

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact:**  
Chris Clark  
Media Relations  
215.951.2851

**Philadelphia University's 2003 Fashion Show Slated for  
Academy of Music on April 22**

**PHILADELPHIA (March 19, 2003)** — On Tuesday, April 22 at 8 p.m., Philadelphia's historic *Academy of Music* will open its doors to 2,000 industry VIPs, parents, students, and the general public, as **Philadelphia University** presents its **Annual FIA Fashion Show**. In addition to professionally judged student creations, the show includes the presentation of the *2003 Philadelphia University Spirit of Design Award* to a leading fashion designer who has substantially impacted the industry. World-renowned designer Geoffrey Beene was the 2002 award recipient.

Last year the Philadelphia University FIA Fashion Show, dubbed an "A+ Show" by *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, drew a sell-out crowd of industry professionals, the general public, faculty and students. The student designs were fresh and exciting, with the most striking outfits honored with awards and scholarships from fashion names such as Neiman Marcus, Frank Agostino, National Association for Men's Sportswear Buyers, and Good Lad Childrenswear.

This show is a culmination of the hard work of many students in the Fashion Design Program at Philadelphia University. The audience can expect to be dazzled by cutting-edge designs coupled with the most innovative use of colors, fabrics and other materials in menswear, womenswear and childrenswear collections. From hip new looks to traditional favorites, all types of apparel design will be showcased as the spotlight follows professional models down the runway.

**-more-**

“Our students work extremely hard on this event and it shows,” said Clara Henry, director of the Philadelphia University Fashion Design Program. “Our fashion show doesn’t just cater to students and family, but draws some of the area’s top designers and apparel companies representatives who come here to not only have a fun, exciting night, but also to scout design talent of the future. “

Sponsors of this year’s show include Independence Blue Cross, Commerce Capital Markets, Commerce Bank, Strawbridge’s, and Tasty Baking Co. “We are extremely grateful to these prominent companies for their support of this year’s fashion show,” stated James P. Gallagher, Ph.D., president of Philadelphia University. “It is inspiring to see them take an interest in the educational opportunities of our youth.”

Philadelphia University, founded in 1884, is a fully accredited, private university with 3,500 part- and full-time students from 38 states and 42 countries. The University offers more than 40 undergraduate and graduate degree programs leading to the bachelor of science, bachelor of architecture and master’s degrees. Academic programs encompass architecture, design, business, textiles, fashion, science and health.

Tickets to this year’s show are \$10 student admission and \$25 general admission. For more information, call 215.951.2851. To purchase tickets, call TicketPhiladelphia at 215.893.1999 or go to [www.TicketPhiladelphia.org](http://www.TicketPhiladelphia.org). Tickets can also be purchased at the Kimmel Center Box Office, Broad and Spruce Streets, Philadelphia.