

# News Release

For Immediate Release

## Winners Announcement 2018 “Fashion for All” Student Design Competition

RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK, NC, USA, March 22, 2018— AATCC is delighted to announce the winners of the 2018 2nd annual AATCC and Runway of Dreams Foundation Fashion for All Student Design Competition!

This year’s theme challenged students from colleges and universities across the country to design a clothing or accessory item that reimagines fashion and function for people who are seated/wheelchair users. The new item was required to enhance the everyday existence of the wearer and/or their caregiver. See the full [competition guidelines](#) for more details.

### Finalists

Five entries qualified as finalists. The finalists’ entries for both phase I and II of the competition are linked below:

- |                        |                         |                          |
|------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Sophisticated Slacks | <a href="#">Phase I</a> | <a href="#">Phase II</a> |
| • Sea Stars            | <a href="#">Phase I</a> | <a href="#">Phase II</a> |
| • Hustle and Bustle    | <a href="#">Phase I</a> | <a href="#">Phase II</a> |
| • Gilded               | <a href="#">Phase I</a> | <a href="#">Phase II</a> |
| • Grand Glamour        | <a href="#">Phase I</a> | <a href="#">Phase II</a> |

**Winners and Awards: Based on the quality and merit of each finalist’s entry, the [Runway of Dreams Foundation](#) will award scholarships to all 5 at various levels:**

- **1st Place** - [Runway of Dreams Foundation](#) will award *Sophisticated Slacks* by Jessica Bachansingh from Florida State University a **\$5,000** scholarship. The award will be presented at the Runway of Dreams Foundation Gala on June 7, 2018 in NYC (with up to \$1,000 travel and lodging stipend).
- **2nd Place** - [Runway of Dreams Foundation](#) will award two entries for second place, *Sea Stars* by Allison Steffen from Michigan State University and *Hustle & Bustle* by Melissa Rodgers from Immaculata University. They both will be awarded a **\$2,500** scholarship.
- **3rd Place** – [Runway of Dreams Foundation](#) will award the entry *Gilded* by Andrea Bilgrien from the University of Missouri, Columbia a **\$1,000** scholarship.
- **Honorable Mention** - [Runway of Dreams Foundation](#) will award the entry *Grand Glamour* by Carmen Mosnia from University of Texas, Austin a **\$500** scholarship.

### Developers:

- Mindy Scheier, Founder and CEO, [Runway of Dreams Foundation](#)
- Rebecca Baeurle, Executive Director, [Runway of Dreams Foundation](#)
- Kerry King, Vice President, R&D at [Spoonflower, Inc.](#)
- Martha Carper, Assistant Professor, [University of Delaware](#)

**Judges:**

- Mindy Scheier, Founder and CEO, [Runway of Dreams Foundation](#)
- Martha Carper, Assistant Professor, [University of Delaware](#)
- Tina Beauvais, President at [EmBraced in Comfort](#)
- Catherine Arnett, Design Specialist at [EmBraced in Comfort](#)
- Vanessa Sanchez, Summer Program Mentor at [Open Style Lab](#) and Research Fellow at [Harvard University](#)
- Kerry King, Vice President, R&D at [Spoonflower, Inc.](#)

**About AATCC:** AATCC is the world's leading not-for-profit association serving textile professionals since 1921. AATCC, headquartered in Research Triangle Park, NC, USA, provides test method development, quality control materials, and professional networking for members in about 50 countries throughout the world.

**About Runway of Dreams Foundation:** Runway of Dreams Foundation is a nonprofit organization that works toward a future of inclusion, acceptance and opportunity in the fashion industry for people with disabilities. Through adaptive clothing donations and wardrobe grants, employment initiatives and modeling opportunities, adaptive design awareness campaigns and scholarships programs, the Runway of Dreams Foundation is empowering people with disabilities with opportunity, confidence, independence and style.

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