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U.S. Presidents Take To The Runway When Interior and Exterior Collide at 5th Annual Cosmo Couture

Fashion, Architecture & Design Event Set for September 18th Judges Announced

September 8, 2014 (Washington, DC) – Patriotism and American Pride will take to the runway when the **5th Annual Cosmo Couture Fashion & Design Event** returns to Artisphere on **Thursday, September 18th**. The popular event where interior and exterior collide is produced by the **Washington Metro City Center (WMCC) of the International Interior Design Association Mid-Atlantic Chapter (IIDA-MAC)**. IIDA-MAC is pleased to have **Allison Starling** and **Steve Rudin** from **ABC7/WJLA-TV** co-emcee the event.

Cosmo Couture 2014 fosters a direct collaboration between local Architecture and Interior Design firms and their manufacturing partners in the Washington DC area, to create garments reflecting a given theme. Imagine garments made out of interior materials such as tile, carpet, wood, vinyl, glass and rubber - materials used in the built environment and finding ways to apply them to haute couture fashion, creating a bridge between fashion and architecture.

A talented panel of DC and fashion/design notables will judge the garments. This year's judges include **Mike McCarthy (Editor of DC Magazine)**, **Elaine Mensah (Founder of Creative + Strategic Fashion Firm SVELTE, LLC)**, **Tashia Senn (Fashion Designer)**, **James Cornwell (Celebrity Stylist - Cornwell Styling)** and **Jennifer Sergent (Creator of DC by Design Blog)**. Twenty-five design teams will participate in this year's event. Awards will be given in various categories such as Most Creative, Audience Favorite, Best Performance and Best Interpretation of Theme to name a few.

Each year WMCC selects the theme from which design teams create elaborate works of wearable art out of interior materials. This year Cosmo Couture pays tribute to the image that most embodies Washington, D.C. — the President of the United States. Nothing exemplifies Washington, D.C. more than its chief resident.

Washington, D.C., however, was not the first residence of the President. In April 1789, following his inauguration as the first President of the United States, George Washington occupied two executive mansions in New York City. In 1790, Congress enacted the Residence Act which officially established Washington, D.C. as the permanent seat of government for the United States and accordingly, as the new residence of the President. In that same year, the capital moved temporarily to Philadelphia where the President resided for 10 years while the new "Federal City" was under construction. On November 1, 1800, President John Adams became the first president to live in the White House. Since then, Washington, D.C. has been the residence of every U.S. President.

Each design team randomly selected one of the 44 U.S. Presidents at the Cosmo Couture 2014 kick-off party held in May. The design of each haute couture garment will be inspired by the period in which that President served. Design teams are currently exploring the political status during those years, social issues, fashion trends or even global events that marked each era.



For the fifth consecutive year, the beneficiary for the event is [My Sister's Place](#) - DC's oldest domestic violence shelter providing comprehensive programs and services that holistically address domestic violence and the unique challenges survivors face.

Cosmo Couture attracts approximately 800 attendees each year. Event tickets range from \$80-180 and are available online at www.cosmocouture.org.

EVENT DETAILS

What: Cosmo Couture 2014 - Fashion & Interior Design Event (5th Annual)

Presented by: Washington Metro City Center of the International Interior Design Association – Mid Atlantic Chapter

Beneficiary: My Sister's Place

When: Thursday, September 18, 2014

Where: Artisphere, 1101 Wilson Blvd, Arlington, VA

Time: 5:00-10:00PM

VIP Reception 5:00-6:00PM, Cocktails 6:00-7:30PM, Runway Show 7:30-9:00PM, Desserts 9:00-10:00PM

Website: www.cosmocouture.org

About the International Interior Design Association-Mid Atlantic Chapter

The Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the International Interior Design Association (MAC) is a professional organization dedicated to advancing the knowledge of interior design among professionals and expanding the awareness and appreciation of interior design among the general public.

The Mid-Atlantic Chapter encompasses the District of Columbia, all of Maryland and Northern Virginia including the counties of Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun, Prince William, Stafford and Fauquier. It also includes the independent cities of Alexandria, Falls Church, Fairfax, Leesburg, Middleburg, Warrenton, Manassas, Manassas Park and Fredericksburg. Members from Harper's Ferry and Shepardstown, West Virginia are also encouraged to participate in our activities.

Due to its size and geographical expanse, the Mid-Atlantic Chapter includes two City Centers: the Washington Metro City Center (WMCC) and the Baltimore-Annapolis City Center (BACC).

www.iidamac.org

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