



PHILADELPHIA
UNIVERSITY

News

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Philadelphia University will honor celebrated designer Nicole Miller and seven outstanding Leaders of Innovation during The Verizon *Philadelphia University Evening of Innovation* and Fashion Show on Saturday, April 27

Nicole Miller will receive the 2013 Spirit of Design Award. The Leader of Innovation Medal will be presented to Charles Bernier '74, James L. Hamling, Bud Konheim, Meryl Levitz, Robert C. Lockyer '68, Sean Lockyer '99 and Carole C. Wedge.

PHILADELPHIA, March 8, 2013 – Philadelphia University will present acclaimed designer Nicole Miller with the 2013 Spirit of Design Award at the Philadelphia University Fashion Show on Saturday, April 27, at 7 p.m. at the Academy of Music.

Following the Fashion Show, the Leader of Innovation Medal will be presented to seven accomplished leaders— **Charles Bernier '74, James L. Hamling, Bud Konheim, Meryl Levitz, Robert C. Lockyer '68, Sean Lockyer '99 and Carole C. Wedge** —at the Spirit of Innovation Gala at the Hyatt at The Bellevue.

The Spirit of Innovation Gala and Philadelphia University Fashion Show are part of the Evening of Innovation festivities, which celebrate and honor outstanding leaders across a range of disciplines and the best of this year's student innovations and fashion designs.

Philadelphia University's Annual Fashion Show

The Fashion Show showcases the best of each year's fabulous, colorful, creative and innovative student fashion designs. The annual show attracts a standing-room-only crowd of some 2,300 students and their families, faculty members, designers and fashion and apparel industry professionals.

Spirit of Design Award honoree Nicole Miller is known for her fashionable apparel, accessory and lifestyle designs, which are sold in boutiques around the world and at Neiman Marcus, Saks Fifth Avenue, Nordstrom and Bloomingdale's. Her designs have been praised in the pages of the *Vogue*, *W*, *Elle*, *InStyle* and *The New York Times*, which called Miller one of the leading female designers of her generation.

With a contemporary style that draws on a wide range of influences, Miller's designs are known for their whimsical prints and attention to perfect proportions and fit. A virtual who's who of Hollywood have worn Miller's designs, including celebrities Beyoncé Knowles, Jennifer Aniston, Halle Berry, Helen Hunt, Angelina Jolie, Brooke Shields, Cate Blanchett, Susan Sarandon and Eva Longoria.

For more information on Miller, visit her website at www.nicolemiller.com.

Philadelphia University's Spirit of Innovation Gala

At the Spirit of Innovation Gala, Philadelphia University will present the Leader of Innovation Medal to seven outstanding leaders who have made significant contributions across many fields that better society and shine a light on the impact of innovation all around us. They are:

- *Charles Bernier '74*, president and chief operating officer of ECBM, where he has guided the firm to a position of leadership in insurance and risk management solutions. Bernier has overseen a period of significant growth at ECBM, bringing in national clients and setting industry-leading standards.
- *James L. Hamling*, is former chief executive officer of Berwind Corporation and former president of Elmer's Products, Inc. Hamling served in various leadership roles at Berwind, helping to cement the firm's legacy as a leader in private investment management.
- *Bud Konheim*, chief executive officer of Nicole Miller Ltd., has been a business partner of Nicole Miller's for more than 30 years. Konheim and Miller started the company in 1982 and, through Miller's design expertise and Konheim's business savvy, grew the brand into one of the most successful fashion design firms in the world.
- *Meryl Levitz*, president and chief executive officer of the Greater Philadelphia Tourism Marketing Corporation, has worked tirelessly to expand Philadelphia regional tourism, helping to grow the \$8 billion industry and promote economic activity in and around the city.
- *Robert C. Lockyer '68*, managing partner of Merloc Partners, L.P., is recognized as a leader in real estate development and generous philanthropist. Lockyer and his family have supported numerous charitable activities in the greater Philadelphia area.

- *Sean Lockyer '99*, founder of Sean Lockyer AR+D, started his own full-service design firm where he provides exceptional architecture and landscape architecture services to his clients. Lockyer brings a creative and innovative style to his projects, producing striking buildings and designs.
- *Carole C. Wedge*, president of architectural firm Shepley Bulfinch, has created **some of the most innovative buildings on college and university campuses across** the country, including the Marquand Library at Princeton University, the Georgetown Law Sports & Fitness Center, and the Kanbar Campus Center and DEC Center at Philadelphia University.

For tickets to the Philadelphia University Fashion Show and Innovation Gala, go to <http://www.philau.edu/eveningofinnovation/2013/index.htm>.

Philadelphia University, founded in 1884, is a private university with 3,600 students enrolled in more than 60 undergraduate and graduate programs. As the model for professional university education, the University prepares students to be leaders in their professions in an active, collaborative and real-world learning environment infused with the liberal arts. Philadelphia University includes the innovative Kanbar College of Design, Engineering and Commerce; the College of Architecture and the Built Environment; and the College of Science, Health and the Liberal Arts. For more information, go to www.PhilaU.edu.