SAN DIEGO CITY COLLEGE GRAPHIC DESIGN STUDENTS EARN TOP HONORS
TEN SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

San Diego, CA – June 8, 2015 - Under the leadership of Adjunct Professor Sean Bacon, San Diego City College Graphic Design students again aced the American Institute of Graphic Arts (AIGA) Student Portfolio Review winning 13 of the 17 awards. Held at the Liberty Station Conference Center on May 23, this annual AIGA event brings out the most talented young graphic designers throughout San Diego.

Judged by the top tier design professionals in San Diego and competing against nearly 50 students from four-year colleges and private schools, SDCC graphic design students were among the top three overall winners and swept 11 of the 14 categories.

Lindsay Jonkers earned 2nd place and $750 and Nestor Sanchez-Vazquez earned 3rd place and $500. First place winner Chad Palmer, from SDSU also studied in the City College Graphic Design department.

To add to the excitement of the awards, Graphic Design Professor Candice Lopez shared that the Academy of Art San Francisco awarded the SDCC Graphic Design department 10 full tuition scholarships to study graphic design. Lopez said, “This prestigious institution really wants our caliber of students and believe in what we are doing.” The generous scholarship monies will cover each student’s expenses and selected students will start in the fall.

Students will be selected for these life-changing scholarships by Mary Scott, Chair of the Graphic Design at Academy of Art based on the level of work in their portfolios.

Lopez also shared, “Design students staying in San Diego have been called back for many interviews this year and we are excited to see them placed at local firms, studio and in house agencies. Our students are in demand as they are industry ready at graduation.”
Adjunct Professor Sean Bacon is very proud of his San Diego City College Graphic Design students, “Everyone works so hard to get ready for this competition. It is wonderful to see the talent of our City College students acknowledged with this near sweep of the AIGA awards.

In addition to Jake Russell Gavino winning the Student Choice award, City College students won the following categories and earned $250 each: Environmental - Sam Spratt; Sustainability - Tila Williams; Packaging - Harry Kim; Interactive – Bridget Kilgallon; Design for Good - Fannie Ko; Branding - Lindsay Jonkers; Advertising - Nestor Sanchez-Vazquez; Cross Cultural – Abril Ramirez; Handcrafted - Gabrielle Aleman; and Design as Entrepreneur - Yvonne Anaya.

Sharing in the excitement of the awards and scholarships, City College President Anthony Beebe said, “Our graphic design department is well known for its award-winning faculty and students. It is no surprise our students are hired quickly and make their mark in the world with their design talents.”

As an alumnus of the City College Graphic Design department, Professor Bacon expressed his appreciation for the generosity of the design community in supporting the college graphic design department and students, “The support is critical to the success of our students as their open doors allow our students access into the industry.”

To view student portfolio work: http://sdccgraphicdesign.blogspot.com

About San Diego City College
Established in 1914, San Diego City College serves as the educational cornerstone of downtown San Diego. A 60-acre urban campus, City College serves more than 16,000 students, and offers 200+ Associate Degrees and Certificates and 1,900 day, evening and weekend classes. City College is part of the San Diego Community College District (SDCCD), the second-largest of California’s 72 community college districts, comprised of San Diego City College, Mesa College, Miramar College and Continuing Education. For more information, visit: www.sdcity.edu.

About AIGA: AIGA advances design as a professional craft, strategic advantage and vital cultural force. As the largest community of design advocates, they bring together practitioners, enthusiasts and patrons to amplify the voice of design and create the vision for a collective future. To see the 2015 AIGA student portfolios: www.sandiego.aiga.org