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January 4, 2017

Dear Faculty or Student:

I am excited to present a wonderful opportunity for a scholarship. The National Costumers Association will be holding their bi-annual conference in Columbus, OH on July 20 – 21, 2017. We will be holding our 4th Annual Student Competition that is open to all costume and fashion design students. The competition will culminate with a runway show and a project presentation at the convention site in Columbus on that weekend. A scholarship to the school of your choice will be given to the winners and student memberships to the National Costumers Association will be given to all finalists. One cash prize may also be awarded.

To qualify, the student must complete an application by April 1, 2017 and present their completed costume in a video presentation by May 31, 2017. At this time up to 6 finalists will be chosen. The winners will be notified and will be expected to present their entire project to the general membership in a runway show at the convention. The finalists will then be expected to present their complete project in a display which needs to include the costume and a written presentation of all design materials. If the student is unable to attend, they may send their entire project including costume to be modeled or displayed during the event. All materials will be returned to the contestant at the completion of the convention.

The application and basic criteria for the event is enclosed with this letter. Additional applications can be found on the organizations website; [www.costumers.org](http://www.costumers.org).

We hope this will be a fun and exciting competition that will introduce your students to the world of costume design and the National Costumers Association.

Sincerely,

Linda Adams-Foat

President, National Costumers Association/Student Creative Event Chairperson

Student Design Competition Criteria

1. Student must complete an application. It must be received on or before April 1, 2017. At that time contestants will be instructed where to post their videos.
2. Students must be within a year of graduating high school or in college or graduate school.
3. Proof of GPA 2.75 or higher; transcript required with the application on April 1, 2017.
4. The design concept must include an original costume design of the student’s choice. This can include any genre; Historical, Theatrical, Masquerade, Steampunk, Anime, Cosplay, Sci-fi or anything that is a costume.
5. The costume must not exceed 8 feet in height.
6. Costume must be presented on a model and ready for a runway show. You may also participate via Skype. Skype participants please see below. Everything must be with the costume that completes the look that the students want to represent.
7. Student needs to provide his or her own model. Skype participants please contact the event chairman for instructions.
8. Student needs to provide a 1-minute or less typed runway description.
9. The entire costume must be completed on $100 or less for purchased materials. The student may use materials found around the house or school.
10. Any materials may be used.
11. Students must be supervised by an instructor or mentor and all designs must be the original work of the student
12. The costume remains the possession of the designer.
13. All applicants must present a 1-minute video presentation of their completed costume on or before May 31, 2017. (Details will be released to applicants after April 30, 2017) A jury of costume designers from the National Costumers Association will select up to 12 finalists to present their costumes at a runway presentation at the National Costumers Association’s Bi-Annual conference. The conference will be held in Columbus, OH, July 20-21,2017. Finalists will be notified via email and followed by a letter on or before June 4, 2017.
14. A written project presentation must be a display at the appointed time and place at the Columbus Convention in July 2017. The written project presentation must include:
    1. A designer’s statement that includes concept or motivation
    2. Rough sketches of the costume
    3. Final color renderings of the costume
    4. Fabric swatches and material list
    5. A cost break down of materials used
    6. Photos of the work in progress
    7. Research documentation
    8. Explanation of processes used to complete the costume
    9. The costume may be displayed on a dress form or worn by the model
    10. Any additional relevant Information the designer wishes to share.
15. Finalists must attend or Skye in the participation of the runway show and project display.
16. Up to three (3) scholarships to be used at your school of choice will be awarded to winners and a one (1) year student membership to the National Costumers Association will be awarded to all finalists. There may also be one (1) cash prize.
17. A panel of fashion and costume design experts from the Columbus, Ohio, area, as well as members of the National Costumers Association will adjudicate the final phase of judging.
18. The final decision will come from the judges. Participants will be given a packet with the critiques of the judges after the awards ceremony.
19. The costumes will be judged on; runway presentation, craftsmanship, presentation, thoroughness of display materials, and compliance to the rules.
20. A runway show will be presented. Participant’s family, friends, and instructors are encouraged to attend the runway presentation at no charge.
21. Photographs will be taken of the final costumes after the runway event. The participant’s may purchase the images from the photographer.
22. Participants are responsible for any expenses incurred during the convention.
23. The National Costumers Association reserves the rights to use these images in their publications and on their website.
24. Displays will be open before the runway show, during judging and one (1) hour after the runway show.
25. Students are responsible for setting up and breaking down their own displays. The National Costumers Association will not be responsible for any materials not removed or left unattended from the viewing room. The National Costumers Association will provide a room monitor for the display room. Students participating via Skype must ship their costumes and materials in advance of the competition with detailed instructions for set up. Instructions will be given by the event chairperson.
26. Participants are encouraged to enjoy other events and classes at the convention however, some functions incur a fee.

Student Membership includes:

1. A one year subscription to THE COSTUMER magazine.
2. Access to the National Costumers Associations website
3. Right to attend and participate in the 2019 conference
4. Scholarship and internship opportunities
5. Competitions with other designers
6. Education – hands on and business related classes
7. Mentors available
8. Exposure to Costume professionals and manufacturers nationally
9. Winners will be featured in the September 2017 issue of THE COSTUMER magazine.
10. Photographs of the winning costumes will be featured at the 2018 Halloween Trade show booth.

National Costumers Association Student Design Competition

APPLICATION

Columbus, OH , July 20-21, 2015

Entries must be received by via US Mail to Linda Adams-Foat, 1321 S. Demeter Dr., Freeport, IL 61032 or email to [IPP@costumers.org](mailto:IPP@costumers.org) by 5:00 p.m. CDT, April 1, 2017

Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

School currently attending:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student and Supervisor/Mentor : Please sign and verify that the design is the original work of the student.

Student signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student’s design supervisor’s signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email of Supervisor:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Print name of Supervisor:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

It is suggested that you make a copy of your application and acceptance letter and bring it with you to the convention.