inventive artists of the contemporary period, Ruscha (pronounced roo-SHAY) has been a pioneer in the use of language and imagery drawn from the popular media. A painter, printmaker and filmmaker, Ruscha was born in Omaha, Nebraska, in 1937, and lived in Oklahoma City before moving permanently to Los Angeles where he studied at the Chouinard Art Institute from 1956 through 1960. By the early 1960s he was well known for his paintings, collages and printmaking, and for his association with the Ferus Gallery group, which also included artists Robert Irwin, Edward Moses, Ken Price and Edward Kienholz. He later achieved recognition for his now famous textual paintings and photographic books, all influenced by the deadpan irreverence of



Talent shows: Renowned artist Ed Ruscha, pictured in his LA studio, will give a free public lecture at CCS on Thursday, May 7 at 7:30 p.m. (Photo by Kate Simon)

Pop Art, and combining the cityscape of his adopted hometown with vernacular language to communicate a particular urban experience.

Ruscha has been the subject of numerous museum retrospectives that have traveled internationally. In 2005, Ruscha was the

United States representative at the 51st Venice Biennale.

In 2001, Ruscha was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Letters as a member of the Department of Art. *Leave Any Information at the Signal*, a volume of his writings and interviews, was published by MIT Press in 2002, and the first comprehensive monograph on the artist, Richard Marshall's *Ed Ruscha*, was published by Phaidon in 2003. A major retrospective of his work will open at the Hayward Gallery in London later this year.

Ruscha's singular vision, deadpan humor and focus on language have earned him a distinct place in the chronicles of contemporary art history.

▶ Hear Ruscha talk about his extraordinary 50-year career in a public lecture on Thursday, May 7 at 7:30 p.m. in the Wendell W. Anderson Jr. Auditorium, inside the Walter B. Ford II Building on the CCS campus. Lectures are free and open to the public, and seating is limited and on a first-come, first-served basis. **Please call 313.664.7800 for more information.**



THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON OF CCS'S WOODWARD LECTURE SERIES

has brought an impressive group to campus for public lectures and learning sessions including painter, Eric Fischl; photographer, Andres Serrano; art critic, Roberta Smith; and poet and art collaborator, Anne Waldman. With the help of longtime CCS Trustee A. Alfred Taubman the College was able to welcome sculptor **John Chamberlain** (pictured above) to campus for a lecture and lively talk with students.



Industry leaders

CCS alumni involved in award-winning projects

CCS alumni from all disciplines are involved in award-winning projects around the globe. Here are some of the alumni that have recently made the world take notice.

An image from *American Farmer*, an acclaimed book by CCS alumnus **Paul Mobley**, Photography '83, is featured on the second page of this issue of C. The book is a portrait collection of American farmers with short and revealing first person narratives that offer a look inside the hardships and joys of a quickly disappearing way of life.

At the 2009 North American International Auto Show both the Car and Truck of the Year winners were designed by teams led by CCS alumni. The design of the Hyundai Genesis, the first Car of the Year given to a Korean automaker, was directed by **Joel Piaskowski**, Industrial Design '90, who has since assumed the role of president of advanced design, at Mercedes-Benz North America. The design of the Truck of the Year winner, the Ford F-150, was led by **Pat Schiavone**, Industrial Design '88, design director for North American Trucks at Ford Motor Company.

The work of CCS alumni is also being featured

in the entertainment industry. Alumnus **Chris Dowdey**, Industrial Design '68, designed the 1972 Ford Gran Torino, which was used in Clint Eastwood's critically acclaimed movie, "Gran Torino," as his first project at Ford design in the late 1960s.

Alumnus **Jay Shuster**, Industrial Design '93, developed the feature characters WALL-E and Eve in Pixar's Oscar and Golden Globe winning animated film "WALL-E."

CCS Crafts alumna **Annica Cuppetelli** '05, received two prominent awards for her work in fiber design. She was selected as the recipient of the Daimler Financial Services Emerging Artist Award, which honors an innovative work by a graduate of Cranbrook Academy of Art each year, where Cuppetelli received her MFA in 2008. She also was selected as one of 13 artists for the Searchlight Artist Program at the American Craft Council Show, the largest indoor, juried craft show in the nation.

Sleek and stylish: The design of the Truck of the Year winning Ford F-150 (above) was led by a CCS alumnus.



2009 Detroit International Wine Auction

Don't miss the 2009 Detroit International Wine Auction (DIWA) - **October 23 and 24**. Chaired by Don and Shelly Manvel of Birmingham, DIWA features rare and exclusive wine lots, breathtaking opportunities for travel and one-of-a-kind experiences up for auction.

The Manvels are proud to welcome **Bob Bertheau**, Chief Winemaker at Chateau Ste. Michelle Winery in Washington State, as the featured vintner. Chateau Ste. Michelle Winery is part of Ste. Michelle Wine Estates which is the U.S. importer for Antinori and owns many world-class wineries such as Columbia Crest, Col Solare, Northstar and Stag's Leap Wine Cellars.

Last year DIWA raised over \$1.2 million for undergraduate student scholarships and community art programs for underserved Detroit youth.

For more information about the 28th annual DIWA, visit www.collegeforcreativestudies.edu/diwa.

Enriching Detroit's neighborhoods

Recognizing that public art is a vital part of any vibrant community, CCS developed **community+public arts: DETROIT** (CAPD), a citywide initiative that brings public art projects to six Detroit neighborhoods – Osborn on the city's northeast side, the North End near Highland Park and the Lodge Freeway, the Vernor and Chadsey/Condon area of Southwest Detroit and Brightmoor and Cody-Rouge on the city's northwest side. Made possible through generous grants from the **Skillman, JP Morgan Chase and Kresge Foundations**, CAPD paired young people and community members with established Detroit artists in each of the key neighborhoods, the teams worked together to develop public art that fit the personality of their community.



Nelson Foundation provides support

Foundation funds two first-time scholarships to CCS juniors

David and Sylvia Nelson, founders of the Nelson Foundation, raised their children with the notion that they should follow their passions. For eldest daughter, Nicole Bopp, 37, her passion is art history. For son, David Erik, 31, it is writing. And for youngest daughter, Danielle, 27, it is paper making. Yet the Nelsons realize that gaining an arts education is expensive.

"There are a lot of kids at CCS who are incredibly talented," said Bopp, the Foundation's executive director. "The arts just don't provide the scholarships that sports do. The funds are not there."

So the Nelson family started the David Robert and Sylvia Jean Nelson Foundation for Arts and Letters Scholarship, which provides two scholarships to CCS juniors who are entering their senior year.

A first place scholarship of \$3,000 and a \$2,000 second place scholarship will be given to students who are in good academic standing in the Fine Arts, Crafts, Illustration or Photography departments.

Initially planning to offer one \$3,000 scholarship – which was designated to the Foundation by longtime CCS Trustee A. Alfred Taubman – the family decided on a second scholarship after a campus tour.

"We were just walking through and a student came up to Robert Schefman, chair of CCS's Foundation department, and said 'I won't be able to return because I don't have the money,'"



Turning a vision into reality: David and Sylvia Nelson of the Nelson Foundation recently toured CCS's Argonaut Building.

said Bopp. "We were really just blown away. We were also blown away by the breadth and the depth of the facilities."

Although this is the first time the Nelson Foundation has offered scholarship funds to CCS, the family has long been cultural supporters. They established the Nelson Foundation in 2005 and have provided scholarships to the High School for the Performing Arts in Detroit and the University of Michigan, where Sylvia and David Nelson met more than 40 years ago as students.

Bopp said scholarships are critical to maintaining an arts community in Metro Detroit.

"We believe without (funding) those art forms are going to die," she said. "They enrich our lives. Where would we be without painting, photography and art?" – *Elizabeth A. Katz*



Albom Dream Fund grows

Pratt & Miller Engineering recently teamed with Ridemaker2, the first car customizing experience for kids, to introduce two new editions of their famed C6.R and C6RS Chevrolet Corvette models.

To unveil the models, Pratt & Miller hosted an exclusive event at their Metro Detroit facility and invited students from the Detroit Academy of Arts and Sciences to be the first to hold the C6.R and C6RS. In honor of the new editions and to recognize the significant role creativity plays in the industrial design fields, Ridemaker2 contributed \$2,500 and donated a portion of their sales to the Mitch Albom Dream Fund at CCS.

Columnist Mitch Albom started the Dream Fund at CCS in 1992 to provide funding for underserved children to participate in the arts. Since that time, CCS has utilized the Dream Fund to support "Week of a Thousand" youth scholarships and Community Art programs.



NATIONAL PHILANTHROPY DAY

Last November, the Suburban Collection, owned by CCS Trustee **David T. Fischer and his wife Jennifer**, received the Outstanding Corporation Award at the National Philanthropy Day event. This event, sponsored by the Association of Fund Raising Professionals, honors top philanthropists whose gifts impact our community. CCS Volunteer **Debra Hardison-Hill** of Comerica Bank received an Outstanding Volunteer award at the event.

(Richard L. Rogers, Debra Hardison-Hill, Jennifer and David T. Fischer)

Innovating education

When **CCS's Argonaut site opens in September 2009** it will be a driving force in transforming the economy of Southeast Michigan and renewing Detroit. The Argonaut Building will house an integrated educational community, focused on art and design education extending from middle school through graduate school and beyond into the professional realm which will attract, develop and retain talent in creative industries; spur innovative research; renew the infrastructure of Detroit's New Center and create jobs and new business possibilities.

The Argonaut Project will offer a new pathway for inner-city youth to jobs in the dynamic and growing creative industries with the creation of Henry Ford Academy: School for Creative Studies, Detroit's new middle and high school of art, design and creativity.

schools in public spaces. The new middle and high school will combine the College's educational resources with the nationally recognized education model first implemented at Henry Ford Academy in Dearborn, Mich., on the grounds of The Henry Ford.

"Henry Ford Academy: School for Creative Studies is part of a dramatic new vision for

will have the opportunity to learn and thrive in the Argonaut's integrated learning community which will also include CCS undergraduate and graduate programs in design, community outreach activities, student housing, and research and professional activities in the design fields.

"Graduates of School for Creative Studies will be a step ahead of their peers. Whether they want to be advertising designers, comic book illustrators, video game designers, fashion photographers, animators, automotive designers or product designers, the Academy's students will be well-tuned to succeed in their post-secondary art and design education and careers that require skills in the visual arts," said Rogers.

According to **Deborah Parizek**, executive director of Henry Ford Learning Institute, the school is different by design. "Our unique approach is to concentrate on engaging middle and high school students and preparing them for the future through strong academics, a college-going culture, intensive art and design preparation, and real world experiences that focus on innovation and creativity."

Philanthropists **Bob and Ellen Thompson** committed \$19 million to develop the facilities for the school. As an achievement-focused Thompson Educational Foundation 90/90 school and part of the Public School Academies of Detroit system, Henry Ford Academy: School for Creative Studies has committed to graduating at least 90 percent of its students and sending at least 90 percent of graduates on to college.

Henry Ford Academy: School for Creative Studies is part of a dramatic new vision for CCS that will enhance the College's value as a significant community resource.

The Academy is being developed to address the critical shortage of high-performing schools in the city, improve urban student achievement and prepare students with an interest in art for a future in the growing creative professions.

School for Creative Studies is a partnership led by CCS and Henry Ford Learning Institute (HFLI), a nonprofit organization founded by Ford Motor Company and The Henry Ford and dedicated to creating public

schools in public spaces. The new middle and high school will combine the College's educational resources with the nationally recognized education model first implemented at Henry Ford Academy in Dearborn, Mich., on the grounds of The Henry Ford.

The new school will serve 408 students in grades 6, 7 and 9 in 2009 and will increase, at full enrollment, to 880 students in grades 6 through 12. The school is open to all Michigan residents and is tuition-free. Students at Henry Ford Academy: School for Creative Studies

For more information, please visit www.schoolforcreativestudies.org.



Argonaut by the numbers

Ever wonder what is going into renovating the 760,000 square foot, 11-story Argonaut Building?

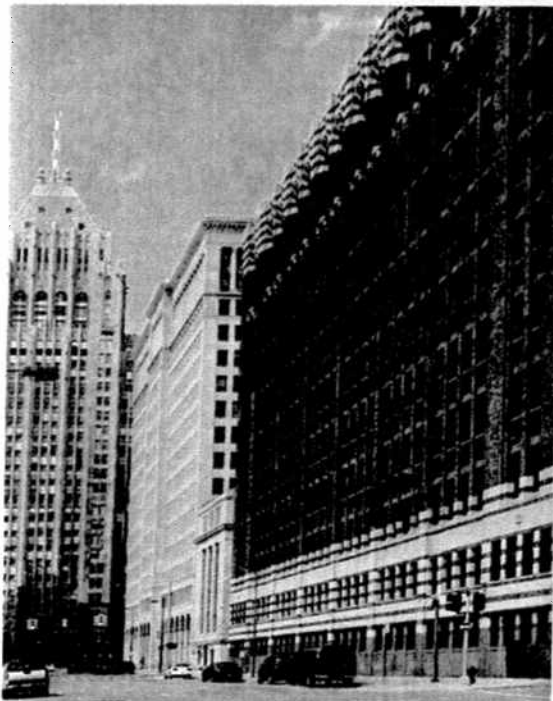
10,000
light fixtures
will illuminate the
Argonaut Building.

1,900
new energy-
efficient windows
installed.

2,000
tons of concrete
poured for the
parking structure.

800
miles of electrical
and ethernet cable
wired to create a
state-of-the-art
"wireless" communi-
cations facility.

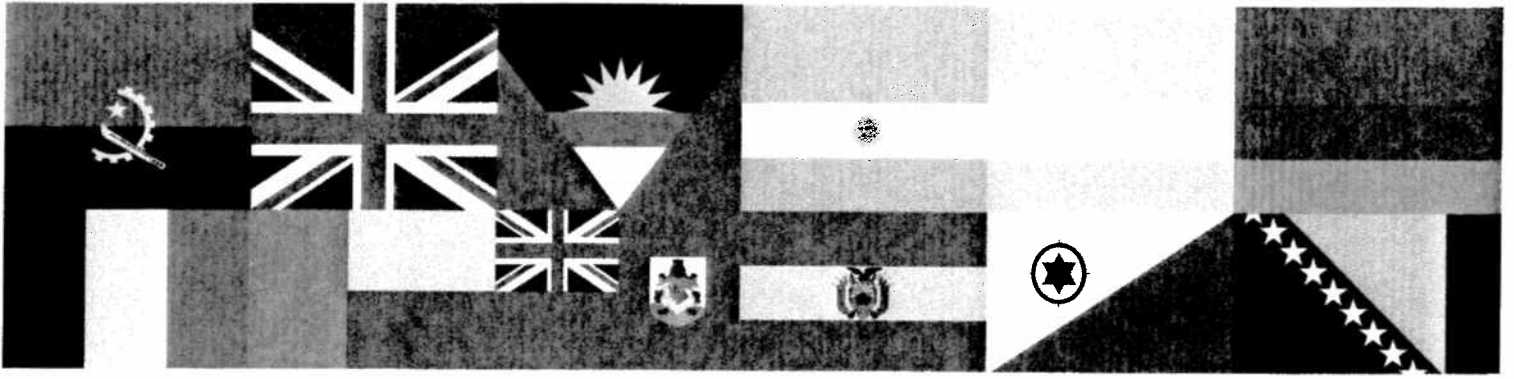
**\$145
million**
is the project cost
to redevelop the
Argonaut Building
and upgrade the
Cultural Center
campus.



(Barbara and Bill Parfet)

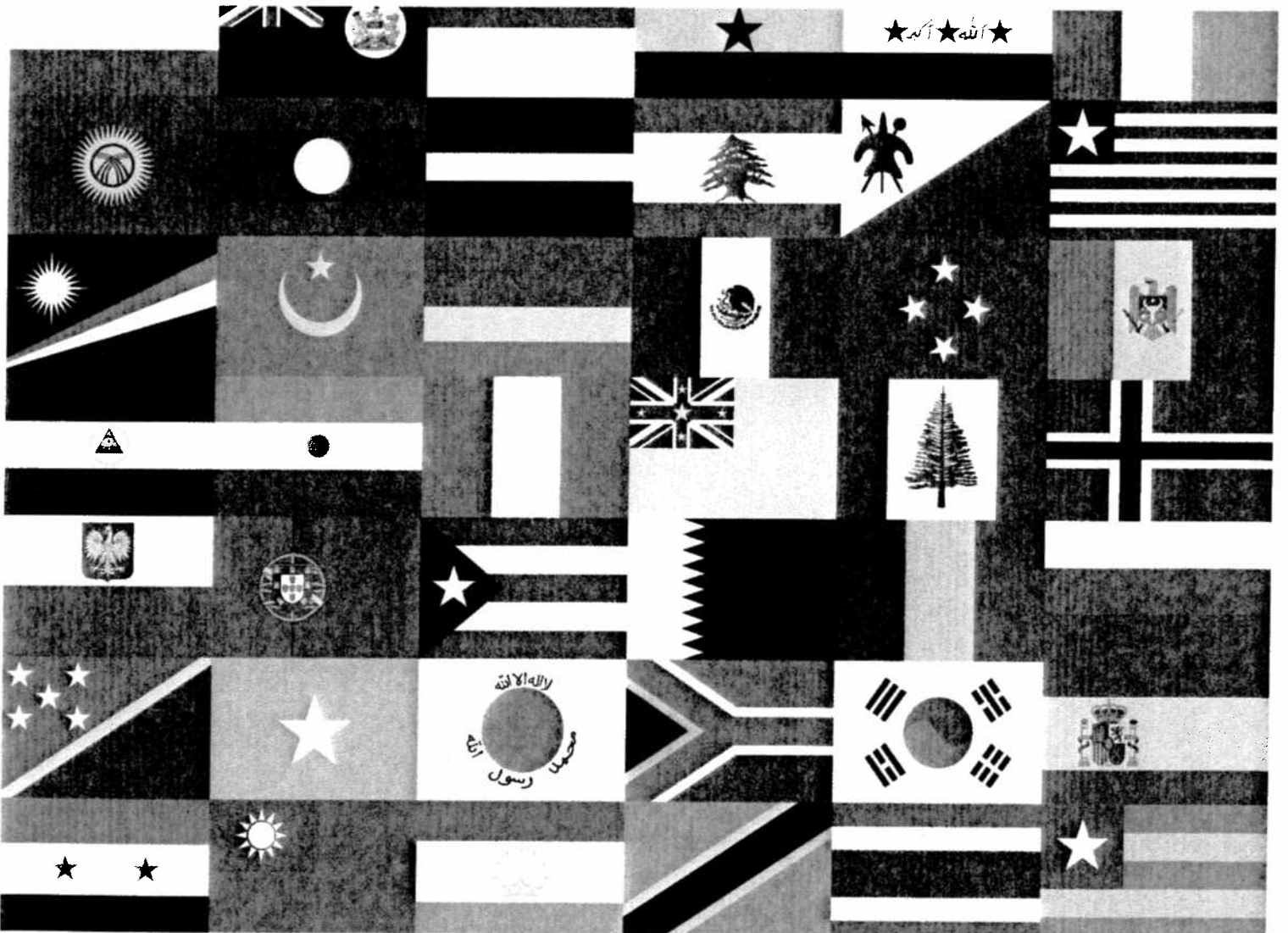
RENOVATION UNDER WAY


CCS is in the midst of redeveloping the historic Argonaut Building, in Detroit's New Center. The College is encouraging its supporters and alumni to learn more about the project – if interested please call 313.664.7472 or visit www.collegeforcreativestudies.edu/argonaut.



Creative education transcends borders

International exposure fuels student, staff creativity, enhances global reputation





The College for Creative Studies is located in Detroit. Creative studies are offered by the faculty and students, spanning the globe. CCS administrators, professors and students keep their fingers on the pulse of international art and design through travel, study abroad and cultural exchanges.

Such activity stimulates students' creativity and can influence their artistic style while enhancing the international reputation of the college. Take **Vincenzo Iavicoli**. The Italian-born chair of Product Design at CCS has been traveling for business and pleasure most of his adult life. His network of colleagues and friends is widespread, allowing him to promote the college and its students from Milan to Tokyo.

"The college's international involvement is important because we live in a globalized world," Iavicoli says. "It is important to know what is going on in other countries and cultures. It improves our way of living and working."

Japanese-born **Kunihisa Ito**, CCS professor of Transportation Design, says his varied career as a designer and his trips to Asia to conduct workshops and presentations enable him to better teach his students about the many facets of Asian culture and transportation design. "Observing various cultures helps designers do better work," he explains. "All of the good designers I know have international experience."

He, along with **Joanne Healy**, the Korean-born director of graduate studies at CCS, shared ideas about design and talked about the upcoming Master of Fine Arts program at the International Design Symposium 2009 in Tokyo in late January. One objective was to help designers meet current and future challenges in the industry.

The exchange of international ideas isn't restricted to just the design world. Artists from various backgrounds understand the importance of crossing borders to enhance their skills and better educate the next generation of artists.

Zimbabwe-born **Chido Johnson**, CCS Fine Arts professor, exchanged places with professor Ingo Vetter at the Academy of Fine Arts in Umea, Sweden this fall. Johnson conducted a workshop in subzero Kiruna, Sweden in a magnetite mine. He and his students explored casting magnetite, an iron ore mineral, and mixing it with other materials. He stayed at the ICEHOTEL, a modern day testament to art and nature outside of Jukkasjärvi, Sweden.

Meanwhile, Vetter taught one of Johnson's CCS Sculpture classes and ran a tutorial and an interdisciplinary class. The two met when Vetter was in Detroit for the *Shrinking Cities* exhibit at Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit. Johnson is working on having a student exchange in the fall with Vetter's academy in Sweden.

"Global awareness is so essential," he says. "These exchanges are good for CCS students and for the reputation of the school. They help students question and redefine perception. More students are aware that they are not in a vacuum."

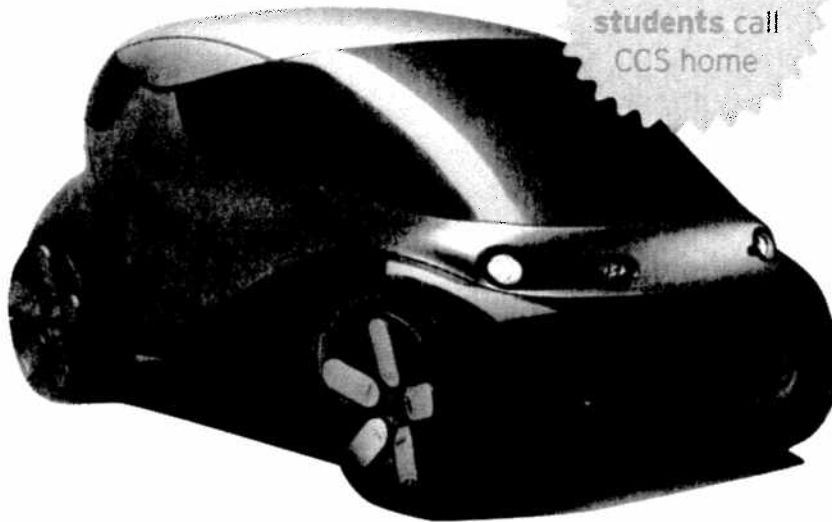
"You don't understand your home as much until you are away from it. It's not so much about going to Sweden as it is about going to Sweden to understand Detroit," Johnson adds.

Ito shares that philosophy. During one of his many trips to Asia, Ito came away with the idea of conducting a Summer Immersion Program based on interaction with local designers. While in Shanghai in 2007, he conducted a workshop on intensive, transportation design for Chinese designers. He was delighted when more than 30 designers attended and surprised to learn that in Asia there are almost no schools that focus on automotive design. "I was strongly motivated to promote CCS," he says.

The seed was planted, and with the blessing of Hungarian-born Dean **Imre Molnar** and President **Richard Rogers** the college agreed to conduct an intensive month-long program for Asian designers to gain exposure to American car design. Eight Japanese designers in their twenties and thirties came to Detroit last July to learn traditional automotive sketching and rendering skills. Each designed a car and produced a drawing and a small model.

(continued)

75
international
students call
CCS home



On weekends, the group visited automotive-related cultural activities, including the Woodward Dream Cruise, The Henry Ford, the GM Heritage Museum, the W.P. Chrysler Museum, the Gilmore Car Museum and the Meadowbrook Concours d'Elegance.

"The designers enjoyed their time in Detroit," said Ito. "They were impressed with the amount of talent and creativity in the city and the region."

Molnar says CCS places a high value on the staff's international experience and exposure. "We believe in delivering on the promise to students and their parents who invest in a CCS education to provide a world-class education. We teach and

Worldwide reputation: Many international students come to CCS for its world-renowned Transportation Design program including Filip Bosevski, Bitola, Macedonia, who designed the Hyundai concept (above) and James Tabujara, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, who redesigned the 100 year-old iconic Ford Model T (below).

walk the talk. For professors to be leaders and at the top of their game, they need to have a strong international context in their work. We take the responsibility seriously that we have connections and immersion in international locations. We are very aggressive. These goals are high on our mission statement."

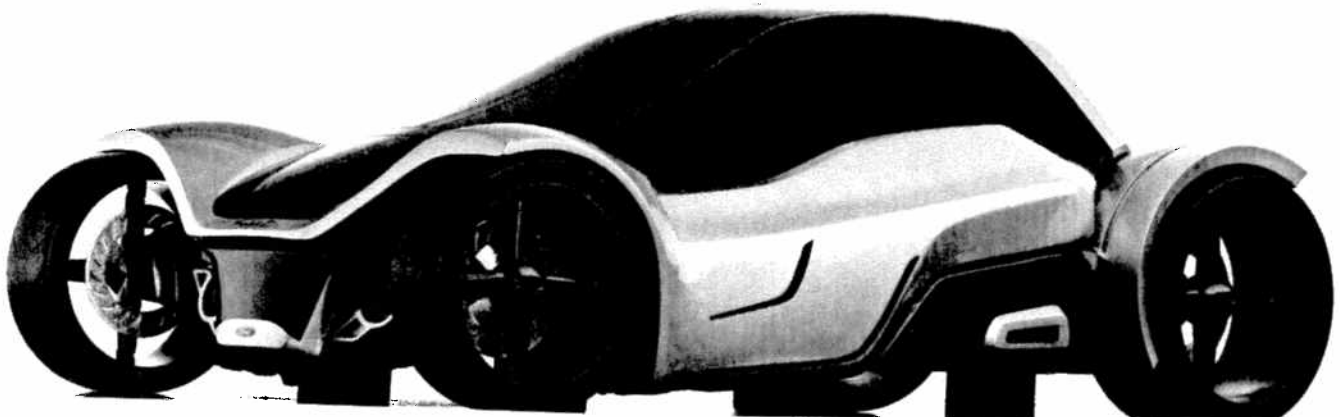
He says the college works hard to offer international internships to students.

"Our Career Services department attracts people from all over the world to come to Detroit to see our talent. Kuni's workshop last summer had a lot of value for us and the Japanese designers had an extraordinary experience at CCS."

Cathy Karry, CCS's director of career services, says in the current distressed economy and even before, employers are looking to hire students who have experience that makes them stand out. "Our students are interested in exploring international opportunities. Inquiries for internships are up 30 percent," she says. "Students who have done internships bring influences back to our college."

One student did four internships in a row – one in Dearborn and one in Europe for Ford and two in Asia. "He came back a changed person. His work progressed and he learned a lot about himself and became more confident. Now he has this network of personal and professional contacts."

Jennifer Dickey, director of international student services, says CCS's 75 international students come from countries all over the world. "These students bring a new cultural perspective to our campus and to the city," she says. At the same time, the college's study abroad program's 30 students come back with a new viewpoint on art and design. "It opens their



eyes and puts them on a different level," Dickey says. She adds that often they make personal connections while overseas that later in their career can become professional connections. "For a lot of our Detroit area students, this is their first time abroad. They go to Asia, and it's an amazing experience for them," she says.

CCS's international success at the undergraduate level is expected to continue at the graduate level. Joanne Healy, who joined CCS in January, says the new graduate program is being heavily promoted in Europe and Asia and is modeled to attract international students.

Interest in the MFA program is high from international students and working professionals, says Healy. Applications are coming from countries such as Korea, China, India, Turkey, Greece, Germany

and Taiwan. The new program will start small, with 20 students. Those chosen will be diverse in background and experience. "We are actively reviewing applications now," she says. Already 47 percent of accepted graduate students are international.

She says the school's graduate program is being developed to extend students' undergraduate experience and to be global in scope. The University of Michigan's Stephen M. Ross School of Business will provide the business component of the curriculum.

"The bar has been raised in what the school's MFA program needs to offer students. The student makeup will be international, and we have interest from schools abroad about potential exchange programs," she says. "It is difficult to find an industry that is geographically limited now. The way businesses are set up and with technological advances, it is hard for a business to be isolated."

CCS faculty and staff are always looking for opportunities to bring international exposure to the work being done at the College. Professors such as Iavicoli are often invited to universities in other countries to teach or speak. He went to Temasek University in Singapore recently to evaluate the design department's curriculum. In May, he will attend the 5th International Conference on Planning and Design at the National Cheng Kung University in Taiwan to discuss the impact CCS's plans for the Argonaut Building will have on Detroit.

Iavicoli enjoys sharing photos and presentations from his travels with CCS students. "No question, I'm seeing an increasing number of students studying abroad and a more international student body here," he said. — *Marti Benedetti*

CCS launches graduate programs

In fall 2009 CCS will launch Master of Fine Arts degree programs in Design and Transportation Design with the support of the McGregor Fund. The intensely competitive two-year programs build upon CCS's strong tradition of educating highly-skilled designers and will include cross-disciplinary collaborative projects with international companies.

Unlike other MFA programs in the United States, CCS offers a new approach to graduate design education — one based on the conviction that the most effective designers are those who have a firm grasp of the business in which design operates.

The programs are being led by a team of imaginative creators and savvy business minds.

Joanne Healy, director of graduate studies, has over 20 years of strategic marketing and design experience in the areas of brand management, corporate communications, environmental and interactive design. Before joining CCS she served as vice president of Interactive Strategies Group at T. Rowe Price Associates. Under her leadership, the group's interactive work received top rankings for its interface design, educational tools and content. Healy has a MFA in Graphic Design from Yale University.

Aiding Healy in the effort to develop the graduate programs at CCS are internationally acclaimed designer and educator Maria Luisa Rossi, chair of MFA Design and well-known automotive designer Larry Erickson, Paul and Helen Farago Chair of Transportation Design, who heads both the graduate and undergraduate Transportation Design programs at CCS.

Combined the trio brings decades of business and design experience to the program.

► To learn more about the MFA Design and Transportation Design programs, its leadership and faculty visit www.collegeforcreativestudies.edu/mfa.



Leading Perspective: (clockwise from top) Joanne Healy, Larry Erickson and Maria Luisa Rossi join the CCS MFA staff.



First-ever
Kresge
Eminent
Artist

Charles McGee

As Detroit's Charles McGee reflects on his 75-year career in the visual arts and the legacy he will leave, he asks simply to be remembered "that I was honest and that I never felt as though 'I've made it,' because there is so much to discover out there."

"I appreciate the fact that people recognize me to the extent they'd ask me to create a work of art," explains McGee. "But at the end of the day, it's good to feel like I'm still reaching."

Among the milestones McGee cherishes most in life are his year-long artistic sojourn in Barcelona in 1968, the founding of his own art school and gallery in Detroit in 1969, his calling to teach art at Eastern Michigan University for 18 years – and, most recently, his selection as the inaugural 2008 Kresge Eminent Artist and recipient of a \$50,000 award from the Kresge Foundation.

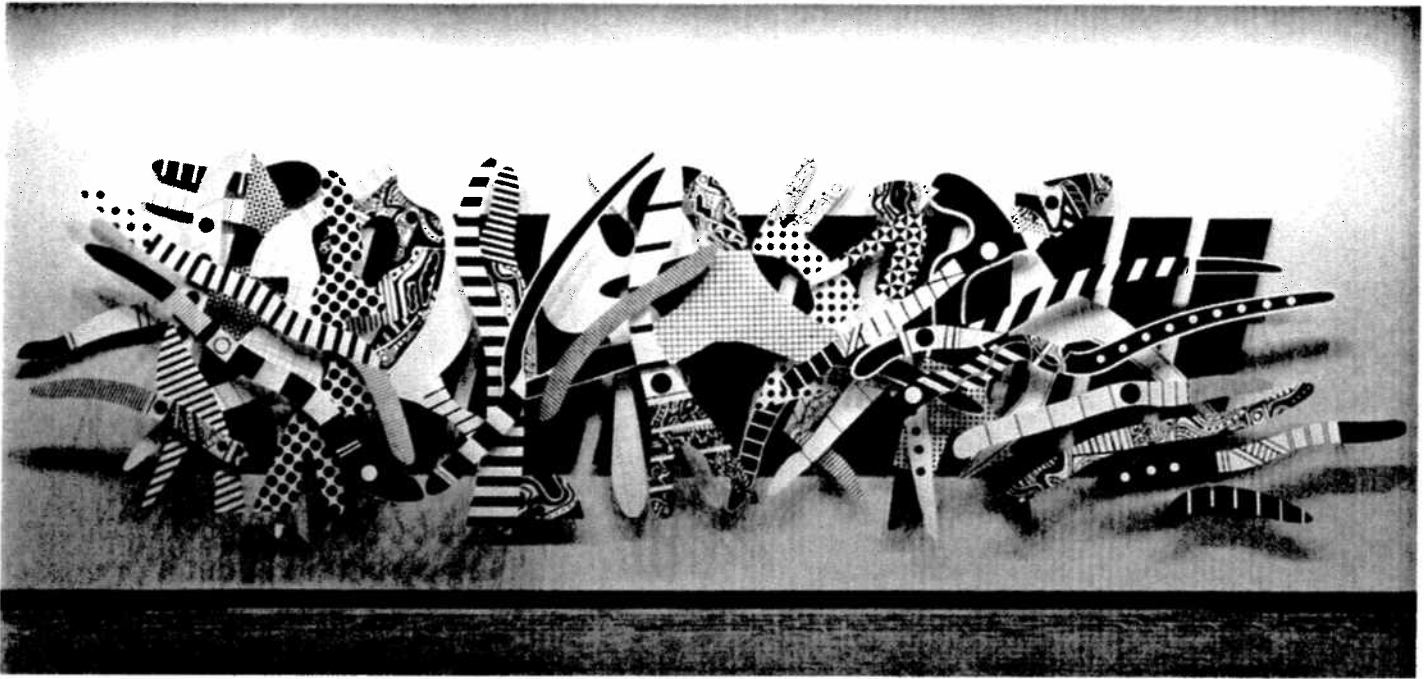
Hailed as a **"father figure to generations of artists,"** McGee has devoted much of his life to teaching and mentoring.

The three-part, \$8.8 million Kresge Arts in Detroit initiative – Kresge Eminent Artist Award, Kresge Artist Fellowships and Kresge Arts Support – was designed to promote, develop and financially support individual artists, arts and cultural organizations and arts-infrastructure groups in Detroit's Tri-County Area. The Kresge Eminent Artist Award honors one exceptional Detroit artist each year alternating annually between the visual and performing or literary arts, for his or her professional achievements, cultural contributions and commitment to the local arts community. It is administered by the College for Creative Studies.

"This is a really fantastic thing that has happened to me," McGee says. "It signifies there are people out in this 'forest' who have the wherewithal to validate my participation in the arts as being worthy of notice. Not that I need it. But it's nice to know it's confirmed."

Rip Rapson, president of the Kresge Foundation, characterizes Charles McGee as an outstanding individual who "exemplifies what it means to be eminent and to be a Detroit. He is an artist of international renown who in his life and his work is energetic, passionate, always probing and eager to reinvent."

Few individuals have come from such humble beginnings and done so much to realize their own artistic potential and to nurture the talent of others as McGee. Over the last seven decades, he has earned a well-deserved reputation as a trailblazer in the contemporary arts, a passionate arts educator, a dedicated mentor of aspiring young and African American



artists and a tireless promoter of community arts in Detroit neighborhoods.

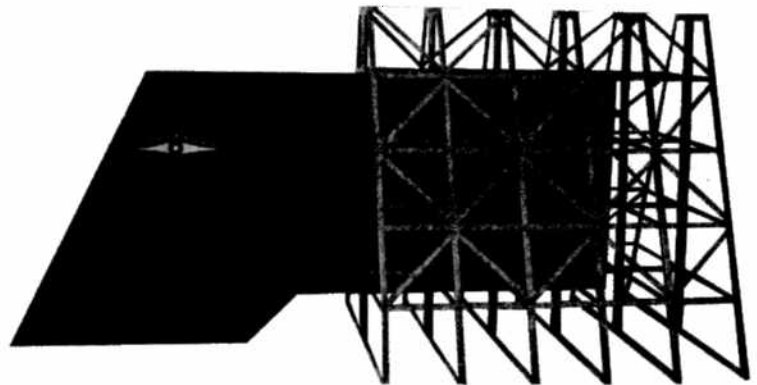
Along this trajectory, he has emerged as an important chronicler of black life in urban America and a social commentator on the ills of war, poverty and civil unrest that are antithetical to his vision of building a better, more beautiful and uplifting world.

Detroit has played a formative role in McGee's personal and professional life. The Motor City was the first place he attended elementary school, at age 10, after growing up on his grandparents' farm in rural South Carolina and migrating to the industrialized North. He left school halfway through the 10th grade to enter the workforce.

After serving in the Marine Corps during World War II, McGee returned to Detroit where he worked in an automotive factory, attended art classes at the Society of Arts and Crafts (now the College for Creative Studies) and, in 1953, became a cartographic draftsman for the Corps of Engineers.

In return for the many doors Detroit opened to him, McGee developed an unwavering loyalty to the city and its residents, and endowed it with much of his artistic energy and artwork. "Detroit really has been a heaven for me," McGee explains. "It has given me dignity and treated me with respect."

When other artists flocked to New York in the 1960s and 1970s, he stayed. "Detroit was more fitting with my temperament, and I wanted to build a mecca here for young artists, especially for black artists, because at that time, they had very little exposure." In addition to establishing Gallery 7 as an artists' collective and starting the Charles McGee School of Art, which operated from 1969 to 1974, McGee co-founded with artist Jean Heilbrunn and others the Contemporary Art Institute of Detroit in an attempt to invigorate the local art scene.



Works of Art: Kresge Eminent Artist Charles McGee's creations include "Black Echo" 2007 (opposite top left); "Regeneration" 2007 (opposite right with the artist and top) (photos by Ray Manning); and "Sphinx" 1989 (photo by Charles McGee).

Today, the paintings, sculptures and assemblages created by Charles McGee enrich and beautify the day-to-day lives of people who pass through the Detroit Institute of Arts, Henry Ford Hospital, the Detroit People Mover's Broadway station and Eastern Michigan, Central Michigan and Michigan State Universities, among many other sites.

"Charles McGee has been like a father figure to generations of artists," says Valerie Mercer, curator of African American art at the Detroit Institute of Arts. "He has made a tremendous contribution to advancing knowledge of contemporary art in Detroit, to making the Detroit art scene better known in the city and to bringing art into our communities." — Claudia Capos. Reprinted with permission from the Kresge Foundation.

For more information, please visit www.kresgeartsindetroit.org.



HYUNDAI DESIGN

Senior Transportation Design students developed small vehicle designs for the year 2020. The students addressed the needs of today's changing automotive landscape, and the global issues that will face society in the future. CCS alumni **Chris Zarlenga** provided guidance throughout the project.



NIKE, INC.

Students worked in interdisciplinary design teams, consisting of a member from the **Product Design, Graphic Design and Photography departments**, creating innovative basketball shoes for several Michigan-based schools. The final shoe concepts were inspired by team dynamics, rituals, geographic location and other factors.



AMERICAN CHEMISTRY COUNCIL - PLASTICS DIVISION

Junior Transportation Design students designed a light and efficient city car for the year 2020. The concepts developed for Mumbai, Cairo, Chongqing, Moscow and New York City utilize innovative plastic technology and display harmony with the requirements of the intended market.

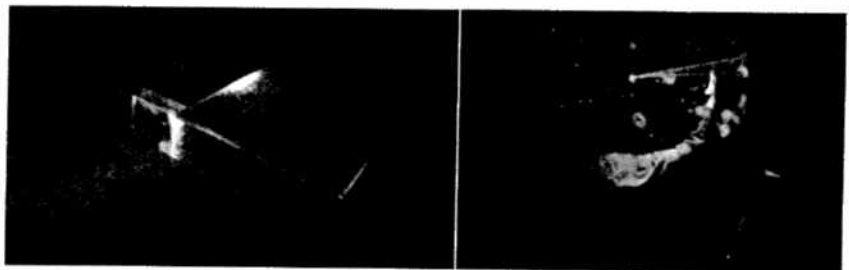
Companies across the globe realize that design plays an increasingly crucial role in the competitiveness of their products. Therefore CCS's corporate partners are continuing to expand and diversify their relationship with the College.

Projects for the fall 2008 semester included:



SUBARU

Junior Transportation Design students designed a compact crossover utility vehicle interior aimed at people in their twenties and thirties which would be available for purchase in the United States in the year 2020.



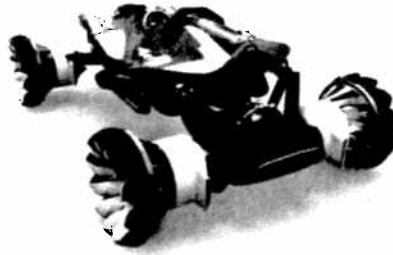
BAYER MATERIAL SCIENCE

Graphic Design students researched and prototyped concepts to develop improved routes to market. The students partnered with OEM designers, using ethnography and other appropriate methods for conducting research. The "Wow" factor was an important consideration in the students research and included using channels such as YouTube, Flickr, Twitter, podcasts and other forms of social communication.



SIMMONS MICHELSON ZIEVE ADVERTISING

Advertising Design seniors conducted research and produced advertising concepts for clients selected by SMZ Advertising. The studio work complemented the information presented in the course and provided students with practical advertising experience. During the semester the students worked on an eco-friendly campaign for the Detroit Tigers, with the logo pictured above, designed by **Michelle Graham** selected for use by the team.



MICHELIN DESIGN CHALLENGE

In this **20th anniversary** project with Michelin, students in the Transportation Design department utilized Alias to design and render a tire for 2019. The students incorporated innovative technologies not available in the market today. Students also proposed the exterior of a vehicle utilizing their tire design. The vehicle reflected the students interpretation of "Brave and Bold: Design America's Next Iconic Vehicle."



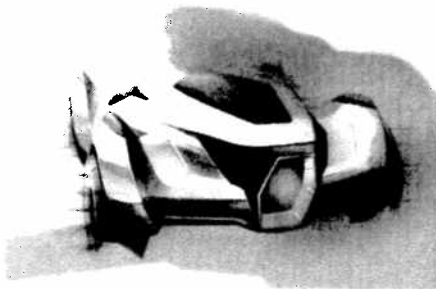
AMERICAN IRON AND STEEL INSTITUTE (AISI)

In this **20th anniversary** internship project conducted during the summer 2008 semester, three senior students in Transportation Design conceptualized, rendered and created models of concept vehicles with a foundation that was built upon a cleaner conscience and eco-friendly design. The project theme was "Green Steel."



MOTOROLA

Junior and senior Product Design students developed the next generation mobile experience in collaboration with Motorola. The students were challenged to think about the following: eco-considerations, the holistic user experience, cultural diversity, technical feasibility, usability, age and gender. The Product Design students also worked with senior students in Graphic Design to enhance the user interface experience. The studio was supported by Motorola designers and **CCS alumni Mike Paradise and Mike Seflic**.



PITTSBURGH GLASS WORKS (PGW)

In this **10th anniversary** project with PGW, sophomore Transportation Design students designed a vehicle that addressed the functional needs of a "lifestyle vehicle buyer." The students created a vehicle that reflected emerging consumer trends and the lifestyle vehicle buyer's attitudes about vehicle ownership. Additionally, the students were challenged to develop a styling theme that would differentiate it from the mass market.

➤ CCS recognizes the importance of providing students with real-world experiences and enhanced training to prepare them to become industry leaders. CCS's corporate partners financially support highly conceptual sponsored projects that provide students the opportunity to participate in creative, research based assignments within real-world design parameters and encourage inventive and unique design concepts. Corporate partners commit design and technical staff to guide students by providing expertise and feedback; which in turn enables partners to gain access to fresh, unique and innovative ideas. Similarly, they can evaluate creative talent for internship and employment opportunities. CCS's corporate partners are recognized as patrons of design education and can utilize their sponsorships for public relations and marketing purposes.

For more information please contact
the.williamstetter@ccs.edu or [412-392-3100](tel:412-392-3100).

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