

Institute of Design and Technology of South Dakota Students present final project

By Dorene Weinstein

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All through high school, Missy McCollar was planning to be a massage therapist. The money was good, and opportunities were plentiful. But there was a snag — “I couldn’t see myself doing it in 10 years,” she says.

It never occurred to her that fashion could be a career.

McCollar experimented with clothing design and simple garments as soon as she got her first sewing machine in high school. But it wasn’t until she saw an ad for the design school that everything fell into place.

McCollar, 24, graduates Friday from the Institute of Design & Technology of South Dakota with a certificate in fashion design after an intense nine-month program. As a culmination of her study, McCollar joins seven peers in a student portfolio design show and fashion runway event.

An addition will be Jay Nicolas Sario, “Project Runway” finalist from season seven in 2009, who will display his collection, says Anita Kealey, designer and creative director of IDTSD.

“It will be an exciting show,” says Kealey, who has shown her collections with Sario the past two years during sustainable fashion week.

Kealey opens the show with her LENZANITA Spring/Summer 2012 collection. Then, the interior and fashion design students will debut their collections, and Sario will close the show.

During their training, fashion students were required to come up with 10 concepts and execute five of them. They made

five garments and created drawings for the rest, which will be displayed during the show.



Jay Nicolas Sario

At the same time, interior design students had to decorate an entire home within a budget.

They generated a concept, developed a look and built mock-ups of various rooms illustrating where furniture would go, which will also be on display.

This last project of the year demonstrates how fashion and interior design are related, says Kealey.

Fashion students were paired with interior design students. Both students of each pair chose a fabric to create a garment and cover a chair. The students collaborated to make the designs compatible, and the completed designs will be showcased at the event, says Kealey.

Students learn more than how to design clothes from making a paper pattern to sewing a couture garment. It’s crucial that students know the practical side of the business, including how to draw, sew, do alterations and identify fabrics, says Kealey.

Interior students learn about wood species used in furniture, how to recover furniture, make pillows and keep track of how long it takes to develop the concepts and make the items in order to bill the customer.

Having a celebrity at the fashion show allows folks to see the collection of a New York designer, spotlights the school and helps raise money, Kealey

FORM + FASHION MEETS FUNCTION

The Institute of Design & Technology of South Dakota will show graduate student portfolios Friday at the Old Courthouse Museum. The Design Gallery opens at 6 p.m., and the runway show begins at 7:30 p.m. Guest designer Jay Nicolas Sario, a “Project Runway” finalist from season 7, will be at the event. Tickets are \$25 a person or \$50 for chairs in the first row. Standing-room-only tickets will also be available. The student design portfolio will be on display through Monday in the second floor gallery. Call 275-9728 for tickets.

says.

Sario came up through the ranks, picking up lots of hands-on experience — much like the skills she emphasizes in her school.

“I got involved in fashion by designing prom dresses for my school mates back home in the Phillipines,” Sario says. “Prior to that, I already knew I was destined to do

fashion since I was 9 years old — I was designing clothes for my sister’s Barbie doll.”

His tastes have evolved since then. “I love designing separates. Jackets have always been the one thing I highlight in most of the looks I put together in a fashion show.”

The shape and texture



Missy McCollar works at the Institute of Design and Technology of South Dakota. McCollar’s work will be part of Friday’s event. JAY PICKTHORN / ARGUS LEADER

ONLINE

Log on to argusleader.com and watch video of Missy McCollar working on one of her pieces. She also talks about her experience at the Institute of Design & Technology of South Dakota.

of architectural objects inspire him.

“I love Haider Acker-

mann. He embodies what I love doing as a designer which is the juxtaposition of structure and movement.”

Sario debuted his first collection during New York Fashion Week in February 2010 and is currently at work on his Fall 2013 line.

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