



DRIEHAUS DESIGN INITIATIVE PRESENTS
THE THIRTEENTH ANNUAL
DRIEHAUS AWARDS FOR FASHION EXCELLENCE

A Chic Competition Featuring
25 Emerging Fashion Design Students

CHICAGO (April 2014) – Driehaus Design Initiative celebrates the achievements of 25 emerging Chicago fashion design students at The Thirteenth Annual Driehaus Awards for Fashion Excellence on Friday, May 9 at 6:30 p.m.

This high energy fashion show competition is judged by industry insiders: Project Runway star **Kate Pankoke**, creative director of Elaya Vaughn Bridal by Kate Pankoke; **Lindsay Segal**, co-owner of Luxury Garage Sale; and **Alison Siple**, a Jeff Award-winning freelance theatre costume designer.

Hosted by Inese and Richard H. Driehaus, The Thirteenth Annual Driehaus Awards for Fashion Excellence will be held at 700 S. Des Plaines Street. The private space in the warehouse district will be transformed by high-tech, state-of-the-art staging, lighting, sound and projection to showcase these emerging designers in a format comparable to runway shows in New York, Paris and Milan.

The elegant fashion fête also includes a pre-party with hors d'oeuvres and cocktails, a live auction featuring unique experiential offerings and hosted by "the original Anchorman" Bill Kurtis and producer Donna LaPietra, and a VIP after-party sponsored by Northern Trust. ABC 7's Linda Yu returns as master of ceremonies.

In addition to the top designers winning cash honorariums, one will receive the new Neiman Marcus Distinguished Designer Award with an opportunity to display his or her winning designs at the Michigan Avenue store. Participating local Chicago schools are: Columbia College Chicago, Dominican University, The Illinois Institute of Art, Sanford-Brown College and The School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Proceeds benefit the schools and Chicago Fashion Incubator.

Reserved seating VIP tickets are \$300 and include access to the after-party. General seating tickets are \$175. For more information please visit driehausdesign.org.

About Driehaus Design Initiative

Driehaus Design Initiative, an IRC section 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, was established to promote and encourage design education and to foster public appreciation and understanding of all aspects of fashion design and history. Driehaus Design Initiative contributes proceeds from The Driehaus Awards for Fashion Excellence to support fashion and design endeavors in Chicago.

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