

What's new and what's next: VPA is celebrating the Class of 2009, preparing for its New York City fashion show, sitting still at the Everson, hosting a CRS alumni reception in D.C., and spending an evening with Thom Filicia.

VPA MOMENTUM

May 2009

1_Top stories



VPA celebrates Class of 2009_The college will hold its annual convocation ceremony on May 9 featuring keynote speaker Gianfranco Zaccai '70, co-founder, president, and CEO of Continuum, an international multidisciplinary design consultancy, and student speaker Danielle von Gal, an acting major in the Department of Drama and VPA Scholar. Zaccai will also receive an honorary doctor of fine arts degree at SU's Commencement exercises on May 10. [Read more.](#)



Kendall Phillips honored as SU's 2009 Judith Greenberg Seinfeld Distinguished Fellow_Phillips, associate professor and chair of the Department of Communication and Rhetorical Studies, was recognized for showing a passion for excellence and exceptional creativity in an academic or artistic field or endeavor. [Read more.](#)

Two VPA seniors named 2009 University Scholars_Colin Fanning, an interior design major, and Samantha Harmon, a sculpture major, both in the School of Art and Design, are among the 12 graduating SU seniors who received the University's highest undergraduate academic honor. [Read more.](#)

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2_Happenings

Senior juried fashion show in New York City set for June 3_The college will show the top collections by senior fashion design students in the second annual "Vision with Action" show and honor renowned designer and SU alumnus Henry Grethel with its Icon of Style Award. [Read more.](#)



Critically acclaimed 'Hard Rain Project' delivers message of sustainability on campus through June 5_Presented by the Bandier Program for Music and the Entertainment Industries in the Setnor School of Music, this photo essay on environmental issues by photographer Mark Edwards and inspired by the music of Bob Dylan is currently installed on Crouse College's south lawn. [Read more.](#)

Find our complete events listings, including live Setnor School of Music concert audio and video streaming, at ypa.syr.edu.

3_Take note

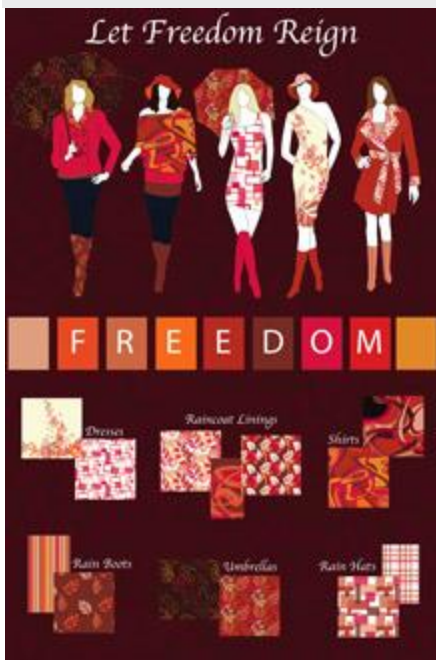


Anne Beffel, associate professor of foundation in the School of Art and Design, led the contemplative video project "[Sitting Still](#)," which displays visions of Syracuse youth. The project is on exhibit through July 12 at the Everson Museum of Art in Syracuse.

Felix Cochren, associate professor of design/technical theater in the Department of Drama, will receive the Outstanding Achievement in Scenic Design Award from the National Black Theatre Festival in August.



Doug DuBois, associate professor of art photography in the Department of Transmedia, will have his first monograph, "[All the Days and Nights](#)," published by the Aperture Foundation in June. He will have a [book signing](#) and give an artist's talk on June 9 at Aperture Gallery in New York City. He will also participate in a [panel discussion](#) on contemporary portraiture with photographer Richard Renaldi on May 7 at the Affordable Art Fair in New York City.



Miranda Shilati, a senior surface pattern design major in the School of Art and Design, won first place for fabric design for her entry "Let Freedom Reign" in the fifth annual C2C/CITDA Design Competition sponsored by the American Association of Textile Chemists and Colorists (AATCC), the international association for textile professionals.

The college's visiting artists and speakers in April included artists **Chris Martin**, **Duane Slick**, and **Tula Telfair G'86**; **Keith Beauchamp**, filmmaker; **Michael Block '92**

(NEW), Sony Music Entertainment Commercial Music Group; **Mindy Fullilove**, author/faculty, Columbia University; **Elliot Groffman** and **Jaimie Roberts**, entertainment industry attorneys; **Deanne McLean**, DDB Chicago; **Tim Mendola**, Mendola Artists; **James Salzano**, photographer; **Marc Stress**, Stressdesign; **Minh Uong**, art director, The Village Voice; and **David Weisner**, illustrator.

Read more faculty and student news and notes [here](#).

4_ For alumni

CRS to host alumni reception in D.C._ Communication and rhetorical studies (formerly speech communication) alumni in Washington, D.C. are invited to meet current CRS students at a special reception on May 19. [Click here](#) for details.

Join us for SUccess in the City_ Come network with other alumni and help recent graduates learn about finding jobs and places to live, making professional connections, and more in this series that focuses on the cities of Portland, Ore.; Boston; Los Angeles; Washington, D.C.; San Francisco; and Chicago. [Click here](#) for details.

Artists and designers wanted for VPA retail store survey_ The college is planning a retail store to provide consumers with a point of discovery, engagement, and dissemination for the creative products of the VPA community and its affiliates. Our store concept needs your input to measure alumni interest. [Click here](#) if you would be interested in marketing globally with VPA's esteemed art and design reputation.

Help us go green_ Do you know fellow VPA alumni who don't receive our e-mails? Share this e-newsletter with them. If they fill out our [online form](#), they will receive future issues of Momentum, alumni event e-vites, and other college information of interest.

Connect with us! Visit the [alumni section](#) of the VPA web site to:

Join the VPA Alumni Career Resources Network and update your information
View more news, announcements, and our calendar of alumni events
See what your classmates are up to via Alumni Showcase and Career Highlights
Access alumni and career resources

5_ Giving back



Thom Filicia '93 spends an evening with VPA_The sold-out event “An Evening with Thom Filicia” April 30 featured conversation and a book-signing with the renowned interior designer, television host, and author of “Thom Filicia Style: Inspired Ideas for Creating Rooms You’ll Love” (Atria, 2008). VPA co-sponsored the event in Skaneateles, N.Y., and a portion of the ticket proceeds went to support Positively Pink Packages, a local not-for-profit organization that provides vital resources to breast cancer patients, in honor of Thom’s mother. [Read more.](#) (Photo courtesy Style Network)



Selma Hurwitz '49 brings 'Threads of a Culture' to SU_Hurwitz, an internationally known artist who created her own medium, hadbakah (Hebrew for “gluing”), which is glued-thread painting, is exhibiting “Threads of a Culture: Hadbakah Images by Selma Hurwitz” through June 1 at SU’s Winnick Hillel Center for Jewish Life. She attended the opening reception and also visited a class taught by Sarah McCoubrey, associate professor of foundation in the School of Art and Design. [Read more.](#)

Giving to VPA makes a difference! Visit the [giving section](#) of the VPA web site to learn about giving opportunities and how to make a gift. Thank you!

Momentum is published by the VPA Office of Communications under the leadership of Dean Ann Clarke. Send comments to Erica Blust, Director of Communications and Media Relations, at esblust@syr.edu. For more information about the college, visit our web site at vpa.syr.edu.

The College of Visual and Performing Arts at Syracuse University is committed to the education of cultural leaders who will engage and inspire audiences through performance, visual art, design, scholarship, and commentary. We provide the tools for self-discovery and risk-taking in an environment that thrives on critical thought and action.



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