2019 iaedp™ Symposium Offers Self-Expression through Art Competition

Through an art competition sponsored annually by the International Association of Eating Disorders Professionals (iaedp™), artists are given the opportunity to freely express body image by pushing the boundaries of form, structure and identity through their visual representations.

PEKIN, Ill. (PRWEB) November 21, 2018 -- Over the years, studies have revealed that emotional repression is linked to higher reports of medical challenges such as eating disorders. Through an art competition sponsored annually by the International Association of Eating Disorders Professionals (iaedp™), artists are given the opportunity to freely express body image by pushing the boundaries of form, structure and identity through their visual representations.

That opportunity is the “Imagine Me Beyond What You See” body image mannequin art competition, held during the annual iaedp™ Symposium. Next year’s conference in Palm Desert, California at the JW Marriott Desert Springs Resort on February 7-10, the top five art finalists are showcased and the winner is revealed. Entries will be accepted through December 15, 2018.

“Imagine Me Beyond What You See” originally was designed to promote a healthy awareness and acceptance of body images. That focus has been nurtured over the 9-year span that the special art competition has been conducted. The mannequin art contest is open to everyone; however, iaedp™ asks treatment centers and private practices with art therapists to work with patients to provide entries. Mannequins can be purchased online. They can be male or female forms and are available in different body shapes and sizes. Mixed media also can be used. Entries must include a 300-word description of the artist’s work along with a short description of the biography of the artist or group. Photos of the artwork at four different angles and a list of materials used also is required. Winners are spotlighted at the iaedp™ annual Symposium and presented with beautiful awards. The photographic artwork of the First Place Winner will be featured prominently on iaedp.com and membershare.iaedp.com along with press releases.

“The diverse and creative responses to each year’s challenge are deeply inspiring,” says Blanche Williams, MS and Assistant Managing Director at the iaedp™ Foundation. “The artists’ allow outsiders to look inside their emotional selves. Each contest entry communicates powerful themes and reveals courageous individuals.”

The Lead Sponsorship for the 2019 “Imagine Me Beyond What You See” is still open for organizations which are interested in helping to support the body image mannequin competition. For more details contact blanche(at)iaedp.com.

The “Imagine Me Beyond What You See” awards ceremony, scheduled during the 2019 iaedp™ Symposium, will include the Professionals’ Choice Award, which is selected through voting by iaedp™ membership, 2019 Symposium attendees and the general public.

Past year Imagine Me contest entries and winners can be seen by visiting: http://www.iaedp.com/imagine-me/ and http://membershare.iaedp.com/category/members/memberimagine/me/ For additional information about the Imagine Me art competition, including how to enter, contact Blanche@iaedp.com.

About the iaedp™ Foundation: Since 1985, the International Association of Eating Disorders Professionals has
provided education and training standards to an international and multidisciplinary group of various healthcare treatment providers and helping professions. MemberSHARE.iaedp.com is an iaedp™ business journal and online member resource to learn about noteworthy member achievements, continuing education webinars and U.S. and international chapter activity and events; for more information, visit MemberSHARE.

The iaedp™ Foundation’s Presidents Council, which provides organization support, includes: Center for Change; Center for Hope of the Sierras; Center For Discovery; Eating Recovery Center; KellerLife Center for Eating Disorders; Laureate Eating Disorders Program; McCallum Place Eating Disorder Centers; The Meadows Ranch; Rogers Behavioral Health; Rosewood Centers for Eating Disorders; Selah House; The Renfrew Center; Timberline Knolls; Turning Tides Eating Disorder Treatment Center; and Veritas Collaborative.

More information about all aspects iaedp™ and its 2019 Symposium can be found at iaedp.com.
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