75 years of innovation
“Otatios minctotati dico temossunt, odi volupide nimus dolorro eiumqui simporpore voluptaque Emporatum harunditer itium seni illes et eater.”

Cius, que dipienduntio etur? Imilles cipiciatem ati repro etur? Soloriam voloriae. Miniet quae pro cum consequid quia sit etur, et aborem quidem restemp ersped ut apis ea nostemquiasi connissimus dempore nitioreium nosaectur malhicae incid untur, omnis que quiaio volaute plitaecatem ex et lab inciti ati secti rerrunt as a vitaspi tatectur, inulpa quae pellupta volenis eiciend aerumque vita qui to et eos nonseque venet, serum fugia cus si optassimin pellandam, que nos accab incil molorerum eatur?

Nam as dolor reicto oditatiur si voluptur aut as rersperspis ma id et od que omnis adigendit, cone aut et, ipsum ea atur autasimus quaeacactur aut harum fugā. Facea illatem rehentet quodit res et qui ut es eati non pro quo et, utas estruptat mincid qui bea aut eum voluptur? Nitaerum volorpor mi, asita dolorem resenisseque voluptas sitis doluptusam expelisitio. Imillorrores debitat labor aut mo venienditia volorro berum elibus aut aut.

Quiatur, cus anihillest aperiores sanis et esed quas dest apercil labores tibuscipssus nimatione quo ereperum ulliquamusplsp et que voluptur simi, sus modit, sandae labo. Hendae ex eatur, volor resenim porpos aut vitinct endandit, eturibus alibeat issitium quos evendic to erum es autem ulliquamspis ma id et od que omnis adi, ipsum ea atur autasimus quaeacactur aut harum fugā. Facea illam ulliquamspis tem rehentet quodm ulliquamspis tores et qui ut es eati non pro quo et, utas est.

Dr. Joyce F. Brown
FIT has been teaching, influencing, and advancing unconventional thinking for 75 years. The history of this institution—spanning a period of immense global change, from World War II to the Digital Age—reflects our ability to remain relevant across the decades. We embrace innovations in pedagogy to meet the intersecting needs of students and industry. We pioneer next-generation technology. Riding the waves of the creative economy, we move in sync with contemporary culture and global trends.

Over the last three-quarters of a century FIT has defied expectations—and made an indelible mark. We're undeniably proud of our ever-expanding relationships with leaders in the creative industries—and equally proud of our vast international reach, the positive impact we have had on generations of students, and the dazzling design and business ideas we've set in motion.

Our anniversary reminds us of the surprising fact that FIT began with just 100 students, in space borrowed from the Central High School of Needle Trades. Today's vibrant campus is home to nearly 9,000 students. We remain deeply engaged with our ever-expanding network of approximately 75,000 enterprising alumni, and host countless visitors every year. Our nearly 50 associate's, bachelor's, and master's programs are taught by an accomplished faculty of leading scholars and professionals. The college's extraordinary growth is the product of forward-looking vision and unlimited dedication to a distinctive educational mission.

Today we greet the coming years with absolute confidence. Our focus is on exploring new directions, crossing new frontiers, and ensuring that the 'FIT effect' continues to work its magic. Our ambitious goals are to inspire our community and beyond to think, work, and live more responsibly, originally, and inclusively...to achieve outsize success in academics, design, and business...and to beautify the world with an irresistible splash of FIT style.

While we always look to the future, we also celebrate our history and continue to build on our traditions. In honor of this significant anniversary, we invite you to join us in taking a look back. From thousands of worthy possibilities, we have selected 75 favorite things from the last 75 years. Each one has at some point made us smile, cheer, reflect, or even dab a nostalgic tear. We hope they touch you in these ways too.

Here's to the next 75 years of FIT!
timeline .................................................. 8
75 years / 75 things .................................................. 14
highlights .................................................. 32
donors .................................................. 39
financials .................................................. 45
facts and administration .................................................. 54
FIT—part of the State University of New York—has been a leader in career education in art, design, business, and technology for 75 years. The college offers an uncommon blend of hands-on experience and academic theory, and provides a foundation in arts and sciences.

FIT's wide range of affordable programs foster both innovation and collaboration. While we draw heavily on our New York City location to provide a vibrant, creative community in which to learn, our reputation for academic excellence and industry influence extends globally. FIT offers nearly 50 majors and grants AAS, BFA, BS, MA, MFA, and MPS degrees, preparing students for professional success and leadership in the creative economy.

This timeline chronicles major milestones in FIT’s history.
FIT opens in 1941 as the National Institute of Fashion, later renamed the National School of Design, and becomes the State University of New York’s second community college in 1956. The Brooklyn campus of the New School of Design is added in 1959. FIT becomes the New York State College of Fashion Technology in 1967, and the College of Fashion is named in 1968.

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Community colleges within the

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of the Garment District—

On Seventh Avenue and

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The Computer-Aided Design

Allan F. Hershfield, an academic

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is appointed FIT's fourth president. During his 21-year tenure, enrollment more than doubles, and the number of campus buildings increases from two to eight.

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On Seventh Avenue and West 33rd Street (the base of FIT's campus), a block of two buildings was named Forces of Fashion Center (now FIT Hall). They were named for forces of change in the industry: fashion, business and science.

The United States Department of Veterans Affairs

FIT helps establish the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) in Ne技術, USA.

The College of Arts and Design is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD). FIT is authorized by the state of New York to conduct its degree programs.

The college’s first bachelor’s degree programs are offered.

FIT assists in establishing the American Institute of Fashion Design in Florence, Italy.

The Art and Design Center is dedicated, the first American building with the College of Architecture at SUNY.

FIT partners with the Brookfield Properties to establish a Center for Architecture of the Americas.

FIT introduces its first School of Liberal Arts degree programs, the School of Media Studies, and Liberal Arts and Sciences.

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Stitch the Tiger—FIT’s official mascot—raises school spirit everywhere students gather, and beyond.

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FIT students can choose to live in one of FIT’s four residence halls, where some of the best friendships and memories are made. [1962 pajama party]

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The Future Retail Challenge is an international competition that requires students to demonstrate innovative retail strategy and business thinking. They travel abroad to present their plan to leading executives attending the annual World Retail Congress. School of Business and Technology students have been participating in—and often winning—this prestigious competition since its inception.
A FORCE IN FASHION
More than half a million Instagram followers know Nina Garcia as an influential, media-savvy fashion maven and editor-in-chief of *Elle*. The rest of the world knows her as the judge to watch on *Project Runway*, in which she has starred since its first season in 2004. Born in Colombia and educated at FIT, Garcia leveraged her FIT internships to forge connections, build relationships—and make fashion history.

EXHIBITIONISM: 50 YEARS OF THE MUSEUM AT FIT
To celebrate its half-century anniversary in 2019, The Museum at FIT reprised 33 of its most influential, groundbreaking shows with *Exhibitionism: 50 Years of The Museum at FIT*. Founded in 1969 as the Design Laboratory at FIT, the museum is dedicated to showing fashion “Fashionably”—often employing dramatic sets and mixed media—and to using fashion as a lens through which to examine the culture at large.

WHERE WORK IS PLAY
FIT’s Toy Design lab supports the program’s curriculum with four distinct areas essential to developing and creating well-designed products: a main space housing fabric and product libraries as well as sewing machines for making plush toy prototypes; a machine shop for fabricating three-dimensional hard toy prototypes; a play space for the student designers to interact with children; and a research library.

COLOR US FABULOUS
*Hue*—the stylish, award-winning magazine for FIT’s community, alumni, and friends—debuted in 2007. Published three times a year by the Division of Communications and External Relations, *Hue* offers creative content running from inspiring alumni and student profiles to provocative explorations of artistic and technological processes. The magazine’s goal is to engender pride in FIT—and represent the college’s unconventional spirit.
FIT is indivisibly connected to the influential people, places, and events that make this city a vibrant world capital.

**FIT THEN, FIT NOW**

FIT started out in borrowed space in the Central High School of Needle Trades. Today the campus sprawls across a full block on West 27th Street, from Seventh to Eighth avenues; plus a residence hall on West 31st Street—and our reach is international.

**STILL THRILLING, STILL EXPERIMENTAL**

At FIT’s first commencement, Governor Thomas E. Dewey called the school “one of the most thrilling experiments launched in this state in my time.”

**SHIRLEY GOODMAN**

A leading figure in public and industrial relations and development, Shirley Goodman joined FIT in 1952 as executive vice president. A driving force behind the institution’s evolution, Goodman helped draft the legislation that established FIT as part of SUNY. She later became executive director of the Educational Foundation for the Fashion Industries. FIT honors her memory with the Shirley Goodman Resource Center, housing The Museum at FIT, Gladys Marcus Library, and School of Graduate Studies.

**GREEN ROOFS = SMALLER CARBON FOOTPRINT**

At FIT, more than an acre of green roofs insulate buildings, reduce cooling and heating use, improve air quality, reduce the campus’s carbon footprint, help lessen Manhattan’s “heat island effect,” and soak up heavy rainfall, preventing sewers from flooding and flowing into nearby rivers. FIT was also the first to meet then-mayor Michael Bloomberg’s challenge to New York City’s colleges and hospitals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Our initial 40 percent carbon footprint reduction was exceeded by our next one: 55 percent, seven years ahead of schedule. We make it easy being green!

**HATS OFF TO STUDENT MILLINERS**

Circa 1950

**THE ART OF GARMENT CONSERVATION**

In addition to curating exhibitions, creating publications, offering educational programs, and conducting research, The Museum at FIT’s work includes conserving the garments, accessories, and textiles in its extensive collections.

**PUTTING HIS STAMP ON STAMPS**

The U.S. Postal Service asked Professor Kam Mak, assistant chair of Illustration, to create a series of 12 annual stamps to celebrate the Chinese Lunar New Year. Themed around the Chinese zodiac, each extraordinary work represents Mak’s native culture through the lens of his personal memories and family traditions.

**MARVIN FELDMAN**

Marvin Feldman was FIT’s eighth president. During his 21-year tenure enrollment rose from 5,000 to 12,000, course and major selections increased dramatically, and the campus grew from two buildings to eight. Under Feldman’s direction, FIT began awarding bachelor’s and master’s degrees in addition to the associate’s degree—an extraordinary development for a community college. FIT honored his service by naming the Administration and Technology Center the Marvin Feldman Center.

**FIT IS NYC. NYC IS FIT.**

FIT is indivisibly connected to the influential people, places, and events that make this city a vibrant world capital.
FIT AND MIT RACE INTO TOMORROW
FIT joined forces with MIT and Advanced Functional Fabrics of America (AFFOA) to facilitate the intersection of design and engineering; accelerate innovation in U.S.-based manufacturing involving advanced functional fibers, yarns, and textiles; and potentially create a whole new industry—and workforce—based on breakthroughs in fiber technology and manufacturing. Research by FIT/MIT student teams resulted in concepts for high-performance athletic shoes that are biodegradable, monitor fitness in real time, and help avoid running injuries.

MICHIELLE, MICHELLE, AND MILLY
Fashion Design alumna Michelle Smith, founder of the fashion line Milly, had the honor of dressing another Michelle—first lady Michelle Obama—during her husband’s administration. Michelle O. wore Milly on the cover of Essence magazine, for an appearance on The Late Show with Stephen Colbert, and during her final stroll of the White House. But Obama’s most enduring look is the Milly dress she wore for her official portrait, by Amy Sherald, which will hang permanently in the National Portrait Gallery.

BUSY BEES
With the help of the Honeybee Conservancy, FIT installed two beehives on a campus green roof, helping to maintain New York’s honeybee numbers despite a global decline in bee populations. The FIT Hives project also fosters education about bees and their role in the environment.

PIN MONEY
French-American couturière Pauline Trigère was a beloved guest speaker at FIT for many years. Trigère would demonstrate her draping technique on stage, quickly creating a coat directly on a model, with nothing but a bolt of fabric, scissors, and pins. When she was done, students would swarm the stage to grab her dropped pins, as keepakes of the master’s breathtaking design performance. [Mildred Custin, President of Bonwit Teller, with Calvin Klein, Bill Blass, and Pauline Trigère.]

NOT PLAYING AROUND
The Athletics Department supports intercollegiate teams—in cross-country, tennis, half-marathon, soccer, swimming and diving; track and field, table tennis, and volleyball—that are nationally competitive. Go Tigers!

DISTINGUISHED PROFESSORS, DISTINCTIVE DIRECTOR
Among myriad high achievers from SUNY’s 64 campuses, FIT proudly counts three of our own as members of the SUNY Distinguished Academy. Two faculty members have achieved the coveted rank of SUNY Distinguished Professor, conferred upon faculty with national or international prominence and an outstanding reputation in their field: Dr. Arthur Kopelman, Science and Mathematics; and Judith Ellis, founder and chair, Toy Design. Dr. Valerie Steele, director and chief curator, The Museum at FIT, received an Honorary Medallion of Distinction, awarded to prominent individuals who have enhanced research, teaching, or service components of SUNY.

SNIFF TEST
FIT’s industry-standard Annette Green Fragrance Foundation Studio, where students learn to evaluate and create scents, is the only fragrance laboratory on a college campus in the U.S.
FOREVER IN TIME
According to alumna Norma Kamali, Fashion Illustration ’65, the way to stay in business is to “design in the context of the times you live in.” Many of her signature looks—the sleeping-bag coat, the jersey suit, the adjustable silk parachute jumpsuit, the high-cut swimwear—remain iconic. Her red one-piece bathing suit, worn by Farrah Fawcett in the famous 1976 poster, is now in the Smithsonian; her work has been collected by MOMA; and the ’80s remains defined by her exaggerated shoulder pads. Kamali was the first designer to establish an online store on eBay, and has also produced a fitness, health, and beauty line.

[Caption: Drawing of Kamali by Antonio (Antonio Lopez, illustration ’64), who knew Kamali at FIT.]

DYEING FOR A CLEANER ENVIRONMENT
FIT’s Natural Dye Garden was created on an FIT rooftop in 2014 as part of a student project on sustainable dyeing practices, which was presented to the Clinton Global Initiative University. The garden’s plants—including sunflowers, coreopsis, and marigolds—provide natural, eco-friendly fabric dyes that were used in campus textile research on alternatives to toxic dyes commonly used in industry.

KEITH ELLENBOGEN/FACULTY ACHIEVEMENT
Keith Ellenbogen—an acclaimed underwater photographer and assistant professor of Photography—has spent more than 500 hours capturing images of local marine life. In collaboration with the Wildlife Conservation Society’s New York Aquarium, he produced Underwater Wildlife New York, showcasing the region’s most fascinating marine species and highlighting the efforts of scientists to support the conservation needs of local marine wildlife and their habitats.

DAVID DUBINSKY
David Dubinsky, American labor leader, was president of the International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union (ILGWU) between 1932 and 1966. He was a founder of the Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO), a federation of industrial unions; the American Labor Party; and the Liberal Party of New York. FIT’s David Dubinsky Student Center is named in honor of his contributions to the apparel industries and to the rights of working people.

STUDENTS TAKE A STAND
The ’60s was a time of political activism on campuses around the country, including FIT. [Vietnam War protest, 1969; XXXXX]

BEACH PARTY BINGO
A student-designed fashion party swims to campus, circa 1960.

[Caption: Underwater Wildlife New York, by Keith Ellenbogen, Faculty Achievement.]

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THE GLOW OF NATURAL TALENT
Leslie Blodgett, Cosmetics and Fragrance Marketing ’85, founded bareMinerals, the world’s first natural mineral cosmetics line. Blodgett rocked the national scene by selling her product line on QVC, the biggest home shopping channel, which led to Shiseido acquiring her company, Bare Escentuals, in 2010 for $1.7 billion.

FIT’S FIRST PATENT
FIT received its first patent in November 2019 for “Baby Slips,” a wearable sling that protects newborns during feedings. The project is spearheaded by Joanne Arbuckle, deputy to the president for industry partnerships and collaborative programs, and faculty members Barbara Seggio and Lauren Zodel. Partnering with Montefiore, the University Hospital for Albert Einstein College of Medicine, they developed a solution to the significant increase in “baby slips,” infant falls that occur when caregivers doze off during nighttime feedings. Montefiore says the product has already saved babies’ lives.

DARK GLAMOUR
Celebrating dangerous fashion—from the streets to the runways—Gothic: Dark Glamour was The Museum at FIT’s first exhibition devoted to gothic style. The museum’s acclaimed shows are both informative and entertaining, drawing 100,000 visitors each year.

CIAO, ITALIA!
FIT in Italy offers unique degree programs in Fashion Design and Fashion Business Management on the college’s campuses in Florence and Milan. Students learn on the international stage while being immersed in one of the world’s leading fashion centers.

JAY AND PATTY BAKER
In 2001, retail powerhouse Jay Baker and his wife Patty Baker, a Broadway producer, bestowed an unparalleled gift of $10 million on FIT. It was, at the time, the largest gift to a SUNY community college, and the second largest personal contribution to any of SUNY’s 64 campuses. The donation enabled FIT to break ground on its first major campus building project in 25 years (the Conference Center at FIT and a state-of-the-art dining facility), and endowed 40 scholarships in perpetuity. FIT’s School of Business and Technology, which offers 13 majors to more than 4,000 students, was named in the Bakers’ honor in 2006.

A WINDOW INTO FIT
Opened in 2018 in the lobby of the Pomerantz Center, FIT’s Art and Design Gallery, on the corner of Seventh Avenue and 27th Street, gives passersby a glimpse of the unconventional work produced by School of Art and Design faculty, students, and alumni, exhibited alongside that of other professional artists. The gallery’s soaring glass façade acts as a window into FIT, connecting the life of the college to the life of the street.

AMAZING MACE
Once a fearsome weapon, the mace is now a ceremonial object symbolizing the authority of a state or an institution. The FIT mace—designed and crafted by Wendy Yothers, a noted silversmith and member of the Jewelry Design faculty—has an honored place in the college’s commencement exercises.

THE ART OF STUDY
The technology and decor change along with student style, but studying in the Gladys Marcus Library is forever.
FRED P. POMERANTZ
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5 PIERRE CARDIN WITH ROBERT L. GREEN 1976
6 ZANDRA RHODES 1979
7 DONNA KARAN
8 DONNA KARAN
9 STEPHEN BURROWS
10 BILL BASS 1975
11 ARCHBISHOP DESMOND TUTU 1984
12 JANIE BARNES
13 GLORIA VANDERBILT
14 ANTONIO LOPEZ 1981
15 OSCAR DE LA RENTA 1975
16 YVES SAINT LAURENT 1983
17 TONY CHI

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To celebrate its half-century anniversary in 2019, The Museum at FIT reprised 33 of its most influential, groundbreaking shows with Exhibitionism: 50 Years of The Museum at FIT. Founded in 1969 as the Design Laboratory at FIT, the museum is dedicated to showing fashion “Fashionably”—often employing dramatic sets and mixed media—and to using fashion as a lens through which to examine the culture at large.

WHERE WORK IS PLAY
FIT’s Toy Design Lab supports the program’s curriculum with four distinct areas essential to developing and creating well-designed products: a main space housing fabric and product libraries as well as sewing machines for making plush toy prototypes; a machine shop for fabricating three-dimensional hard toy prototypes; a play space for the student designers to interact with children; and a research library.

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NEED IM-AGE

FIT seals and logos through the decades. The current one, a classic design created in 1999 by the noted graphic designer Michael Bierut of Pentagram, stands the test of time.

A FORCE IN FASHION
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COLOR US FABULOUS
Hue—the stylish, award-winning magazine for FIT’s community, alumni, and friends—debuted in 2007. Published three times a year by the Division of Communications and External Relations, Hue offers creative content running from inspiring alumni and student profiles to provocative explorations of artistic and technological processes. The magazine’s goal is to engender pride in FIT—and represent the college’s unconventional spirit.
SOUL FASHION
Gvfdja vdjdkfdj
ajvjk dfjvk dfj
vdjkdj lvjdfia vjkl,
Fashion Illustration '65, the way to st

ICONIC ALUMNI
Superstar designers—and FIT alums—Stephen Burrows and Calvin Klein shared the 1973 Coty Award for best women’s wear. Burrows was the first black designer to win a Coty, and was one of five Americans to participate in the famous “Battle of Versailles” that pitted established French designers against American upstarts and changed the course of fashion. Known for dazzling fabric and color combinations and the ruffled “lettuce hem,” he helped bring diversity to the runway with black models like Pat Cleveland. Calvin Klein is an icon, famous for clean lines, impeccable styling, and revolutionary ad campaigns. His brand extends from women’s and men’s wear to jeans, underwear, perfume, and more.

SUSTAINING INNOVATION
FIT’s Sustainability Council instituted its annual Sustainable Business and Design Conference since 2007. The event brings together the creative industries and the FIT community to discuss and collaborate on sustainable design solutions. Participants explore environmental and social challenges, innovative student projects, best practices, and industry partnerships. Topics have included farm-to-fashion, textile development, sustainable fashion supply chain, zero-waste design, packaging materials, and upcycling. The program features speakers, panels, and projects that delve into pressing issues and exciting industry developments.

ASIA ACCESS
Established in 2012, SUNY Korea is South Korea’s first American university—and SUNY’s first campus outside the United States. FIT opened its third international campus there in fall 2017, offering AAS programs in Fashion Business Management and Fashion Design.

UP WITH MAJORS!
[caption: Publicity shot from the late 1960s of students promoting FIT majors.]

ISIDORE NAGLER
Born in Austria, Isidore Nagler, for whom Nagler Residence Hall is named, came to New York in 1909. He was vice president of the International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union (ILGWU) for 30 years. Nagler led the cloak makers through the hard days of the Depression—and to winning a 35-hour work week and stronger rules for impartial dispute settlements. Of the many other labor, civic, and philanthropic positions he held during his illustrious career, Nagler was secretary of the Jewish Labor Committee, chairman of the Federation for Labor Israel, vice president of the New York State Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO), and labor adviser to the U. S. delegation to the International Labor Organization conference in Geneva. In 1938, he was the American Labor party candidate for Congress.

DECRYPTING THE DRESS CODE
The times, they are a-changing. Nam, qui omniae dita si que verithus, nonet es dendi nus mairione qoqolor reperfe matatur? Aquid quo tes dendi nus mairione quontiorent quam quia quatem-qui numquames dendi nus mairione qes dendi nus mairione quas. Tus quiae eicipsae volora conse la quas et laboreperunt expe
niment essitios et, iducit, quas se solorrum volo mo quidit ant faccumque repuditis duntia conseu aceeau amentur? Erat odi tam illest maxime sitate sit accum nimiliquis mo estur aut alia aes dendi nus mairion cose quas

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DECIPHERING THE DRESS CODE
The times, they are a-changing. Nam, qui omniae dita si que verithus, nonet es dendi nus mairionese qoqolor reperfe matatur? Aquid quo tes dendi nus mairionese quontiorent quam quia quatem-qui numquames dendi nus mairionese qes dendi nus mairionese quas. Tus quiae eicipsae volora conse la quas et laboreperunt expe
niment essitios et, iducit, quas se solorrum volo mo quidit ant faccumque repuditis duntia conseu aceeau amentur? Erat odi tam illest maxime sitate sit accum nimiliquis mo estur aut alia aes dendi nus mairionese quas

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THE NEXT BIG THING
Keeping pace with technology is in FIT’s DNA.
Among the many unexpected treasures of FIT’s Gladys Marcus Library are those housed in its Special Collections and College Archives: gorgeous, fascinating, and quirky materials, ranging from vintage ads and comic books to original sketchbooks by inspired fashion designers. This 1915 Chanel ensemble sketch was once the property of the garment manufacturer A. Beller and Company. Beller was the professional home to Max Meyer, who, along with Dr. Mortimer C. Ritter and other industry leaders, was one of FIT’s founders. Meyer also served as FIT’s chairman of the board and as its second president.

Brenda Cowan—professor of Exhibition and Experience Design in FIT’s School of Graduate Studies—has developed a theory called Psychotherapeutic Object Dynamics. The idea rests on the potential healing power of museums and the objects they display. Partnering with the National September 11 Memorial Museum, Cowan and her team researched the dual healing experiences of people who donated personal objects related to their 9/11 trauma, and of museum goers who view the meaningful object.

After studying at FIT, fashion designer Michael Kors went on to a brilliant career. He began designing at age 19, and launched a women’s wear line to great acclaim in 1981. He was named the first women’s ready-to-wear designer at the French house Celine, and was then appointed its creative director. Today Kors is honorary chairman and chief creative officer of his brand, selling women’s wear, menswear, ready-to-wear, and footwear, as well as accessories, jewelry, and fragrance around the world. Kors served for 10 seasons as a judge on Project Runway.

Gladys Marcus, began teaching at FIT in 1950. After taking time off to devote herself to her family, she returned to teaching in 1957, and was named dean of liberal arts in 1977. Marcus was instrumental in expanding and maintaining a broad-based liberal arts program as an essential part of FIT’s career-oriented degree programs. A proponent of global education, she initiated an overseas curriculum that has continued to grow enormously. In recognition of her significant contributions to the college, FIT’s Gladys Marcus Library is named in her honor.
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WEARING THE CROWN
Back in the day, "Miss FIT" was a Miss America-style beauty pageant that paraded pretty girls in pretty dresses. Now, "Ms. FIT" is an annual drag pageant, and one of the most popular events on campus.

CHALK IT UP TO IMAGINATION
Every year FIT students turn the campus’s exterior walls into an art gallery, with chalk drawings that—literally—stop people in their tracks.

A VIEW FROM THE TOP
Manhattan had less traffic in 1980s than it does today, and the FIT campus had fewer buildings. But FIT is always where you’d expect to find it: at the heart of New York City.

MORTAR BOARDS FASHION
Decorating mortar boards is a graduation tradition at lots of colleges. Decorating mortar boards like this happens only at FIT.

AH-HA-HA-HA-HEE-HEE!
Tickle Me Elmo, a plush toy designed by Amanda Friedman, Toy Design ’91, took the Muppet world by storm when it was released by Tyco Preschool in 1996.

THE LIGHT FANTASTIC
FIT glitters, especially at holiday time.

68

FIT VISITORS
1994–present

1. GIORGIO ARMANI 19XX
2. ELIE TAHARI 20XX
3. CHRISTIAN LACROIX 19XX
4. DIANE VON FURSTENBERG 19XX
5. TONY KUSHNER 19XX
6. STEPH LEE 19XX
7. CLAUDIA RIEMKE 19XX
8. JUDITH LIEBER 19XX
9. DREAD SCOTT 19XX
10. OCEAN VOORHOEVE 19XX
11. STUART WEITZMAN 19XX
12. GUERRILLA GIRLS 19XX
13. WENDY WILLIAMS 20XX
14. MILTON GLASER 20XX
15. DANIEL LIBESKIND 20XX
16. STEVE MADDEN 20XX

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