P ratt Institute will present Legends 2009, a scholar-
ship benefit honoring fashion designer Marc
Jacobs; architect and designer David Rockwell; and
performer, poet, and visual artist Patti Smith on
Thursday, October 29, 2009 at 7 World Trade Center,
250 Greenwich Street in Manhattan. The event begins
with a cocktail reception at 6 PM followed by a dinner,
awards ceremony, and special performance by Patti Smith.
Tickets are required.

Legends 2009 will be hosted by Pratt President
Thomas F. Schutte and Board of Trustees Chair Mike
Pratt. Trustees Kurt Andersen and Amy Cappellazzo,
and Pratt friend Marjorie Kuhn are serving as co-chairs
of the event.

Marc Jacobs, one of the most recogniz-
able names in fashion, is currently the designer
for his namesake line and creative director for the
French fashion house Louis Vuitton, where he has
worked since 1997. Jacobs has multiple Council of
Fashion Designers of America (CFDA) awards to his
credit including the 2009 CFDA International Award
for Louis Vuitton. Jacobs designed his first collec-
tion with the Marc Jacobs label in 1986 and debuted
his secondary line, Marc by Marc Jacobs, in 2001.

David Rockwell is C.E.O. and founder of
Rockwell Group, an award-winning, cross-disciplinary
architecture and design practice, based in New
York City, with satellite offices in Madrid and Dubai. Their
projects include The Kodak Theatre, Los Angeles; inte-
rior work and brand conceptualization for the JetBlue
terminal at John F. Kennedy International Airport,
New York; set design for Broadway’s Hair spray and the
2009 Academy Awards; and Nobu restaurants world-
wide. The recipient of numerous honors, including the
2008 Smithsonian Cooper-Hewitt’s Nation Design
Award for Interior Design, Rockwell has also authored
two published books.

Patti Smith is an iconic performer, poet, and
visual artist who was inducted into the Rock and Roll
Hall of Fame in 2007. After migrating to New York
in 1967, she teamed up with Pratt student Robert
Mapplethorpe to encourage each other’s creative
processes; her book about their friendship will be
published in 2010. Her extensive recording cata-

log includes the seminal 1975 album Horses (Arista,
2005); trampin’ (Columbia, 2004); Peace and Noise
(BMG, 1997); and Dream of Life (Arista, 1996).

The Legends awards were conceived in 1999 to
celebrate distinguished individuals from the worlds
of art and design, whose accomplishments and values
resonate with those of Pratt Institute. The event’s mis-
sion is to raise funds to provide financial aid to Pratt
students based on need and merit. Eighty percent
of Pratt’s students require financial aid. Every dollar
raised through Legends strengthens the student body
by increasing the scholarship endowment.

For tickets, please contact Special Events by email
at mhambourg@pratt.edu.

PRATT FINE ARTS STUDENTS AND ALUMNI IN THE LIMELIGHT WITH AWARDS AND EXHIBITIONS

P ratt’s graduate Fine Arts Department, ranked
among the top 15 fine arts programs in the coun-
try by U.S. News & World Report last year, is gaining ever
more visibility as its students and graduates continue
to achieve great success.

Graduate fine arts students Charlotte Meyer and Kris Scheifele have won coveted 2009 Joan Mitchell
Fellowships for their accomplishments in sculpture and
painting, respectively. Christopher Favale (B.F.A. ’10),
has earned a prestigious Yale-Norfolk residency and
Jacob Gossett (B.F.A. ’10), attended the Skowhegan
School of Painting and Sculpture. His

The New York Times extensively reviewed in the arts and Leisure section of

Edward MapplethorpE
Paul Godwin

MARC Jacobs, DAVID ROCKWELL, AND PATTI SMITH NAMED 2009 PRATT LEGENDS
ANNUAL PRATT SCHOLARSHIP BENEFIT TO BE HELD OCTOBER 29

Saggy Contortion by Kris Scheifele
The Promise (for five keys) by Charlotte Meyer

at Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture. His
work was featured in several exhibitions nationwide
in 2009.

The Arts and Leisure section of The New York
Times on Sunday, April 12 recognized the career suc-
cess and talent of the two Pratt fine arts alumnas—
both former full scholarship recipients—who now
teach part-time at the Institute.

Alumna Jean Shin, adjunct associate professor,
Fine Arts, was cited for her latest exhibition “Jean
Shin: Common Threads,” which was on view at the
Smithsonian American Art Museum in Washington,
D.C., through July 26. Shin had been commissioned
by the museum to create an installation composed of
more than 2,000 donated trophies.

Alumna Mickalene Thomas was lauded in The New York Times for her first New York solo show this spring
at Lehmann Maupin Gallery, and she currently is
exhibiting a solo show at La Contessa Contemplative
Art Space, Spain. Thomas’s photographs will be exhib-
it at the International Center of Photography’s
Triennial in New York from October 2, 2009 through
January 17, 2010 and at Pratt from September 21
to September 26, 2009. (See insert.)
facultY anD staff focus

CHRISTOPHER X JON JENSEN, Assistant Professor, Math and Science Department

You started teaching at Pratt in 2007 after receiving your Ph.D. in ecology and evolution from Stony Brook University, where you taught science majors. What’s it like teaching science at an art school? Gloriously different. I get to work with students representing almost all of the disciplines on campus, and the projects they complete in media ranging from poetry to architectural design reflect the diverse creativity of the student body. Seeing through their eyes provides fresh perspectives on my field. I also love to see students use science as an inspiration for their own body of creative work. Sometimes the most abstract takes on a subject are the most interesting.

This fall, you’re introducing a new course in Behavioral Ecology. Tell us about the course. Behavioral ecology is an exciting field because it recognizes that an evolutionary rationale potentially underlies all behaviors. We will consider why different animal behaviors have evolved, looking at not just the function but also the ultimate goal of each set of behaviors. In keeping with the idea of the “citizen scientist,” which suggests that anyone can engage in the process of scientific inquiry, the course will center on observational studies of behavior designed and conducted by the students. The goal is to get knee-deep in the scientific process without worrying about whether the results are scientifically novel.

The subject of cooperation plays a large part in your courses at Pratt and in your own research. How did you become interested in this aspect of interaction? No other adaptation is as important to the human species. Yet, current evolutionary theory doesn’t do a good job of explaining why humans work together as effectively as we do, leading to the very unsatisfactory conclusion that somehow humans are an exception to the rules of evolution. While we are exceptional, I certainly don’t think that we have escaped the evolutionary process, so we need to expand our understanding of this process to explain ourselves. This isn’t an just an academic pursuit: I firmly believe that understanding the tension between selfishness and cooperation is the key to creating social policies that prevent us from causing our own extinction.

You recently collaborated with Dylan Moore, a Pratt graduate student in digital arts, to develop a simulation of prairie dog group formation in relation to food scarcity. How has this collaboration affected your research? It has had a dramatic effect on my work. It’s rare for ecological models to have a visual component—most function as “black boxes” with only input and output, so there’s little insight into what is actually going on inside the system. I discovered that visualizing that process allows for a more accurate depiction of the biological system. I expect that as ecological models become more sophisticated the use of advanced visualization technologies will increase. We can understand a two-dimensional graph quite well, but we need more help with multi-dimensional data. The field of digital arts has a lot of potential to improve the way scientists see.

Do you have plans to incorporate other types of digital or visual media into your research? Absolutely. I am hooked on using visualizations to develop ecological and evolutionary models. I also enjoy developing teaching tools for the science classroom using these media. In conjunction with the Center for Sustainable Design Studies, I just completed a Flash-based game called “The Evolution of Sustainable Use” that teaches students about the over-exploitation of ecological resources. It is available for anyone to use at http://mysite.pratt.edu/~cjensen/evosususe/ToolUse.html.

You use the pen name “Christopher X. Jensen.” What does the “X” stand for? Wow, you are asking about my secret identity! The “X” does not stand for anything in particular, which is part of the point, but it is a symbol representing my interest in all things digital in all domains. It is part of the point, but it is a symbol representing my interest in all things digital in all domains. I try to live my life beyond expectations, and the “X” contains that spirit. It also makes it easier to search for my published work since there is probably only one C. X. Jensen out there.

Debbie Rabina

Debbie Rabina, assistant professor, SILS, presented a poster at the Joint Conference on Digital Libraries in Austin, Texas, in June. The poster gave preliminary results from a study on usage of the Kindle portable e-book reader. Dr. Rabina is studying the impact of e-books on reading habits as well as their potential for libraries.

fACulty and stAff notes

ELLEN KOZAK, adjunct professor, Foundation Art, is showing recent paintings and a new work in digital media at the National Museum of Art from July 12 through October 4.

CRISTINA PATTUELL, assistant professor, SILS, participated in the 2009 North American Symposium on Knowledge Organization held at Syracuse University on June 18 and 19.

TRANSITIONS

FIONA APPROO has been appointed acting director of financial aid at Pratt. Approo, who replaced Karen Price-Scott, has served as the associate director of financial aid at Pratt for the past five years. She holds a bachelor of science degree from Nyack College.

LONN COMBS has been named acting chair of Pratt’s undergraduate architecture program as of August 3, 2009. He replaces Evan Douglas, who is stepping down after serving as department chair since 2003 to become dean of the school of architecture at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, N.Y.

REBECCA PAILES-FRIEDMAN, a Pratt alumna and fashion design executive with over 15 years of experience, has been named acting chair of the Institute’s fashion design department, as of July 1, 2009. She has taught in Pratt’s fashion and industrial design departments since 1998 and received her B.F.A. from Rhode Island School of Design, his M.F.A. from Columbia University, and has held a Fulbright-Hays Fellowship in Italy.

TODD MICHAEL GALITZ NAMED VP FOR INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT

Todd Michael Galitz

P ratt Institute has named Todd Michael Galitz, a senior fundraising professional with more than 14 years of development experience, as its new Vice President for Institutional Advancement. His appointment will begin on August 24, 2009.

Galitz comes to Pratt Institute from the Asia Society, where he served as vice president of external affairs and oversaw that institution’s wide-ranging fundraising efforts. Prior to his appointment as vice president in 2005, he served for four years as Asia Society’s director of foundation and corporate relations, and he previously held fundraising positions at Columbia University and Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts. In addition to his development background, Galitz brings to Pratt his expertise as a scholar and educator. He has a doctorate in history from Brown University, and has held teaching positions at Brown, Hunter College, and Manhattan College.

As Vice President for Institutional Advancement, Galitz will be responsible for leading Pratt’s overall development and external relations efforts, which include raising funds for such institutional priorities as student scholarships, faculty development, buildings and grounds, historic preservation, sustainability initiatives, and community engagement.

“Based on his outstanding record of achievement, I am confident that Todd will be an extraordinary fundraiser,” said Pratt Institute President Thomas F. Schurte. “His impressive background and expertise in both the arts and higher education will be essential as we embark on an ambitious plan to secure Pratt’s place as the preeminent training ground for 21st century creative professionals.”

Some of Galitz’s most significant accomplishments at the Asia Society include successfully completing an $81 million capital campaign, directing a $30 million annual international fundraising and membership program, overseeing the institution’s record-breaking $4 million fundraising dinner, doubling annual corporate contributions, and creating a new business advisory council as well as a corporate diversity outreach program.

Galitz, who was the recipient of an Andrew W. Mellon Teaching Fellowship and a University of Warwick Research Fellowship, also holds a master’s degree in history from Brown University and a bachelor’s degree in history and political science from the University of Southern California, where he graduated magna cum laude.

“I am honored to serve at Pratt, which has such a distinguished history and, at the same time, a dynamic and forward-looking educational vision,” said Galitz. “I welcome working closely with the entire Pratt community in achieving the Institute’s ambitions for the future.”
PRATT ANNOUNCES ReIGNITE! 2009
ANNUAL REUNION TO BE HELD SEPTEMBER 25–26

PRATT TO PRESENT “ReDEFINING THE GOOD LIFE” SYMPOSIUM ON SEPTEMBER 26
TRUSTEE KURT ANDERSEN TO DELIVER KEYNOTE ADDRESS

This fall, the Office of Alumni Relations will present a symposium for students, alumni, faculty, and friends on redefining the good life in conjunction with Pratt’s 2009 alumni reunion weekend. This symposium will bring together world-class social innovators to discuss the meaning of creative value in the 21st century. It will take place from 2–5:30 PM on September 26 in Memorial Hall on Pratt’s Brooklyn campus.

The afternoon will begin with a keynote address by Pratt Trustee Kurt Andersen, the critically acclaimed novelist, host of the public radio show Studio 360, and author of the new book Reset: How This Crisis Can Restore Our Values and Renew America. His lecture will be followed by talks from compelling thought leaders including director of video field production for Barack Obama, Arun Chaudhary; prolific designer Karim Rashid; nationally recognized installation artist Jean Shin; contemporary artist Mary Temple; world-famous architect Carlos Zapata; and expert in global foresight and innovation, Andrew Zolli.

A book signing with Andersen will follow the symposium. The event is free and open to the public; however, tickets are required due to limited seating. To RSVP, please contact Alumni Relations at alumni@pratt.edu.

“ReDEFINING THE GOOD LIFE” SPEAKERS

ARUN CHAUDHARY is a filmmaker working in politics, who has set a new standard in documenting history. A key member of Barack Obama’s New Media team during the presidential campaign and transition period, Chaudhary now serves as the official white team during the presidential campaign and transition house videographer. His work defines him as a new type of political auteur, with a unique style that challenges convention.

KARIM RASHID is one of the most prolific industrial designers of his generation, with more than 3,000 designs in production, more than 300 awards, and his work in over 35 countries. Rashid cross-pollinates materials, behaviors, and aesthetics from one typology to the next, crossing boundaries and broadening consumer horizons.

JEAN SHIN is a Pratt alumna and adjunct professor nationally recognized for her monumental installations that transform castoff materials into elegant expressions of identity and community. She has had solo exhibitions at the Smithsonian American Art Museum in Washington, D.C. (2009) and the Fabric Workshop and Museum in Philadelphia (2006).

MARY TEMPLE is a visual artist in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, who uses latex paint to create what appear to be shadows on architecture. She has had solo exhibitions and site-specific commissioned works at the Museum of Arts and Design (2009), Brooklyn Museum (2009), Aldrich Museum (2006), and Smack Mellon (2006), among others.

CARLOS ZAPATA is a New York-based architectural designer and Pratt alumnus who has turned out projects under the radar, quietly impacting major cities around the world. From furniture to architecture projects, from Las Vegas to Vietnam, Carlos Zapata Studio experiments with building in a way few designers dare to.

ANDREW ZOLLI is an expert in global foresight and innovation, who studies the complex trends at the intersection of technology, sustainability, and global society that are shaping our future. He is also the curator and executive director of PopTech, a renowned thought leadership forum and social innovation network based in Brooklyn.

“REIGNITE! EXHIBITIONS

ReIGNITE! 2009: REUNION: WORK BY PRATT ALUMNI
SEPTEMBER 21–26, 2009
STEUBEN SOUTH GALLERY
STEUBEN HALL
RECEPTION: SEPTEMBER 26, 6–8 PM
Gallery Hours: Mon–Fri, 10 AM–5 PM; Sat, 11 AM–6 PM
Curated by Joe Fyfe, this exhibition features work by alumni whose graduation year ends in 4 or 9.

PAINTINGS BY MICKALENE THOMAS, B.F.A. ’06
SEPTEMBER 21–26, 2009
THE GALLERY IN THE JULIANA CURRAN TERRIAN DESIGN CENTER
RECEPTION: SEPTEMBER 26, 6–8 PM
Gallery Hours: Mon–Fri, 10 AM–5 PM; Sat, 11 AM–6 PM
Mickalene Thomas is best known for her elaborate paintings composed of rhinestones, enamel, and acrylic.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY MICKALENE THOMAS, SEPTEMBER 21–26, 2009
PRESIDENT’S OFFICE GALLERY,
MAIN BUILDING, FIRST FLOOR
Gallery Hours: Mon–Fri, 10 AM–6 PM; Sat, 11 AM–6 PM
This show will include a selection of photographs by Thomas.

Mickalene Thomas, Mama Bush: One of a Kind, 2009, rhinestones, acrylic, and enamel on panel, 108 x 144 x 2 inches.

Margaret Cusack B.F.A. ’68 at the 2008 alumni exhibition
**ReIGNITE! 2009: SEPTEMBER 25-26**

**ALL ALUMNI ARE ENCOURAGED TO RETURN TO PRATT FOR THE REUNION EVENT, ReIGNITE! 2009**

Pre-registration is required. An invitation will be mailed at the end of August.

As part of ReIGNITE! 2009, alumni are invited to the symposium, “Redefining the Good Life.” Here is a preview of other scheduled events.

Pratt Institute is pleased to offer discounted rates for alumni and parents staying at the NU Hotel in Brooklyn. For the rate code, please contact Alumni Relations at 718-399-4447.

To register or for more information, please contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 718-399-4447 or alumni@pratt.edu.

Follow us on Twitter@PrattInstitute

**THE 22ND ANNUAL PRATT INSTITUTE NASSER SHARIFY LECTURE**

The School of Information and Library Science will welcome James G. Neal as the guest speaker for the 22nd Annual Pratt Institute Nasser Sharify Lecture. This annual lecture-celebration, which honors Dr. Nasser Sharify, dean emeritus of Pratt-SILS, will take place on Friday, September 25 from 6-8 pm at Pratt Manhattan. Neal, vice president for information and Library Science, teaching courses on printing history and special collections librarianship.

Faculty from the School of Architecture will lead a demonstration on the features of the Na Ok Woo Conference room, the Institute’s new technology-enhanced facility. Pratt Trustee and alumnus YOUNG WOO, B. Arch. ’80, made a generous gift in memory of his late sister to name the recently opened space. Seats are limited, early registration is required.

Pratt alumni and longtime Fort Greene residents TED and BETSY LEWIN, Graphic Design ‘56 and Painting ’59, respectively, will lead a walking tour of the Clinton Hill and Fort Greene neighborhoods.

Alumni are invited to return to the classroom to join Pratt faculty member and alumnus DAVID GOTHARD, B.F.A. ’78, who will lead a three-hour, figure drawing class in the Main Building. Sign-ups are required.

Pratt alumni and longtime Fort Greene residents TED and BETSY LEWIN, Graphic Design ‘56 and Painting ’59, respectively, will lead a walking tour of the Clinton Hill and Fort Greene neighborhoods.

**MULTIMEDIA DANCE PERFORMANCE BY PKC**

Alumni attending the symposium, “Redefining the Good Life,” can look forward to a multimedia performance by Brooklyn-based dance company PKC.

**PRATT ANNOUNCES 2009 ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNERS**

Pratt Institute is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2009 Alumni Achievement Award. Their successes pay tribute to the Institute’s prestigious faculty and to the legacy of Charles Pratt, who lived by the motto: “Be true to your work and your work will be true to you.” This year’s honorees are:

**MICHAELE INMAN**
M.L.S. ’02, curator of rare books for The New York Public Library, administers the Rare Book Division, George Arents Collection, and Historic Children’s Book Collection, among others. He also serves as a visiting professor at Pratt’s School of Information and Library Science, teaching courses on printing history and special collections librarianship.

**ROBERT SABUDA**
B.F.A. ’87, twice a recipient of The New York Times Best Illustrated Book Award, is a children’s book creator with over five million books in print, among them the Encyclopedia Prehistorica pop-up trilogy, co-created with Matthew Reinhart, M.I.D. ’98. Sabuda, who initiated Pratt’s paper engineering program, makes regular television appearances on The Today Show, Good Morning America, and Martha Stewart.

**MICKALENE THOMAS**
B.F.A. ’00, is best known for her work that celebrates female beauty and power. In elaborate paintings composed of rhinestones, enamel, and acrylic, Thomas’s critically acclaimed work introduces a complex vision of what it means to be a woman and expands common definitions of beauty. Her work may be seen at the Brooklyn Museum and the Museum of Modern Art, among other venues.

**YOUNG WOO**
B. Arch. ’80, is founder and principal of Young Woo & Associates, LLC, developers of commercial, industrial, and technology real estate properties throughout the United States, Europe, and Asia. The firm played a leading role in the acquisition of the AIG headquarters building in lower Manhattan and recently was designated as the developer for the historic Pier 57.

**SCULPTURE PARK TOUR**
SATURDAY, SEP. 26, 10:45 A.M.–12 P.M

Join Sculpture Park Curator David Weinrib on a tour of Pratt’s Sculpture Park. The largest in New York City, it stretches across the 25-acre Brooklyn campus and includes 50 sculptures. Weinrib says, “I liken the Sculpture Park to a symphony; our challenge is to bring all of the parts into harmony.”

**DRAWING CLASS**
SATURDAY, SEP. 26, 2–5 P.M

Alumni are invited to return to the classroom to join Pratt faculty member and alumnus DAVID MORGAN, B.F.A. ’80, who will lead a multimedia performance by Brooklyn-based dance company PKC.
INSTITUTE CELEBRATES FIRST ENDOwed CHAIR IN PRATT’S HISTORY

President Thomas F. Schutte and the Board of Trustees of Pratt Institute held a dinner to celebrate the establishment of The Marc Rosen Distinguished Visiting Chair for “Packaging by Design” on June 16 at the Gramercy Park Hotel in Manhattan. This event marked the creation of the first endowed professorship in the 122-year history of Pratt Institute.

The Marc Rosen Distinguished Visiting Chair for “Packaging by Design” will provide funding in perpetuity to allow Pratt to bring stellar designers and lecturers in a range of areas to the school to promote interdisciplinary education in design. Established through the generosity and foresight of Pratt alumnae, trustee, and faculty member Marc Rosen and his industry colleagues and friends, the visiting professorship will build on Rosen’s legacy in packaging design, emphasizing the connections between product, packaging, and branding as they relate to the consumer’s identity and experience.

“The Marc Rosen endowed professorship will enable us to expose our students to the most brilliant and cutting-edge thinking in all fields of design,” said President Thomas F. Schutte. “We are grateful to Marc for ushering in a new era for academic excellence at Pratt.”

NEW WEBSITE DESIGN FOR PRATT.EDU

Pratt Institute recently launched its new website (www.pratt.edu) design, which is the result of a full year of concentrated efforts involving in more of Pratt’s IT teams, the High School of Art and Design, and the Pratt Web Group. The site follows rigorous architectural logic with a focus on design and usability.

“The design utilizes page-specific custom-treated pages that allow for an elastic interface. The navigation not only tells where the user is, but gives clear indication of the user path followed to get there,” said Web Group Director Bryan Wizemann. “Breakout features at the bottom of each page showcase areas within the section, and breakout features on the right show-case related areas of interest,” he added.

In addition, highlights of some of the new features and functionality include an online course catalog and course search; animated galleries of Pratt student work; and a full listing of all undergraduate and graduate degrees, complete with program descriptions and their corresponding curricula.

PRATT WELCOMES NEW SCULPTURES

Pratt Institute recently installed three sculptures as part of Agnieszka Gradzid and Witkot Szostalo’s TreeHugger Project in its outdoor Sculpture Park, which stretches across Pratt’s 25-acre Brooklyn campus and is the largest in New York City. Other recent additions include a light canopy by Pratt architecture students and a sculpture on the impact of war on human lives by Martha Walker. TreeHugger Project by Agnieszka Gradzid and Witkot Szostalo is an ongoing work of environmental art made from twigs, branches, vines, and other natural materials in the shape of human figures hugging trees. The works represent the artists’ ongoing mission to help people rediscover their relationship with nature.

The Light Canopy is an orange light canopy designed by architecture students under the leadership of Pratt’s Director of Production and Technology Mark Parsons and sponsored by Sperry Tents and Sails. The invertible openings on the canopy allow variable compositions of directed or reflected sunlight. This sculpture will be on view through the last week of August 2009, and then...

GATEWAY

Office of Public Relations and Communications
Division of Development
Pratt Institute

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View Gateway online at http://www.pratt.edu/pr-comm/
To submit information for Gateway, please contact Mara McGinnis at mmcginnis@pratt.edu

DR. SCHUTTE DELIVERS COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS AT HIGH SCHOOL OF ART AND DESIGN

Delivering the commencement address at New York’s High School of Art and Design on June 25, 2009, Pratt’s president Thomas F. Schutte gave graduating seniors “eight things to think about as you pursue college and careers: technology; peace, negotiation, and discussion; volunteerism; sustainability; continued education; life’s work; aesthetics; and passion.”

“There are many organizations that help people,” he continued. “Volunteerism is not just for adults.” Reflecting Pratt’s own commitment to sustainability, its president urged Art and Design graduates not to be intimidated about “saving our planet and environment from the ravages of pollution” but to take up the challenges of sustainability by doing three easy things: “buy smarter, use less, and reduce waste.”

Describing continuing education as “one of the most affordable and accessible kinds of education you can find,” Schutte concluded his remarks by urging graduates to make use of this important lifelong tool and develop their creative abilities on their jobs or in their crafts. He gave them his blessing as future leaders of good design and aesthetics, and wished them passion for their work throughout their lives.

STUDENTS TEAM WITH MYRTLE AVENUE REVITALIZATION PROJECT ON FURNITURE INITIATIVE

Debra Johnson, Pratt’s academic director of sustainability, collaborated with the Myrtle Avenue Revitalization Project (MAR) on a street furniture initiative for Myrtle Avenue. Students in Johnson and Samantha Rainsick’s fall 2008 industrial design studio spent the semester collecting research on how to best address the needs of the community through beautiful, functional, and sustainable street furniture.

The designs, which received input from the community during various stages of the design process, were developed and the final designs chosen in January 2009. A pilot installation of the three winning designs—a treeguard, a bench/treeguard configuration, and a message board—will be implemented later this summer near MARP’s Myrtle Avenue office.
BROOKLYN CAMPUS
200 WILLOUGHBY AVENUE

Alumna ARSHO BAGHSARIAN, B.F.A. Fashion '62, retired in January 2008, the year of her induction into the Footwear News Hall of Fame. After a successful career spanning nearly 45 years in the better footwear industry, designing innovative shoes for couture names such as I Miller, Andrew Geller, and Stuart Weitzman.

Baghsarian got her start in the fashion world by designing clothing for a sportswear company, but digressed immediately when her former Pratt professor, Laura Tosato Buzgan, found her a shoe design job in Europe with Christian Dior New York, where she brought fresh vision to the collection. "The shoe design elective course at Pratt and my personal obsession with shoes helped me lean in that direction," Baghsarian recalls. "Shoes can easily change a basic outfit into a fantasy one."

She cites her 15 years at Shoe Biz—simultaneously designing and making shoes in five countries in Europe and four in the Far East—as the most important influence on her career. Her many fanciful creations include molded crystal shoes, espadrilles, Oriental style clogs, silk and canvas sneakers, and the first fashion sandals produced in mainland China.

The award winning designer’s awareness of fashion began early. As a child, she disdained black patent leather Mary Janes, preferring footwear with unusual color combinations instead. By her early teens, she was designing her own shoes by cutting cardboard soles and lacing them with colorful ribbons.

"About her current favorites Baghsarian says, "I love flats for their fashion, function, and comfort factor. But some of the stiletto heels today are very dangerous and look out of proportion with short skirts."

Renowned in the industry for her professionalism and talent, the designer today divides her time between homes in Manhattan and Southampton, L.I. that she shares with fashion photographer and sculptor Avedis Baghsarian, her husband of 42 years. She hopes her personal archive of sketches, swatches, and shoes will inspire future generations. Her advice to young designers: "Be passionate about your work."

DIANA PAU
Puppetry by Theodora Skipitares

Gateway
200 Willoughby Ave. Brooklyn, NY 11205

Puppetry by Theodora Skipitares

Arsho Baghsarian

EXHIBITIONS AND EVENTS

BROOKLYN CAMPUS
200 WILLOUGHBY AVENUE

PRESIDENT’S OFFICE GALLERY
Main Building, First Floor
Monday—Friday, 10 AM–4 PM

THEODORA SKIPITARES: PUPPETS
THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2009
This exhibition honors the work of Theodora Skipitares, associate professor of Art and Design Education. Skipitares, a puppeteer, multi-media artist, and theater director, has been creating innovative performance works for more than 25 years. Her puppets are realistic, life-sized, and miniature figures that become “performers” in large-scale works that include live music, film, video, and documentary texts. The exhibition includes a selection of puppets as well as photographic documentation from her performance pieces.

MANHATTAN CAMPUS
144 W. 14TH STREET

PRATT MANHATTAN GALLERY
Second Floor
Tuesday–Saturday, 11 AM–6 PM

DESIGN JAZZ: IMPROVISATIONS ON THE URBAN STREET
SEPTEMBER 25–NOVEMBER 7, 2009
Reception: 6 PM, Friday, October 9
Pratt Manhattan Gallery will present a two-part exhibition documenting theoretical and creative approaches to design and the interpretation of urban streets as well as documenting the process of a local realized urban design project. The exhibition is the first of three in the gallery’s 2009–2010 exhibition series, titled “Design and Sustainability.”

CCPS GALLERY
Second Floor Lobby
Monday–Thursday, 10 AM–6 PM; Friday–Sunday, 10 AM–4 PM

COURTHOUSE CONFESSIONS—IN THEIR OWN WORDS
AUGUST 13–SEPTEMBER 29, 2009
Reception: 6–8 PM, Thursday, September 10
This exhibition of photographs by CCPS instructor and accomplished photojournalist Steven Hirsch documents the confessional stories of willing participants leaving the Manhattan Criminal Court at 100 Centre Street in downtown New York. Each photograph will be juxtaposed with an uncensored written account as interview questions to present the transgressions of the accused in an uninterrupted flow.

LAUNCH EVENT CELEBRATES NEW BOOK BY ARCHITECTURE ALUMNUS
President Thomas F. Schutte will introduce alumnus and former professor STEPHEN VALENTINE, B.Arch. ’77, at the launch of his new book, Timeship (Images Publishing Group Pty. Ltd., 2009), on Wednesday, September 9 from 5:30–7:30 PM at Rizzoli Bookstore at 31 W. 57 Street in Manhattan. Architecture professor John Lobell served as a consultant on the book, which details Valentine’s architectural plans for the world’s first comprehensive facility devoted to life extension research and cryopreservation. The event is free and open to the public.

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