



NEWS

For release December 2, 2004

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SCHOLARSHIP IN JEWELRY DESIGN AT FIT IS SPONSORED BY THE TIFFANY & CO. FOUNDATION

The Tiffany & Co. Foundation has funded a one-year scholarship at the Fashion Institute of Technology (FIT) for a Japanese student to major in Jewelry Design. The first recipient, to be announced in April, will enter FIT in fall 2005.

The FIT Jewelry Design Scholarship sponsored by The Tiffany & Co. Foundation will be awarded to a new full-time student who is a citizen of Japan and meets the established language, academic, and portfolio criteria. The winner will be selected through a review process conducted by noted specialists in jewelry design. The scholarship covers tuition, room and board, books, supplies, and transportation expenses.

“We are pleased to fund this scholarship which promotes the Foundation’s commitment to decorative arts education that provides talented students with the necessary instruction to become highly skilled professionals in jewelry design,” said Fernanda Kellogg, president of The Tiffany & Co. Foundation.

“This scholarship supports FIT’s efforts to provide the jewelry industry with young designers who possess the education necessary to make contributions to a competitive, highly specialized field,” said John Kahl, FIT’s vice president for Institutional Advancement. “Our faculty have already forged their own careers in the industry and bring firsthand knowledge of today’s market into the classroom. We are very grateful to The Tiffany & Co. Foundation for providing this generous scholarship.”

The FIT Jewelry Design Scholarship is the latest initiative in a longstanding relationship between FIT and Tiffany & Co. In 1990, Tiffany established the Elsa Peretti Endowed Scholarship at FIT, in honor of the designer's 15th anniversary with the company. In 2001, Tiffany celebrated Peretti's 25th anniversary by establishing the Elsa Peretti Endowed Professorship at FIT with a grant of \$750,000, the largest charitable contribution ever made by Tiffany. FIT Jewelry Design Chairperson Michael Coan was named the first recipient of the professorship in May 2004.

FIT offers both one- and two-year programs in Jewelry Design leading to an Associate in Applied Science (AAS) degree. In both programs, students receive training in a core curriculum that familiarizes them with the design, construction, and creation of jewelry; the techniques of jewelry rendering and principles of casting methods; the study of gems; and how jewelry design trends reflect contemporary society. Graduates are prepared for careers as designers, jewelers, and executives in the manufacture of fine or costume jewelry.

FIT is a college of art and design, business and technology of the State University of New York (SUNY). It offers more than 30 programs leading to the AAS, BFA, BS, MA, and MPS degrees. This year, *The Unofficial, Unbiased Guide to the 328 Most Interesting Colleges*, issued by Kaplan, listed FIT, saying "FIT gives you elite Seventh Avenue connections and conservatory-type training at a public school price."