



For Immediate Release

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***More than \$100,000 in Awards for Excellence in the Arts  
Presented to Students of Cranbrook Academy of Art***

Bloomfield Hills, MI – On the eve of its 2010 commencement ceremonies, Cranbrook Academy of Art celebrated another year of outstanding work by its faculty and graduate students at its annual Academy Awards event. Before a gathering of more than 200 students, families, friends and donors in the auditorium of Cranbrook Institute of Science, the Academy conferred more than \$100,000 in grants, awards and scholarships, including six distinguished awards for artistic excellence and merit scholarships, to more than 40 current students. The awards -- designed to support study at the Academy and to aid 2010 graduates in the transition from student to practicing artist --- included: The Daimler Financial Services Emerging Artist Award; the \$10,000 Toby Devan Lewis Fellowship; the Cranbrook Art Museum Purchase Award, and the announcement of the 2010 Fulbright grant winners.

“We are a small school with a unique program, but Cranbrook remains a driving force in contemporary architecture, art, and design due to the accomplishments of our students, graduates and faculty,” says Reed Kroloff, Director of Cranbrook Academy of Art. “The awards granted this year recognize – through the important support of donors and corporate support -- our exceptional program and students.”

***The 2010 Daimler Financial Services Emerging Artist Award***, which recognizes artistic promise with a grant to study and exhibit in the Berlin, Germany, was awarded to **Suzanne Beautyman**, a Master of Fine Arts candidate in the Metalsmithing Department and a native of Lee, Massachusetts. The Daimler Financial Services Emerging Artist Award is being presented

this year for the sixth time, and is a result of the long partnership between Daimler Financial Services, which maintains their North American Headquarters in Farmington Hills, MI and Cranbrook Academy of Art. The award is presented annually in recognition of a particularly innovative work presented during the Graduate Degree exhibition, which is the thesis show mounted by MFA graduate-candidates of the Academy. The Daimler award allows talented young artists the opportunity to enter into dialogue with fellow artists in Europe and thus further develop their creative capacity during a two month-long residency at the Künstlerhaus Bethanien in Berlin. Before commencing her studies at Cranbrook in 2008, Beautyman received a BA in Economics from Carleton College in Minnesota and studied contemporary jewellery at the Alchimia School in Florence, Italy where she will return as Assistant Director and to teach in the fall of 2010.

***The \$10,000 Toby Devan Lewis Fellowship*** was awarded to **Adam Shirley**, a Master of Fine Arts candidate in the Metalsmithing Department at Cranbrook Academy of Art and a native of the metro Detroit region. This award was created by the philanthropist, art collector, author and curator Toby Devan Lewis, who has been a constant supporter of young and emerging artists. She recently created the Toby Fund, to give graduating Master of Fine Arts students at more than 15 schools of art around the country, grants of \$10,000 each. As a former curator of the Progressive Collection, Lewis has been known for finding and nurturing young and unknown artists. Shirley received his BFA in 1993 from the College of Creative Studies in Detroit and is a graduate of the Wiley S. Groves High School in Birmingham, MI. He currently resides in Hamtramack, MI.

***The Robert Larson Art, Design and Architecture Venture Fund*** was awarded to Academy students **Katie Wynne (Sculpture)** and **Kate Daughdrill (Print Media)**. The award recognizes and supports the work of innovative and inspired Academy graduate students. The award was established by Bonnie Larson to celebrate her husband Robert's 70<sup>th</sup> birthday. Robert C. Larson, who recently passed away, was a long-time volunteer leader and donor at Cranbrook who served as the Chair of the Board of Trustees from 1996-2002. He was also a member of the Board of Governors of the Academy and Art Museum from 1986-2000.

***The 2010 Cranbrook Art Museum Purchase Award*** was presented to **Bob Turek**, a Master of Fine Arts candidate in the 3D Design Department at Cranbrook Academy of Art. Turek's work, currently on display in the 2010 Graduate Degree Exhibition at the Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit (MOCAD), was selected for purchase by the Museum's governing board and will be accessioned into the permanent collection of Cranbrook Art Museum (now closed for renovations until 2011). The work will be drawn from Turek's series entitled "Microstages," which includes various platforms for performing music.

Also during the ceremonies it was announced that **Willie Wayne Smith**, a Master of Fine Arts candidate in the Painting Department will receive the **Academy Director's Award**. Smith, who was born in Limbe, Haiti, came to Cranbrook from New York following his work with the artist Mickalene Thomas.

**2010 Fulbright Grant** recipients Jacqueline Gleisner, a 2010 Master of Fine Arts candidate in the Painting Department was recognized for her award-winning proposal to study in Finland; and **Carrie Fonder**, a 2009 graduate of the Academy's Sculpture Department, has been awarded a Fulbright grant to study in India in the upcoming year. The Fulbright Program is the United States government's flagship program in international educational exchange. Chosen for academic merit and leadership potential, students from the Academy have received more than 32 Fulbright grants since 1990 and the institution has been recognized by the *Chronicle for Higher Education* for out performing other institutions of similar size in per capita receipt of Fulbright grants.

Twenty-eight students, who will continue their second year of studies at the Academy in 2010-2011, were awarded Merit Scholarships in recognition of their talent and for meeting high academic standards during the past year. Merit Scholarships at the Academy are supported by gifts and independent sponsors that include alumni, private philanthropists, corporations, company foundations, and professional organizations.

#### Cranbrook Academy of Art

Founded in 1932, Cranbrook Academy of Art is a preeminent graduate school of architecture, art, and design. The Academy is the only institution in the United States dedicated solely to graduate art education, granting the Master of Architecture degree and the Master of Fine Arts degree in 2D Design, 3D Design, Ceramics, Fiber, Metalsmithing, Painting, Photography, Print Media and Sculpture. Renowned alumni and faculty Carl Milles, Harry Bertoia, Charles and Ray Eames, Maija Grotell, Eero Saarinen, Florence Knoll, and Daniel Libeskind among others, have had a major impact on the art, design, and architecture for more than 75 years. Further information is available at: [www.cranbrookart.edu](http://www.cranbrookart.edu)