



NEWS FROM CITY COLLEGE

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CANDICE LÓPEZ NAMED 2009 AIGA GRAPHIC DESIGN FELLOW

Design Legends Gala on September 17 at the Waldorf-Astoria in New York City

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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San Diego, CA - September 15, 2009...CANDICE LÓPEZ, professor of Graphic Design at San Diego City College, has been named a 2009 Fellow by the American Institute of Graphic Arts –AIGA.

Twenty-two of the best design practitioners from throughout the country will be recognized at the sixth annual Design Legends Gala on Thursday, September 17 at the Waldorf-Astoria in New York City. Fellows are noted for their significant contribution to raising the standards of excellence within the graphic design field. The areas of education, writing, leadership and reputation, as well as the practice of design are given equal consideration in measuring significant contribution.

Under the guidance of Professor Lopez, City College graphic design students have won over 175 local, national and international design awards. “City College is enormously proud of the outstanding work Candice Lopez has provided our campus and community for 20 years”, said City College President Terrence Burgess. “Due to Candice’s extraordinary talents and teaching skills, many of her former students are now employed in graphic design locally and around the country.”

Through the City College graphic design program, Professor Lopez has worked to open the door for minorities hoping to enter the design profession. Lopez established a study abroad program in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico where she lives part-time. She has also led study abroad programs to Italy, Spain and Switzerland.

Lopez founded the City of San Diego Urban Art Trail project that transformed urban areas plagued by blight and drug activity. Together with students, professional designers and community volunteers the group painted murals, sidewalk poetry and hundreds of electrical boxes with colorful graphics. Her efforts included artful street benches, mosaics and pocket parks. Serving as arts and culture chair of the San Diego downtown vision plan she worked to promote design and public art as an integral part of new development. A former AIGA V.P., Education and Community Outreach chair she established the AIGA San Diego Link program to work with at risk high school students with an interest in art and design.

Teaming up with her husband, renowned illustrator Rafael López, she continues to paint large-scale murals with elementary school children, teachers and families and is committed to bring art into our public school campuses and classrooms. In a collaborative grassroots effort the couple worked to win Latino voters in the swing states by developing a graphic/image that became an Artist for Obama national campaign poster.

About San Diego City College

Founded in 1914, San Diego City College serves as the educational cornerstone of downtown San Diego. With more than 18,000 students, City

College offers 240 Associate Degrees and Certificates and 1,500 day, evening and weekend classes, including programs in nursing and cosmetology. Home to KSDS Jazz 88.3 and the award-winning Knights, City College is part of the San Diego Community College District, comprised of City College, Mesa College, Miramar College, and Continuing Education. www.sdcity.edu

www.urbanarttrail.com

www.sdccinsanmiguel.com