



*For Immediate Release*

## Woodbury University Graphic Design Students Capture 15 Awards In Prestigious Graphis International New Talent Competition

***12 Undergraduates Receive Design Merit Awards in Five Categories***



LOS ANGELES (May 6, 2015) – In the largest single group recognition in the Graphic Design Department’s history, [Woodbury University](#) students have won 15 Design Merit Awards in the 2015 International New Talent competition sponsored by *Graphis, The International Journal of Visual Communication*. *Graphis* has published the world’s most significant and influential works from the greatest talent in design, advertising and photography since 1944.

Among the honorees are several multiple award-winners, in categories ranging from logo design and package design to identity branding and beverage packaging. Students include [Haley Clark](#), Package Design; [Christin Davidian](#), Logo Design; [Maria Deroyan](#), Package Design; Matthew Johnson, [Poster Design](#) and [Logo Design](#); [Natalie Krakirian](#), Logo Design; [Sara Lind](#), Logo Design; [Nicole Mercado](#), Beverage Packaging; [Evan Ohl](#), Package Design; [Gilbert Ruiz-Ortega](#), Identity Branding; Manuel Sanchez, [Logo Design](#) and [Logo Design](#); Martin Sanchez, [Logo Design](#) and [Package Design](#); and Courtney Wolf, [Package Design](#) and [Logo Design](#).

“The descriptor, ‘New Talent,’ could not be more fitting -- these students truly are among the brightest lights in the field,” said Sue Vessella, M.F.A., Chair of Woodbury’s Graphic Design Department and Associate Dean of the [School of Media, Culture & Design](#). “Individually and collectively, they reinforce each other and affirm why our Graphic Design program is experiencing such remarkable momentum.”

By any measure, Woodbury’s Graphic Design Department is enjoying a banner year. In its April edition, design news magazine [Graphic Design USA](#) named Woodbury’s Graphic Design program to its 2015 “Top Design Schools” listing. The roster of the leading 25 schools in the nation is derived from a combination of reader and industry surveys. In February, four [Woodbury](#) graphic design students were named winners of the 2015 American Package Design Awards, sponsored by *Graphic Design USA*, bringing the total number of awards received by students enrolled in the university’s Graphic Design program to more than 60 since 2009.

Woodbury’s Graphic Design Program grants a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree, which is included in the university’s accreditation by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design. The BFA is a professional degree, which translates to a top education resulting in strong, competitive student portfolios that stand out in the graphic design industry. Woodbury students consistently win international and national design awards, and have achieved recognition in entertainment design, web design, advertising design, package design, photography, identity design and environmental graphics.

Small class size allows individual attention from the professional faculty and educational experiences both inside and outside of the classroom, which provides students with the ability to create effective and engaging visual communication solutions. The program has gained a reputation for graduating top quality designers ready to take their place in the profession.

### **About Woodbury University**

Founded in 1884, Woodbury University is one of the oldest institutions of higher education in Southern California. It offers bachelor’s degrees from the School of Architecture, School of Business, School of Media, Culture & Design, and College of Transdisciplinarity, along with a Master of Arts in Media for Social Justice, Master of Architecture (MArch), Master of Interior Architecture (MIA), Master of Science in Architecture (MSArch), and Master of Leadership. The San Diego campus offers Bachelor of Architecture and Master of Architecture degrees, as well as an MSArch degree with concentrations in Real Estate Development and Landscape + Urbanism. Woodbury ranks 15th among the nation’s “25 Colleges That Add the Most Value,” according to *Money Magazine*. Visit [www.woodbury.edu](http://www.woodbury.edu) for more information.

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