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**TG COUTURE TEAMS WITH
THE SCHOOL OF THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO FOR DESIGN
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

Luxury Furniture Company Awards Three Student Designers

CHICAGO, July 9th, 2008 – TG Couture, a luxury furniture company based in Chicago, is pleased to officially announce the winners of its student design scholarship. As longtime supporters of the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, as well as the local design community, Gary Lee and Thomas McWalters of TG Couture, together launched a scholarship program to assist students in fulfilling their design dreams.

The three winners of this year's scholarships are Rachel Franck, Mariko Golden, and Alice Schoenau. Each student received a \$1,000 scholarship award to pay towards creating their next collection or assisting with their next business endeavor.

"TG Couture as well as our design firm, Gary Lee Partners has a long history of supporting the arts and education, specifically the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, and this was a wonderful opportunity for Tom and me to be supportive of a community we truly believe in," said Gary Lee, co-designer of TG Couture and president of Gary Lee Partners.

In order to choose the recipients of the scholarship, TG Couture partnered with the Art Institutes' fashion department. Members of the TG Couture team reviewed students' work and selected seven of their favorite designs. The seven selected designs were then featured in the new TG Couture showroom at the Merchandise Mart, where they were on display during the NeoCon World's Trade Fair.

During the June 5th TG Couture launch party attendees were asked to vote on their favorite design. About 150 attendees voted in total and the final three winners were determined.

“As we prepared for the grand opening of our new flagship showroom, we felt that incorporating a showcase of students’ fashion designs would be a great compliment to the work that would be displayed in our space. We are excited to have had the ability to partner with a wonderful program and support the next generation of young people who are passionate about design,” Thomas McWalters, co-designer of TG Couture and managing principal of Gary Lee Partners.

About TG Couture

TG Couture is a luxury furniture company based in Chicago. The new furniture collection, which launched in June 2008, is greatly inspired by couture fashion, and reflects the signature craftsmanship of the designers, attention to detail, elegant lines and classic materials. Each piece, hand-crafted in America by the finest artisans and craftsmen, exudes luxury, while at the same time maintaining its essential authenticity and functionality. The TG Couture collection includes product that is at once a work of art while remaining highly functional, perfect for a variety of environments. www.tgcouture.com

About Gary Lee Partners

Gary Lee Partners is a Chicago-based international design firm with offices in New York and San Francisco. Founded in 1993, the company consists of a multi-talented group of architects and interior design specialists. The company’s projects reflect its passion for design, concern for the craft and desire for perfection. www.garyleepartners.com

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