WELCOME FROM THE DEAN

HELLO TO OUR STUDENTS, COLLEAGUES, AND FRIENDS

It has been an unprecedented year at the Eskenazi School, as everywhere. Not long after finishing our inaugural strategic plan last winter, the COVID-19 pandemic upended our world. We had to learn entirely new ways of working and connecting with one another. As campus went silent at one of the most beautiful seasons of the year, our faculty and instructors made major adjustments to their teaching, and our students found new ways to study with us from across the country and around the world.

The cost was high: many faculty, staff, and students had personal commitments that made it very difficult to balance their daily schedules. Most internships and overseas studies programs were suspended. And beloved end-of-semester events like graduation ceremonies and thesis shows had to move online.

These disruptions underlined two principles that have always guided us at the Eskenazi School: Art and design matter. Community matters. We knew that. But this pandemic reminded us—reminded the entire world—that art and design create community. And they bring solace, too. All of us pulled out pencils, paint, fabric, and cameras during our self-quarantine. We used our skills to assist first responders and to enhance community. And all of us were reminded how powerful online media are to communicate ideas and to generate passion and positive energy.

In the midst of moving our IU world online, we had to keep important initiatives moving ahead. To complement our strategic plan, a task force was “never daunted” and continued to work over Zoom to create our first diversity, equity, and inclusion plan. And in May and June, after horrifying cases of police brutality were captured on camera, we were reminded that our school’s—and our nation’s—attention to these issues must be constant and unrelenting.

And so, in the end, this admittedly difficult spring wound up being an affirmation. In these pages, you will see how the Eskenazi community rose to the challenges and then exceeded them, to bring beauty and peace to the world. I’ve never been more proud to lead this wonderful, enterprising, loving, and talented family.

Peg Faimon
Founding Dean and Professor
INTRODUCTION

THE YEAR IN NUMBERS

DEVELOPMENT NUMBERS
Summary of Bicentennial Campaign

BICENTENNIAL CAMPAIGN FUNDRAISING STATUS

DONOR FUND UPDATE
*as of June 30, 2020

Number of donor funds
98

Current market value of donor funds
$5,483,780

Goal
$7,000,000*

Amount Raised
$28,798,750*
*includes philanthropic gifts and non-governmental grants as of June 30th

Total amount of donor support expended in 2019-2020
$582,033

ALUMNI PROFILE

Total number of Eskenazi School Alumni
11,894

ALUMNI BY AGE

SILENT GENERATION
(AGE 77 AND OLDER)
619

BABY BOOMERS
(AGE 55-76)
3,623

GENERATION X
(AGE 41-55)
2,907

MILLENNIALS
(AGE 26-40)
3,803

GENERATION Z
(AGE 25 AND UNDER)
638

RECRUITMENT/ADMISSION NUMBERS

TOP 5 INDUSTRIES
1. Retail
2. Fine Arts/Design
3. Business Services
4. Other
5. Accounting/Financial Services/Advertisements/Marketing PR/Arts/Entertainment/Media/Hospitality/Tourism/Real Estate

STUDENT OUTCOMES/FIRST DESTINATIONS

TOP TEN CITIES WHERE OUR ALUMNI LIVE AND WORK
1. INDIANAPOLIS
2. CHICAGO
3. NEW YORK CITY
4. BLOOMINGTON
5. LOS ANGELES
6. SAN FRANCISCO
7. WASHINGTON, DC
8. BOSTON
9. CINCINNATI
10. PHOENIX

TOP 5 STATES
New York, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, California

Recruitment/Admission Numbers

- 4% increase in acceptance rate
- 7% increase in deposits
- 9% increase in direct admission offers

Donors to IU
681

Volunteer Service Hours to IU
910+

IUAA members
738

655 accepted students

TOP 5 CITIES
1. INDICTANPOLS
2. CHICAGO
3. NEW YORK CITY
4. BLOOMINGTON
5. LOS ANGELES
6. SAN FRANCISCO
7. WASHINGTON, DC
8. BOSTON
9. CINCINNATI
10. PHOENIX

TOP 5 STATES
New York, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, California

- Median GPA: 3.75 for our 655 accepted students
- Mean SAT/ACT score: 1229 for our 655 accepted students

- Median starting salary: $47,500
- 90% placement rate
- 72.4% extremely or very satisfied
When philanthropist Sidney Eskenazi was a student at IU in the 1950s, his fraternity commissioned architectural giant Ludwig Mies van der Rohe to design a new chapter house. While Mies’s plans were never executed, Eskenazi never forgot about them, and years later, he alerted IU President Michael McRobbie to their existence. In the summer of 2021, acting on Eskenazi’s tip, the school that now bears his name will open a new space for creativity based on Mies’s long-ago designs.

New York–based Thomas Phifer and Partners are the architects for the project, which will house a large, collaborative classroom, conference/meeting rooms, breakout rooms, and office space. The 10,000-square-foot, glass-walled building will lie at the northwest corner of Seventh Street and Jordan Avenue, close to the Global and International Studies Building, the Wells Library, and the IU Auditorium and Wells-Metz Theatre.

The new building reflects the ties between the Eskenazi School in Bloomington and the school’s architecture program in Columbus. “The construction of this extraordinary work of architecture,” said President McRobbie, “will serve as an enduring symbol of the legacy of generosity of Sidney and Lois Eskenazi, and an enduring symbol of the very founding of architectural modernism.”

Clockwise from top: President Michael McRobbie, Provost Lauren Robel, and Lois and Sidney Eskenazi celebrate the construction of the new building, an architectual rendering of the building, Mies’s original design.
CREATIVITY UNMASKED

Eskenazi faculty member Jiangmei Wu, an associate professor of interior design, was already known in the worlds of art and design for her beautiful folded-paper designs. She attracted even broader attention this spring for her origami-based face mask. Wu’s ingenious mask did not require cloth but could be made out of a vacuum cleaner filter in just a few minutes using only a stapler. Indiana University released a free pattern and video demonstrating how to make the mask, which performed well on scientific tests of its protective levels. As Wu told the New York Times, one of several media outlets to cover the story, “I wanted to create an alternative for people who don’t sew.” Wu came up with the design after her brother, who lives in Hong Kong, called her at the height of the outbreak in China to see if she could help him obtain masks. It took her only a few hours to come up with a design that was simple to make and fits faces tightly. She later refined her design and materials to create masks that are even more effective as well as appealing. “Wu’s clever design solution was just one example of how our Eskenazi community stepped up during a national crisis,” says Dean Faimon.

HOPE COMMENCES

The undergraduate and graduate students who make up the Class of 2020 share a unique bond: As members of IU’s Bicentennial Class, they celebrated their own commencement into the world during the 200th anniversary of IU’s entry into the world. The coronavirus forced them to share another—unwelcome—bond, however. Instead of celebrating their graduation at Assembly Hall or Memorial Stadium before scattering off to their future lives, class members had already dispersed back to their homes by May, when ceremonies would usually be held. Nevertheless, the Class of 2020 assembled virtually on May 8 to celebrate and to be celebrated by Eskenazi School Dean Peg Faimon, faculty, and fellow students. Dean Faimon thanked the class for the sacrifices they had made to keep everyone safe, assuring them that they would always have a special place in the Eskenazi family.

While many faculty spoke to the graduates in an afternoon and evening full of Zoom ceremonies for each major and program area, perhaps Bryan Orthel, area coordinator for interior design, put it best when he told graduates: “Artists and designers are inherently optimistic. We begin a project by asking ‘what if?’ As this moment ends, we challenge you to go forward and ask more hopeful questions.”
This year, the COVID-19 pandemic meant that graduating master of fine arts and bachelor of fine arts students could not exhibit their senior thesis shows at the Grunwald Gallery of Art, as is traditional. Instead, each graduate’s show was presented virtually on the school’s website.

The 33 online exhibitions, which went live on April 27, feature student work from a variety of studio areas: ceramics, digital art, fibers, graphic design, metalsmithing and jewelry design, painting, photography, and printmaking.

The process of staging one’s own show is daunting, but it’s also exhilarating. So the shift in venue was an undeniable loss. Jonathan Christensen Caballero, ’20, M.F.A., Studio Art: Ceramics, admitted that he missed the chance to bond and celebrate with peers and mentors that an actual vernissage would have given him. But he saw long-term advantages to his virtual show: it represents a cohesive portfolio that he will be able to use when he applies for grants and residencies, for example.

**STUDIO ART B.F.A. WORK**

Top row, from left: Work by Ollie Caldwell, Carly Graham, Oluola Kalish, and Shannon Pritchard.

Middle and bottom rows, from left: Work by Vanessa Rehm, Rachel Hardrnett, Sarah Knowling, Katrina Thomsen, Chris Keske, and Megan Wright.
DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

Here, Faimon tells the back story of this important initiative. “When we were determining the goals for the school’s strategic plan in 2019, diversity, equity, and inclusion were vital to us. We quickly realized, though, that we needed to dive much, much deeper.

So, once we finished the strategic plan, we pivoted and asked for volunteers from throughout the school to serve on a task force to create a separate plan for diversity, equity, and inclusion. I was very pleased by the number of people who raised their hands. Since our goal was inclusion, we asked all 15 volunteers to serve. The committee was a very representative mix of our school. It was made up of senior and junior faculty, advisors, and staff who worked incredibly hard. They were dealing with challenging questions, and they were very engaged.

We felt it was also important to complete diversity education ourselves. So, with the help of Carmen Henne-Ochoa, the College’s assistant dean for diversity, equity, and inclusion, this spring we offered a 10-hour educational program to complete the series during the fall 2020 semester.

I found that the most revelatory and challenging aspect of the diversity education sessions was turning the mirror on yourself. It is exactly this kind of reflection that can lead to epiphanies for people who may have good intentions but haven’t confronted their implicit biases. I know I speak for everyone at our school when I say that we were shocked and saddened beyond measure by George Floyd’s murder in Minneapolis, and all the other terrible deaths over the years. It has made us realize how urgent it is that we redouble our work, both personally and collectively, to ensure that we create a school and a society where difference is valued, and celebrate multiple perspectives within and beyond the school.”

pivoted to create virtual meetings to complete the series during the fall 2020 semester.

EVENTFUL YEAR

This year, as always, the Eskenazi School shared its creative energy with thousands of students, faculty, and visitors.

EXPLORE DAY

Thirty-seven students and about 100 guests came to campus last fall for the Eskenazi School’s second annual Explore Day to learn about programs and resources. As ever, the highlight of the day was the tour of Kirkwood Hall and the Fine Arts Building.

OPEN STUDIOS

Every year, the Eskenazi School invites the IU community and its Hoosier neighbors into its galleries and workspaces, where they can see faculty and student work, as well as try their hands at fashioning art of their own. This year, for example, attendees had the chance to make puppets and participate in open sketching sessions.

SCIENCE FEST

The rain poured down on what is usually one of the College of Arts and Sciences’ most popular events. Though attendance was dampened, Eskenazi School faculty and students demonstrated the wonders of papermaking and folding. Visitors could also see laser cutters and 3D printers in action.

FIRST THURSDAYS

The Eskenazi School continued to offer some of the most popular activities at these monthly, campus-wide celebrations of the humanities that are held on the plaza in front of the Fine Arts Building. This year, for example, attendees had the chance to make puppets and participate in open sketching sessions.

NAMING CEREMONY

In October 2019, IU President Michael McRobbie and Provost Lauren Robel joined Dean Peg Faimon for the formal celebration of the Eskenazi School’s renaming, which now bears the name of two extraordinary philanthropists, Sidney and Lois Eskenazi. In 2019, the Eskenazis made a $20 million gift to support the school’s academic programs and research, as well as the construction of a new building based on a design by architect Ludwig Mies van der Rohe.

PATTER LECTURE SERIES

In February 2020, Stephen Kieran and James Timberlake, founding partners of the internationally acclaimed KieranTimberlake firm, became the first architects to deliver the prestigious Patten lectures. The two spent a week in Bloomington and Columbus, where they met with students and faculty. Before delivering his lecture, Kieran described how especially impressed he and Timberlake had been by the huge energy and talent of the faculty and students of the J. Irwin Miller Architecture Program in Columbus.
WELCOME RELIEF

Donors Elsa and Meredith McKinney donated the seed money to establish a fund to help students facing financial emergencies. The couple also established the popular visiting artist series that bears their name.

The first students will receive aid in fall 2020. Donors who are interested in contributing to the Emergency Relief Fund should contact Heather Kogge, Director of Development and Alumni Engagement, at hkogge@iu.edu.

THE ESKENAZI SCHOOL’S NEWEST DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR

Photographer Osamu James Nakagawa captured yet another honor:

Osamu James Nakagawa was one of 15 IU faculty to be elevated to the rank of distinguished professor in 2020. The honor is reserved for IU’s most celebrated and accomplished faculty. A 2009 recipient of a Guggenheim fellowship, Nakagawa is a Ruth N. Halls Professor in the photography and studio art area. He also directs the Center for Integrative Photographic Studies. His work, which has been exhibited around the world, is in the permanent collections of museums including New York’s Metropolitan Museum of Art, the George Eastman House, and the Tokyo Photographic Art Museum. As the nominators wrote: “Nakagawa’s innovative and critically acclaimed creative work has earned him an international reputation as one of the most important contemporary photographers.”

Nakagawa was born in New York and raised in Tokyo before returning to the United States as a teenager and earning undergraduate and graduate degrees in Houston. His works often explore this cultural duality as well as the duality between the personal and the social and historical. “Certainly, the personal is important,” he has said, “but the best works are those that link the personal to some broader point of contention happening in the world. Works gain poignancy and pose challenges through such connections. That’s what makes a work interesting.”

Safan #002, from Nakagawa’s series Banta Cliffs.
FACULTY

SOLVING THE PROBLEM WHILE DOING THE PROBLEM

Associate Professor Malcolm Mobutu Smith, who has been teaching ceramics at IU since 2001, has been named the new Bloomington Director of Graduate Studies, succeeding Associate Professor Tracy Templeton, whose contributions over the last three years have been deeply appreciated. As Dean Peg Faimon says, "Malcolm is as gifted a teacher as he is an artist. That makes him the ideal choice to guide our graduate students." Smith, who completed his M.F.A. at Alfred University’s New York College of Ceramics after earning his B.F.A. at Penn State University, has had a varied and prolific career. In addition to completing residencies, conducting workshops, and delivering lectures, Smith has produced works that are held in numerous private and public collections around the world.

Perhaps Smith best described his creative and teaching style in a 2011 interview done in conjunction with a show at the Indianapolis Museum of Contemporary Art that explored how hip-hop and graffiti had influenced his work. "There’s a mystery about graffiti. There’s a mystery about improvisation," Smith said. "There’s the willingness of taking risks, of stepping out and knowing that you’ll solve the problem in the process of doing the problem. That’s basically my teaching ethic." ◆

NEW FACULTY

DAWN LORAAS, Visiting Lecturer, Interior Design, is a doctoral candidate in Architectural Studies at the University of Missouri, Columbia, and also holds a Certificate in Public Health-Epidemiology and an M.A. in Architectural Studies. Her current research focuses on the interaction of human behavior, indoor air quality, and school buildings. Loraas has practiced professionally in Minnesota with design firms and in-house with Mears Group.

KRISTY HUGHES joins the Eskenazi School as Visiting Assistant Professor, Creative Core. She makes collaged paintings and sculptures that have been exhibited across the U.S., with solo and two-person shows at the University of South Carolina, Aiken, and Butler University, among many others. She was recently inaugural Artist in Residence at the Turner Center for the Arts in Valdosta, GA. Hughes earned her B.A. and M.A. at Eastern Illinois University and her M.F.A. at IU.

BUMJIN KIM, Visiting Lecturer, Comprehensive Design, is a designer, artist, and architect whose award-winning projects and images have been exhibited in the U.S., Spain, Italy, and China. Kim is a co-founder of Dfluence, a research and design lab, and of Axonography, a design practice. He has worked at the MIT Design Lab, NADAAA, and h2o architects and has taught at MIT and the Wentworth Institute of Technology.
DOING THE WORK

Cedric Hudson, ’12 B.A., Individualized Major, area certificate in fashion design, excelled at long jump as a student athlete. He’s jumped even further in his career as a fashion designer. Now a senior apparel designer at Adidas, Hudson has worked for four Adidas apparel teams, including Yeezy.

Hudson returned to campus last winter to talk to students about his industry. “If I can be the person who can shed the light on it, I would like to do that,” Hudson says. “To see somebody that is a designer and a person of color is really important.”

Hudson underscores the importance of preparation: “It’s not enough to just be present for interviews, for example. He made a practice of preparing special presentations for each interview. “When I show up at interviews, I have the stuff,” he explains, “I want them to know I’m dead serious.”

And Hudson is dead serious because apparel and fashion are serious: “These shoes, these clothes—they change people’s lives.”

Adidas apparel teams, including Yeezy

Farrall, IDS

IU alum and fashion designer Cedric Hudson (left) talks to current students about his career. Photo: Gracie Farrall, IDS

“WHY I DRAW WITH ROBOTS”

Sougwen Chung, ’07 B.F.A., Studio Art, gave a TED talk, “Why I Draw with Robots” in Mumbai, India, last winter. Now based in New York City, Chung has exhibited her work widely at such venues as Art Basel Miami and the Tribeca Film Festival. And media including Wired, the New Yorker, and USA Today, have extensively covered her projects.

For the past five years, Chung has been collaborating with robots (she calls their various iterations D.O.U.G.) to find an answer to this provocative question: “If machines are starting to be able to do the work traditionally done by humans, what will become of the human hand?” Chung seeks the answer in performances where viewers can watch her draw alongside her robots.

Her work has produced some surprising insights. No matter how meticulously she programs and trains her “D.O.U.G.”s with AI, they make mistakes. “No two performances have ever been the same,” she says. And the variations, she says, “led me to the realization that maybe part of the beauty of human and machine systems is their shared inherent fallibility.

“Today, I’m still in pursuit of finding the beauty in human and nonhuman creativity,” Chung told her TED audience. “In the future, I have no idea what that will look like, but I’m pretty curious to find out.”

CHANGING SPACES

“Other people may say I’m a stained-glass artist. I say I’m an artist who works in stained glass,” says IU alumna Ellen Mandelbaum, who earned both her B.A. and M.F.A. in painting at IU in 1960 and 1963, respectively.

The Stained Glass Association of America joined the many other organizations, scholars, and artists who have saluted Mandelbaum’s art over the years. Citing the decades of inspiration that Mandelbaum has given her students and fellow artists, the association’s Stained Glass School gave Mandelbaum its Excellence in Education Award.

Mandelbaum’s works now hang everywhere from private residences to the South Carolina Aquarium in Charleston. They illuminate synagogues, churches, hospitals, and libraries across the United States. Her work has been shown in both solo and group exhibitions.

Mandelbaum discovered stained glass after she returned to her native New York after graduation. “Unlike painting, the field of stained glass was very open,” she says. She had the freedom and space to develop her own vision. “I want to create stained glass that will really change a space and make it beautiful,” she says.

The thousands of people who have seen Mandelbaum’s airy, delicate yet powerful works can testify that she has succeeded.
STUDENTS

A STITCH IN TIME

Last January, 28 Eskenazi School students joined 1,100 students from across the country at the National Retail Federation (NRF) student program in New York City. Annie Hope Mazzola, ’20, B.S., Apparel Merchandising, was among the top five finalists in the Next Generation competition that singles out up-and-coming retail leaders. She received a $10,000 scholarship. The honor was one in a string of accomplishments during Mazzola’s undergraduate career, which was capped by a job offer from Stitch Fix, the online fashion styling service. Mazzola first learned about the job by attending an IU Career Fair. Although the pandemic delayed her start day by a few months, Mazzola will begin as a Stitch Fix buying coordinator in San Francisco in autumn 2020.

Mazzola completed three internships while she was an undergraduate. After her freshman year, she spent a summer at a South Carolina-based denim company. She moved to Hong Kong the next summer for a brand communications internship at Vans Asia headquarters. The summer after her junior year, Mazzola landed an internship with Urban Outfitters in Philadelphia.

Mazzola is happy to reveal the secret of her success: “Everything I’ve done is a direct result from the programs at IU and from the networking connections I made there.”

STAFF

NEW STAFF

Heather Farmer
Associate Director of Employer Relations
Born and raised in St. Louis, Missouri, Heather is a studio fine artist turned arts professional. Her undergraduate studies culminated in an associate’s degree in illustration and a dual B.F.A. in drawing and graphic design. After a number of years maintaining her own freelance practice and working as a designer for Indiana University, she obtained her M.A. in arts administration from IU in 2014. Since then, Heather has served in a variety of art-centric roles at IU. She is a mother of two, has traveled in nearly a dozen countries, loves museums, and still practices figure drawing.

Ashley Kendall
Office Coordinator
Ashley serves in the Eskenazi School Dean’s Suite as the office coordinator and building manager for Kirkwood Hall. She came to the school in the fall of 2019 after 15 years of property management in Bloomington. Though she describes herself as an amateur baker, her colleagues would likely describe her as a cupcake artist and are fortunate to be able to sample her work regularly. Ashley enjoys being at IU, describing the Eskenazi School as a “wonderful place to work” that provides a great supportive environment for everyone.

Madhurima Mallik-Banerjee
Graduate Studies Administrative Associate
Madhurima serves in the J. Irwin Miller Architecture Program. Her duties include managing the graduate program, assisting with graduate studies services and purchasing, and administering the front office. Originally from India, Madhurima has been in the U.S. for the last nine years and considers herself a “proud American.” Along with her husband and two children, Madhurima loves to travel and has a huge bucket list.

Hannah Osborne
Administrative Assistant
As the front office administrator, Hannah is the face of the Eskenazi School in the Fine Arts Building. For her M.A. degree in art history, which she earned at IU, she focused on contemporary art theory. She wrote her thesis on the intersection of hip-hop and the art world. Being a part of the Eskenazi team has given Hannah the opportunity to stay connected with the thriving creative activity that the School supports.

Christopher Roe
Friends of Art Bookshop Manager
Christopher holds a master’s in English from Ball State University, where he taught American literature studies and art history at the university lab school. Before joining the Eskenazi School’s bookshop, Christopher worked for Barnes & Noble Booksellers in Bloomington for nine years. As an avid art collector, he looks forward to building an online marketplace for student and faculty works, so that alumni have an opportunity to purchase artworks from IU students and instructors.
In celebration of the Eskenazi School’s 125th anniversary, art created by more than 40 current and emeriti faculty was showcased at the Evansville Museum of Arts, History and Science last fall, before traveling to the Grunwald Gallery in Bloomington, where it was on display from January to March. “We’re one of the oldest art programs in the country, so we have a long and venerable history to celebrate,” says Betsy Stirratt, the Grunwald Gallery director. Stirratt notes that at its founding, the school focused on traditional fine arts like painting and sculpture. Today, Eskenazi School faculty and students work in media that include video and film, fashion design, and furniture. Thus, works in the show contained novel elements like printed circuit boards or faux fur. Each work was accompanied by an artist statement. For instance, digital artist Janna Ahrndt, whose “Twitter Bot” incorporated a Roomba vacuum cleaner, explained that by hijacking everyday technologies, “we can jolt ourselves into questioning the ways in which they are created, marketed, and used.” For her part, Jennifer Riley, an associate professor of architecture at the Eskenazi School’s J. Irwin Miller program, hoped that viewers would walk away from her works in oil on canvas and steel with “a sense of surprise, wonder and curiosity”—exactly the sensations she seeks when looking at art herself.

The exhibition was supported by the Office of the Bicentennial, the Evansville Museum of Arts, History and Science, and IU Board of Trustee member Pat Shoulders and his wife, Lisa, as well as by the Eskenazi School of Art, Architecture + Design.

Right: The New + Next show filled the Grunwald Gallery in winter 2020.
FRESH IDEAS FOR GREENE COUNTY

The 13 students in Professor Jenny El-Shamy’s fall B.F.A. graphic design course came up with bright, new branding to promote tourism in Greene County. The Bloomington neighbor is home to much-loved attractions like the Goose Pond Fish and Wildlife Area. The students created logos and designs that can be used in patches, stamps, maps, stickers, and more. “This is an exceptionally talented group of young designers who created work on par with any professional agency,” says El-Shamy. “The community partners and I were most impressed by the way they listened, identified the problems, conducted thorough research, and created designs that captured the essence of Greene County.” The project was a partnership between the Eskenazi School, IU’s Center for Rural Engagement, and the Greene County Economic Development Corporation and Tourist Advisory Board.

A student in Professor Jenny El-Shamy’s class surveys the Greene County landscape to gather branding ideas.

DESIGNS THAT BLOSSOM

Senior lecturer Jenny El-Shamy’s graphic design students also collaborated with Bloomington-based Lotus Blossoms. The nonprofit, which celebrates its 25th anniversary this year, connects children in kindergarten through high school with performing artists from around the globe. Lauren Gronek, the student designer whose final design was selected by the organization, describes her work: “I wanted to capture the main mission of Lotus Blossoms with a globe that represents the educational and global influences of the program, as well as a bright color scheme to remain celebratory and to appeal not only to children but adults as well.” Growing up in northwest Indiana, Gronek, ’21, B.F.A., graphic design, always loved art. Her attraction to graphic design was immediate, she explains, “because it allows you to help people solve problems through art and creativity.” She also fell in love with IU at first sight. On an exploratory visit as a high school senior, she says, “IU felt like home right away.” She loves the B.F.A. program: “It’s small and specialized and we are given so many opportunities to grow and share.” Her goal is to one day have her own studio where she can create designs that have a social impact on issues like sustainability.

FLIPPING A SWITCH

Last winter teams of students in the J. Irwin Miller architecture program created public art installations for alleyways in downtown Columbus as part of an “Urban Switch” competition. Jei Jeeyea Kim, assistant professor at the Miller program, supervised the student teams, whose designs were judged by a community panel that included representatives from the Columbus Area Arts Council and Visitors Center. The team of Morgan Anderson and Patrick Dimond, both M. Arch, ’21, came up with the winning design, called “Movement.” Inspired by the image of laundry hanging across alleyways to dry, Anderson and Dimond proposed suspending reflective mylar high above the alley so that it would, in their words, “swim in the alley’s gentle breeze and reflect daylight.” Their budget was so low that it was possible to fund a second installation, so a runner-up design was chosen. “Relationships of Columbus,” by Victoria Bell and Melanie Brack, both M. Arch, ’21, was a mural of acrylic panels that visitors could move to create new configurations. Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic meant that neither work could be installed, though Kim hopes that they will one day be shown. All of the student proposals were exhibited online, however, and the local newspaper covered the project.
The Center for Innovative Merchandising (CIM)
CIM partners with leading-edge merchants and industry innovators on programs to empower future retail leaders. Last fall CIM held its popular annual Retail and Design Forum. CIM also sent 28 IU students to the National Retail Federation in New York City in January, where several were honored. CIM continued to work closely with the Retail Studies Organization on panels, seminars, and a fashion show. CIM also collaborated with the Walter Career Center, in addition to building its National Advisory Council, Alumni Ambassador program, and LinkedIn group, as well as updating its website and marketing materials.

Center for Integrative Photographic Studies (CIPS)
Last year, CIPS coordinated many talks by artists and scholars, including Lebanese-American photographer Rania Matar, whose work the Eikensai Museum has recently acquired; and Mary Goodwin, the founder and publisher of Waltz Books, and a co-founder of Aurora PhotoCenter in Indianapolis. CIPS sought to expand relationships with regional art spaces, such as Bloomington’s FAR Center for Contemporary Arts, where Andy Mattern gave an artist talk. In addition to continuing its Noon Talks series, CIPS collaborated with the IU Cinema and several other campus organizations to present Seahorse, a documentary that told “One Trans Man’s Story of Pregnancy and Birth,” which was followed by a Q&A with the director.

Grunwald Gallery of Art
The Grunwald continued to showcase not only student and faculty work but to stage thought-provoking shows that reached a large audience. Among the year’s many standouts: Rough and Unequal, an exhibition, symposium, and lecture centered around a 35mm film installation by artist Kevin Jerome Everson. Working across media including film, painting, and sculpture, Everson explores class and identity by depicting the relationship between the human body and the materiality of the labor it performs. Every Breathe We Drew featured photographs by McKinney Visiting lecturer Jess Dugan and included a poetry reading and lunch roundtable. Remembering and Forgetting, an exhibition related to the campus-wide Themester program of the same name, contained works by 20 artists. The Grunwald also hosted the New + Next show and was the site, both physical and virtual, for student B.F.A. and M.F.A. shows, as well as providing students with professional practice opportunities.

McKinney Visiting Artist Series
Established by a donation from Dr. and Mrs. Meredith and Elsa McKinney, this series continued to bring both cutting-edge and established artists to campus. This year’s visitors included printmaker Paul Coldwell, whose widely exhibited and collected works include prints, sculptures, book forms, and installations, and photographer Jess Dugan, whose work explores identity, gender, sexuality, and community and is held in collections across the United States. Other visitors included Yvonne Osei, a German-born Ghanaian artist who now lives in the U.S., where she considers herself an outsider artist. Her media include photography, video, performance, and installation. Ceramist Dirk Staschke, sculptor Pavel Ignatiev, and graphic designer Debbie Millman were also able to deliver lectures before the COVID-19 pandemic disrupted programming. Jen Bervin, a multidisciplinary, collaborative artist, became the first visitor in the series to deliver a lecture virtually, via Zoom, in April. Ana Maria Gomez Lopez was named the McKinney International Art + Design resident, delivering a lecture on her durational and body-based projects based on self-experimentation and archival research in the history of science.
Miller M. Arch Gallery at the Republic
The M.Arch Gallery in Columbus’s Republic Building, home to the Eskenazi School’s architecture program, offered four exhibitions over the year. Between the four shows, the gallery presented the work of 12 artists and one architect. Material Way was a 20-year survey of New York City-based artist Kathleen Kucka. Another solo show was devoted to paintings and film by Seattle-based artist David Brody. 10 X Relay was a group show of ten artists who are linked as friends and as painters. The gallery also presented the architectural drawings of Perry Kulper.

The Sage Collection
Sage is a collection of almost 30,000 pieces of clothing, accessories, and ephemera, primarily from the 19th and 20th centuries. Sage not only supports teaching and research in the Eskenazi School, but it is also a vital touchpoint for outside students and scholars, as well as the general public. In the past year, the Sage moved its offices and its permanent collection. It continued to work on an upcoming exhibit of the Glenn Close costume collection. Sage also provided artifacts and support for, among others, the Neal-Marshall Black Culture Center, the Monroe County History Center, and an IU Bicentennial mobile exhibit.

ServeDesign
ServeDesign teams with campus and community groups to prepare Eskenazi students for careers that encompass civic and social responsibility. This year, ServeDesign awarded two faculty grants. One went to J. Irwin Miller Professor Jeeyea Kim for the Urban Switch project in Columbus. The second went to Fashion Design faculty Lori Frye and Bo Choi, whose students worked with children at a local domestic abuse shelter. ServeDesign also received a grant from IU’s Center for Rural Engagement to fund Eskenazi faculty and students who work with local communities to create housing, playgrounds, and public art projects.

The Bicentennial Medal Honors Alumni and Friends of IU who, through their personal, professional, artistic, or philanthropic efforts, have broadened the reach of Indiana University around the state, nation, and world. The inaugural Bicentennial Medal was awarded to Indiana Governor Eric Holcomb on June 28, 2019 to kick off the Bicentennial’s celebratory year. The Eskenazi School is honored to present the Bicentennial Medal to the following recipients in 2020:

For Leadership and Partnership in the Creation of the J. Irwin Miller Master of Architecture program
Mr. John M. Burnett
Mayor James D. Lienhoop
Mr. Albert “Hutch” Schumaker

For Leadership and Support of International Partnerships at Indiana University
Ms. Nancy E. Uslan

For Distinguished Leadership and Service in Support of the Eskenazi School
Mr. John T. Goodheart
Mr. William M. Itter
Mr. Glenn S. Lyon
Ms. Georgia K. Strange

In Recognition of Distinguished Professors
Randy Long
Osamu James Nakagawa
Rudy Pizzotti

Each Bicentennial medal is made from material salvaged from the old bells that hung in the Student Building on the IU Bloomington campus, giving recipients a lasting piece of IU history. The Eskenazi School’s own Jeeyea Kim, assistant professor of architecture, created the medal’s designs, which reflect IU’s impact on the state of Indiana, the country, and the world.

IU BICENTENNIAL MEDAL RECIPIENTS
IU BICENTENNIAL

BICENTENNIAL PROJECTS

Above and far right: Two Bicentennial allegorical paintings, now hanging in Presidents Hall, are by Eskenazi Professor Emerita Bonnie Silerski.
Center: Eskenazi students model sustainable IU-themed fashions they designed.
Top center and bottom: Eskenazi Professor Caleb Wertheim’s Bicentennial mural is now installed in Wright Quadrangle’s dining hall.

Images of paintings, courtesy IU Bicentennial Office
Eskewazi
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FRONT COVER
Top row, from left: Andy Bullard, Jonathan Christensen Caballero, Yingqi Puffy Zhao, AJ O’Reilly
Second row, from left: Caroline Gerberick, Mitch Gathings, Kate L’Heureux, Menika Lue
Third row, from left: Seth Adam Cook, Tucker Howard, Ekow N. Ephrim, Morgan Stephenson
Fourth row, from left: Lee Oliver, Blake O’Brien, Jessica Gendron, Bethany C. Rahn

BACK COVER
Top row, from left: Scott Whitworth, Raymond Hummel, Jessica Westhafer
Second row, from left: Jenny Reed, Nicole Wilson, Wenyan Xu
Third row, center: Joel Addison Fuller