



PRESS RELEASE: TowerPinkster Gift to Benefit Kendall College of Art and Design Students

Sandy C Gholston to: Archive

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Included below is a press release regarding a scholarship endowment by architecture and engineering firm TowerPinkster to benefit students of Ferris State University's Kendall College of Art and Design. Related questions may be directed to Anne Hogenson, Communications Specialist, University Advancement and Marketing.

To read the online version of this story, visit:

<http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/news/archive/2012/may/towerpinkster.htm>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Thursday, May 24, 2012 12:00 PM	Anne Hogenson Communications Specialist Ferris State University University Advancement and Marketing annehogenson@ferris.edu (231) 591-2333
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TowerPinkster Gift to Benefit Kendall College of Art and Design Students

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. – A gift by architectural and engineering firm TowerPinkster will fund a permanent scholarship endowment for students in the Interior Design program at Ferris State University's Kendall College of Art and Design.

The TowerPinkster Interior Design Endowed Scholarship will be awarded annually to at least one student and is intended to benefit students who are members of underrepresented groups within KCAD or who demonstrate financial need. KCAD Dean Max Shangle anticipates that the scholarship will not only support on-campus studies but help students build professional experience and connections.

“Kendall College of Art and Design's Interior Design program, with its emphasis in contract furniture, presents students with numerous opportunities – not only in the classroom, but through industry experiences and international travel, as well,” said Shangle. “The TowerPinkster Scholarship Endowment will provide tuition assistance that allows recipients to make the most of these opportunities.”

TowerPinkster President and CEO Arnie Mikon wanted to show special support for students after the firm designed the East Campus Suites student apartments on Ferris State's main campus in Big Rapids and oversaw the renovation of downtown Grand Rapids' Old Federal Building for KCAD's expansion.

“TowerPinkster is committed to supporting the communities in which we work and live, and we believe that collaboration among people of different backgrounds, cultures and experiences results in designs that better reflect the communities we serve,” says Mikon, whose direction led

TowerPinkster to be identified as the best architectural firm to work for in the nation in 2010 by research and consulting firm ZweigWhite.

Known throughout West Michigan not only for its strong support of higher education programs but also for its bold, transforming designs and focus on sustainability, TowerPinkster, through its offices in Grand Rapids and Kalamazoo, provides innovative solutions for a variety of health care, education, commercial and government clients. The firm earned LEED Gold certification for Ferris State's East Campus Suites and is pursuing LEED Silver certification for the university's Old Federal Building project.

"We are tremendously grateful for TowerPinkster's support and appreciate their wonderful work in restoring the historic Old Federal Building," Shangle added.

KCAD hosted a preview of the restored facility on May 1, in advance of a formal opening ceremony at the beginning of fall semester in September 2012.

"I believe we have a professional responsibility to support those pursuing careers in design – someone helped us along the way, and it's our turn now," said Mikon. "And we're most certainly proud to support a scholarship fund for a program that is housed in a building we designed!"

For more information about the scholarship or to make a contribution, contact The Ferris Foundation at (231) 591-2365 or fsufdn@ferris.edu.

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