2014 Vaccaro Family Scholarship

Together with the Vaccaro Family, Canadian Jewellery Expos is proud to be a part of the first annual 'Vaccaro Family Scholarship'. A design competition set to showcase the newest and brightest jewellery students from across Canada.



The winning student designer will receive the scholarship award of \$3000.00 during an expenses-paid trip to the 2014 JVC Jewellers' Ball held in Toronto, Ontario. The accrediting college of the winning designer will receive an award of \$1000.00 toward their program.

To be eligible, one must be a registered student of a recognized Jewellery Design or Metalsmithing program during the 2013-2014 academic year.

Please be sure to visit the display to see the fabulous designs, and to cast your ballot for the winner!

Canadian Jewellery Expos would like to thank the gracious sponsor of this scholarship award, Giovanni Vaccaro, of Beverly Hills Jewellers. Without his foresight and commitment to supporting the future of the industry this scholarship would not be possible.

Introducing our 2014 Finalists...



Andree Chenier, Toronto ON. New Graduate, George Brown College

My desire to capture a special moment in a physical form has made me curious about working in three dimensions. Experimenting with sculpting along with my love of working in a small scale has brought me to jewellery making. In addition to decorating the body, jewellery pieces are to me like small mementos you can keep close to you all day long.



Fiona MacLean, Courtenay BC. 1st Year, Vancouver Community College

I have always loved jewellery ever since I was a little girl but I can't think of any other profession that would allow me to make beautiful objects that can be used and seen every day and at the same time to be meaningful or symbolic to their owners. The intense connection to the materials and the tools and the basic elements like fire, stone and metal give me a connection to the organic world that defies description. Jewellery allows me to combine my favorite influences from my formative years, those being the natural world and forms that I encountered in art and architecture during my travels.



Haleh Saffari, Toronto ON. 3rd Year, George Brown College

Designing a unique piece of art that combines language, history, traditions, cultures, is what draws my creativity towards the jewellery industry. I am very passionate to practice and improve my skills to create colorful conceptual art jewellery designs. Beauty lies in art industry, and I am very eager to represent it through jewellery crafts.



Hana Ko, Toronto ON. 4th Year, Ontario College of Art and Design University

Love is something invisible to eyes, but it is certainly an essential food to our soul that everyone is craving for, even when they don't realize that they do. My work is based on expressing the love energy in my own definition, and applies through abstract forms of love gestures. Wedding jewelry fascinates me because I believe it is the day that a whole new chapter in our lives begins. My goal is to design love, with what I love.



Joanna Mader, Toronto ON. 2nd Year, George Brown College

I have been passionate about jewellery since a young age because of my aunt's influence. Most of my work is inspired from my quirky interests and is done by trying things out and seeing where it takes me. I want to create beautiful things that will be enjoyed and appreciated by everyone.



Kesha Frank, Ottawa ON. 3rd Year, George Brown College

Kesha Frank draws her inspiration, style and aesthetic form the natural world. She enjoys the transformation of 2D materials and sketches into 3D jewellery pieces. The jewellery industry provides Kesha with the opportunity to explore jewellery as a form of expression, allowing her to sculpt metal into wearable art.



Pasha Moezzi, Toronto ON. 2nd Year, George Brown College

My work is inspired by minimalism and subtracting from a form as opposed to decorating and ornamenting. I'm highly influenced by industrial and architectural motifs and Art Deco would be my favorite period in the history.



Tynessa Walters, Toronto ON. New Graduate, George Brown College

I have always been drawn to miniatures, gems, and the adornment of the human body. Combine this with a creative desire to learn how to work with metal, and jewellery was a natural fit.



Wei Zhou, Shanghai China. New Graduate, George Brown College

I'm always passionate about colour, design and handcraft. And I enjoy the entire process of making jewellery. You start with a concept, develop it, get input from others, and keep testing and refining it until you're satisfied with the final product. Making every piece of my jewellery unique is my all time pursuance.



Kirsty Brown, Toronto ON. 3rd Year, George Brown College

Having travelled extensively since a child, my experience of various cultures and philosophies of art stimulated my love for design and jewellery. This passion, personified in my European heritage and exposure to historical and modern arts, has given me an appreciation of the skills of traditional craftsmen. As I embark on the third year of the Jewellery Arts program at George Brown College, I am developing my skills in computer aided design (CAD) to create unique jewellery that blends old techniques with new.



Prisilla Hui, Toronto ON. 3rd Year, Ontario College of Art and Design University

I have always been passionate about gemstones and jewellery since elementary and knew even at that time jewellery designing was what I absolutely wanted to do. What draws my creativity is all the intricate details and philosophies of life through my observations, living in the present and capturing the beautiful moments such as a kind smile or the love from the people who matter to me most. My devoted passion for jewellery design began when I saw a piece of jewellery worn and it was so mesmerizing for me, the movement of the piece and the way that it danced with the body was a beauty transcended. Life was breathed into this sculptural work of art and it was almost as if it had been awaken, with so much life and this was when I knew I wanted to do the same and touch peoples lives in the way that jewellery has illuminated mine.



Candice Fraser, Smithers BC. New Graduate, George Brown College

I am constantly researching and inspired by different eras of history and mathematics. I focus on the importance of numbers and proportions and connect them to the human body. The wearer of my work becomes a part of the story by being the link between our past and present.



Elena Parrilla, Toronto ON. 2nd Year, George Brown College

A piece of jewellery is a perfect message of creativity and craftsmanship. Jewellery is a wearable piece of art when it is worn with pride and joy; it enhances the beauty of the person. I am passionate about the creations of wearable art, influenced with design of past cultures and creating new pieces for present time. If I follow an idea I will be able to create something beautiful that will give great satisfaction through design.