



**PHILADELPHIA**  
UNIVERSITY

**News**

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## Designer Tommy Hilfiger will visit Philadelphia University on Tuesday, Oct. 11

*Hilfiger, recipient of the 2011 Spirit of Design Award from Philadelphia University, will tour fashion design classes and speak about the fashion industry in the first "PhilaU Fashion Focus" lecture*

**PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 6, 2011**—Tommy Hilfiger, the designer who for more than 25 years has been renowned for his classic American preppy look with a twist, will visit Philadelphia University on Tuesday, Oct. 11, to meet with fashion students and speak about his brand and the fashion industry.

Hilfiger will tour several senior fashion design collection classes, giving him the opportunity to speak with future fashion designers in a more intimate setting. Afterwards, Hilfiger will address fashion students and the campus community in the first of a new lecture series called "PhilaU Fashion Focus," which will bring prominent fashion designers and industry officials to campus.

Earlier this year, Hilfiger received Philadelphia University's 2011 Spirit of Design Award, a prestigious honor bestowed each year on a prominent and influential designer in conjunction with the Philadelphia University Fashion Show each spring.

Fashion is one of the most outstanding program areas at Philadelphia University, which offers programs in fashion design, fashion industry management, fashion merchandising and textile design. Graduates have gone on to work at some of the most celebrated fashion houses, accessory brands and retailers in the U.S., including Tommy Hilfiger, Urban Outfitters, Coach, Lilly Pulitzer, Lands' End and Macy's. PhilaU fashion design alumni include William Calvert, known for his exquisitely beautiful dresses and wedding gowns, and Jay McCarroll, winner of the first season of Bravo's hit series *Project Runway*.

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“Philadelphia University’s fashion programs offer students broad exposure to the full spectrum of the fashion industry, ranging from materials science, fashion and textile design to merchandising and management,” said Philadelphia University President Stephen Spinelli Jr. “This comprehensive approach to fashion education gives our graduates a competitive edge in this exciting and faced-paced industry.”

Hilfiger is an American fashion icon. His namesake brand enjoys global recognition and offerings under it include men’s, women’s and children’s apparel, footwear, handbags and other accessories, fragrances and soft home goods. There are more than 1,000 Tommy Hilfiger stores worldwide.

Hilfiger was named Menswear Designer of the Year by the Council of Fashion Designers of America in 1995, has won several FiFi awards from the fragrance industry, was GQ Spain’s Designer of the Year in 2006, and in 2008 *Women’s Wear Daily* listed Hilfiger as the #1 Designer and #16 Brand in their annual top-100 listing. In 2009, Hilfiger received the UNESCO Support Award and the Marie Claire Lifetime Achievement Award for his philanthropic efforts. In 2010, Millennium Promise named Tommy Hilfiger the First MDG Global Leader following The Tommy Hilfiger Corporate Foundation’s commitment to the non-profit in 2009.

Hilfiger will be joined on campus Oct. 11 by Allen Sirkin, president and chief operating officer of PVH Corp., the world’s largest shirt and neckwear company and the parent company of Tommy Hilfiger. PVH also owns the Van Heusen, Calvin Klein, IZOD, ARROW, Bass and G.H. Bass & Co. brands, and licenses prominent brands, including Geoffrey Beene, Kenneth Cole New York, Kenneth Cole Reaction, MICHAEL Michael Kors, Sean John, Chaps, Donald J. Trump Signature Collection, JOE Joseph Abboud, DKNY, Ike Behar and John Varvatos for dress shirts and/or neckwear. Sirkin is a Philadelphia University alumnus, honorary Doctor of Humane Letters recipient from the University and a member of its Board of Trustees.

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 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](http://www.PhilaU.edu)