



HGA Student Fashion Design Challenge

Convergence® 2020 Knoxville

Overview:

Instituted in 2008, the Handweaver's Guild of America, Inc.'s (HGA) Student Fashion Design Challenge was created to support students within the textile, fiber and fashion fields by delivering a platform to present and exhibit original work at a national level while encouraging collaboration and partnership between university design programs.

Through this program we encourage, educate and inspire by bringing together students who demonstrate excellence in fabric design, fashion design, construction and fiber techniques to collaborate and acknowledge the interdependence and value of quality in all aspects of the design process—creativity, craftsmanship, fit & ease of movement, technique and construction.

Objectives:

1. To collaborate in the design and creation of an ensemble that reflects current fashion trends created especially for the challenge.
2. To present the ensemble during the Runway Fashion Show at HGA's Convergence® conference and exhibit the ensemble in the Fashion Show Exhibit.
3. To provide an educational opportunity both inside and outside of the classroom that incorporates classroom experience with real world design.

Criteria:

Submitted work must be a **Wearable Ensemble** that has been created using interlacement techniques. This includes, but is not limited to, handweaving, hand dying, surface designing, sewing, knitting, crocheting and quilting.

[Examples of Past Student Design Challenge Submissions and Design Journals](#)

Eligibility:

- A Design Team must include a minimum of 2 and no more than 3 members. At least 2 Design Team members must be students enrolled in an accredited university's textile, fiber, or fashion programs.
- Universities may be represented by more than one Design Team.
- Design Team members are not required to attend the same university.
- Collaboration is a strong focus of this challenge and as such collaborations across university departments and with other universities are strongly encouraged.

Rules:

- In creating the Ensemble, the members of a Design Team are required to collaborate with each other from concept through design.
- Ensemble should be constructed to fit a model and must be constructed in a way that it may be hung on exhibit at Convergence®.
- Design Teams must document their creative process in a Design Journal provided by HGA.

This includes their inspiration for the garment/ensemble, design and construction notes, successes and frustrations, etc. At Convergence® the journal will be on display with the garment/ensemble to provide the viewer with a backstory to the piece.

- Submissions must include a finished edge touch panel (8" x 8") for each garment fabric created and/or used in the design.
- Design Teams may not share any information about their design or grant interviews or use the Student Fashion Design Challenge information in any way with media representatives (other than HGA), other press representatives, guilds, etc., unless authorized by HGA in writing. Failure to comply with this will result in immediate exclusion from the challenge.
- HGA maintains complete and exclusive rights to the process, the finished garments, publicity & promotion until the January following Convergence®. Finished ensembles may travel to select locations for promotion and publicity of the Student Fashion Design Challenge and Convergence®.
- Design Teams maintain the rights to patterns, designs and fabrics they created for the challenge.
- Design Teams are encouraged to promote the HGA Student Fashion Design Challenge and to promote attendance at Convergence®.

Submission Process:

- Step 1: Complete Application** - Applications must be submitted online through the HGA website, www.WeaveSpinDye.org
- Step 2: Confirm Receipt of Design Journal** - Upon receipt of your application HGA will mail Design Teams an official Design Journal and detailed submission instructions.
- Step 3: Create Ensemble and Document Process from Concept to Completion**
- Step 4: Submit Ensemble and Supporting Items by the Submission Deadline**
1. Complete online submission form including list of materials and techniques used
 2. Email high-resolution images of the completed ensemble (must be JPEG file type using the maximum quality setting with at least 300 dpi)
 3. Mail to the HGA office
 - i. Finished and wearable Ensemble
 - ii. Finished edge touch panel (8"x 8") for each garment fabric created and/or used in the design
 - iii. Completed Design Journal

Timeline:

January 15, 2020	Application Deadline – Design Teams will receive confirmation of their acceptance within two weeks of application
May 31, 2020	Submission Deadline for materials to be received by HGA
July 24, 2020	Convergence® Fashion Show
July 25, 2020	Convergence® Wearable Art exhibit opens
July 27, 2020	Convergence® Wearable Art exhibit closes
August 31, 2020	Ensembles and Design Journals will be returned to Design Teams

For more information contact:

Matthew Kritis
Fashion Design Challenge Coordinator
Convergence® 2020 Knoxville
DesignChallenge@WeaveSpinDye.org