Joslyn's Kent Bellows Mentoring Program Partners with Omaha Fashion Week in First-Ever Student Show

(Omaha, NE) – Joslyn's Kent Bellows Mentoring Program is a partner with Omaha Fashion Week (OFW) for a special night focused on high school students interested in fashion design. OFW is March 4 through 9, with the student runway show kicking off the new season the evening of March 4. In addition to Kent Bellows Mentoring Program, other OFW Student Night partners include University of Nebraska-Lincoln, 4-H, and Develop Model Management.

New this year to OFW, Student Night will be held at The Omar Bakery Building, located at 4383 Nicholas Street. Doors open at 6 pm for red carpet photos, and the show begins at 8 pm. The Kent Bellows Mentoring Program students' designs will be featured along with designs by 4-H students as well as a retrospective collection from OFW veteran designer and Kent Bellows Mentor, Dan Richters. A panel discussion will follow the runway show at 8:45 pm and will feature fashion designer Dan Richters; founder of Develop Model Management, Alyssa Dilts; and founder of Omaha Fashion Week, Nick Hudson.

All high school and college students interested in fashion design and the fashion industry are welcome to attend. Those with a valid student ID (or driver’s license showing that they are 19 or younger) receive free admission. Tickets for the general public are $15. Purchase tickets at www.omahafashionweek.com.

Kent Bellows Mentoring Program Collection

The Kent Bellows Mentoring Program OFW Student Night collection will feature 21 looks in evening wear, menswear, sportswear, and avant-garde dresses. This unique teen perspective on fashion in Omaha will feature equally unique designs, including dresses of cut-paper and natural, unbleached coffee filters, and a skirt made entirely of Perler beads.

Ten Kent Bellows Mentoring Program students are participating in OFW Student Night. They are Vivian Caniglia (grade 9, Duchesne), Briana Pitman (grade 11, Central), Kate Walz (grade 11, Millard North), Joy -more-
Cotton (grade 12, Gretna), Walker Greene (grade 12, Creighton Prep), Ryan Holiday (grade 12, home school),
Brianne Kendall (grade 12, Bryan), Hannah Lajba (grade 12, Marian), Juan Mora-Amaral (grade 12, Northwest),
and Niara Williams (grade 12, Duchesne).

Fashion Arts is one of seven current focus areas in the Kent Bellows Mentoring Program. Three of the
students participating in OFW — Walker Greene, Briana Pitman, and Juan Mora-Amaral — presently work with
their mentor, Dan Richters, in this area of programming. The other students, while involved formally in other
Kent Bellows Mentoring Program tracks, are interested in fashion design. For example, some students in the
Eco Arts program, dedicated to the re-purposing of recycled materials into art and design, have contributed
alternative-material fashions. Students from Kent Bellows Mentoring Program have been accepted into
prestigious fashion schools, including Fashion Institute of Technology and Parsons The New School for Design,
both in New York City.

About Omaha Fashion Week
On the inside, Omaha Fashion Week is a talent incubator that seamlessly connects designers, stylists,
photographers, artists, and models through nurturing platforms and engaging opportunities. On the outside,
Omaha Fashion Week is Midwest’s premier fashion event; spotlighting fashion innovations and celebrating

About Joslyn’s Kent Bellows Mentoring Program
Joslyn’s Kent Bellows Mentoring Program offers challenging discussions and
workshops that encourage students to explore, observe, think, and create. Three
semesters per year, professional artist mentors are matched with about 50 high
school students who are provided an opportunity to find personal inspiration, gain
technical skills, and build an art portfolio. Teens and mentors meet after school in an environment that
provides a balance of freedom and support, diverse art practice, and which encourages community
involvement. The mentoring program is a partner member of the Midlands Mentoring Partnership (MMP).
For details visit www.joslyn.org/education/kent-bellows-mentoring-program.

Our Mission — Joslyn Art Museum collects, preserves, and interprets the visual arts of the highest
quality, fostering appreciation and enjoyment of art for the benefit of a diverse audience.
Our Vision — To be cherished and respected as a premier art museum.

The Museum was a gift to the people of Omaha from Sarah Joslyn in memory of her husband, George, who made his
fortune as president of the Western Newspaper Union. The Museum’s original 1931 building is one of the finest
examples of Art Deco architecture in the nation, with 38 types of marble from seven countries. The Walter and
Suzanne Scott Pavilion, a 58,000-square-foot addition built in 1994, was designed by renowned British architect
Norman Foster as his first U.S. commission. The Museum features galleries, a 1,000-seat concert hall, fountain court,
education technology gallery, lecture hall, classrooms, sculpture garden, café, and shop.
General Museum Admission: Free (additional charge for some special exhibitions).
Regular Museum Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 10 am–4 pm; Thursday, 10 am–8 pm; closed Monday and major holidays.

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