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From Your Regional Director

Dear Fellow FGI Members,

We have gotten off to a great start this year, and we are looking forward to what our wonderful program committee has planned for us for the rest of the year. I am excited by the possibilities that exist for FGI to become a powerful voice for the fashion and design community in Houston.

First let me say welcome to our new members. Joining FGI is the first step in you personally being involved in a community that addresses your professional interests. There is power in numbers and there is power in participation in organizations that keep your interests in mind.

For FGI membership to have any value of importance for you it requires active participation and interaction. Being an FGI member is not merely an opportunity to be listed in the most comprehensive and significant

printed international membership directories in our business. Active involvement with the organization by attending monthly programs or joining any of several committees is the only way for our organization to have any personal or professional value for you.

As we begin this exciting year, this is the perfect opportunity for you to become involved in our organization. We would like for you to be a part of shaping the fashion and design community in Houston. Use your membership to email us your thoughts and ideas of ways to make your membership more valuable. Give us your thoughts and feedback about the programs and forums that we present and new ideas about those that would be of interest and value to your peers. Let us know if you are interested in getting involved as an influencer and

decision maker on one of our committees.

I hope to see you on Thursday, March 6th, from 6pm – 8pm at Brown Eyes Blue located at 2427 Rice Blvd. Thommy Douglass is a bright new designer, and we are looking forward to seeing his Spring Collection 2008.

With warmest wishes,

Jeanette Coon,
AICI
Regional Director
FGI—Houston

*“Elegance does not consist in putting on a new dress.”
Coco Chanel*

FGI Houston Board of Directors

Regional Director
Jeanette Coon, AICI
(Image Consultant)
President, Professional Polish
Worth Clothing

Treasurer
Patsy Flowers
Retired Director of Public Relations
Houston Community College

Secretary
Delegate to the Federation
of Professional Women
Susan Fruit, ASID, CGR
President and CEO of Susan
Fruit Interiors

Programming
Co-Chair
Shandolyn Arline-Johnson
(fashion marketing & promotions—transfer from Orlando,
Florida)

Programming
Co-Chair
Kara Times
Area Sales Manager
Dillard's Department Stores

Informal Programming
Toni Franklin
Senior Vice President of Tradition Bank
(advertising, marketing and

direct community outreach)

Membership—New
Kathy Ellis
Owner, The Business Lab
(marketing) and
Leifers

Membership—Retention
Carla Kay, Image Consultant
Carla Kay Personal Style Consultants

Marketing/Communication
Lisa Benitez
Regional Special Event Manager
Macy's South

Foundation
Gloria Pearson
Designer and Owner
Glorious

Member At-Large
Sunshine Director
Sally Templeton
Designer/CEO
Sally T Designs
Jafra Cosmetics

Member At-Large
Programming
Rita Bass
Owner
Atir, Inc.

FGI Houston Advisory Council

Geraldine Gill
President
The Current Event

Linda S. Kuykendall
Sr. Reg. Manager—E.E. & Tourism
Macy's South

Roz Pactor
Owner
The Pactor Group

Stacey Swift
Neiman Marcus

*"In olden days, a glimpse of
stocking was looked on as some-
thing shocking, but now, God
knows, anything goes."
Cole Porter*

FGI Volunteers

FGI Website
Sue Conkright, AICI
(Image Consultant)
A Beautiful Life Inc.

PR
Judy Nichols
President
Judy Nichols & Associates

Student Membership
Suzette Brimmer
Owner—Sports Productions
Asst. Chair—HCC

Membership Committee
New Members
Sonya Leathers*
Image Consultant
Fashion Designer
The Men's Warehouse

Monica De Los Santos
TX Art Institute

Membership Committee
Retention
Genae Fields
(Image Consultant)
Principal
Image One International

Ruby Muller, Professor
Education—HCC

Community Newsletter
Mimi Dinh, President
Mikel Marketing

Program Committee
Jeff Shell
Director
Neal Hamil Agency

Jal Jobe
Program Chairman
The Art Institute of Houston

Rita Bass
Owner
Atir, Inc.

Josephine Gough
TX Art Institute

Monica De Los Santos
TX Art Institute

* Please accept my apologies
for getting Sonya's information
wrong in the last newsletter.

New Members 2008

We are so pleased to introduce you to our 2008 New Members. We look forward to greeting each of you at our events.

Elizabeth Anderson
CEO/President
Fashion Designer
Elizabeth's Kreation

Elizabeth is currently designing a plus size line to come out this year for fall/winter and spring/summer.

Boone Bullington
Managing Director
Doncaster

Boone manages a \$10 million sales area for the SW United States in direct sales business of ladies high end fashion.

Gayle Hightower
Divisional Merchandise
Manager
The Worth Collection

Gayle recruits and manages 16 Worth sellers. She is responsible for six pre-views of the collection every year and for helping train all of the sellers.

Debbie Nguyen
Special Events Director
Mikel Marketing

Among Debbie's many responsibilities, she creates and designs pre-event vision to meet clients budget and standards. She is very active initiating and managing special projects and cross promotions for clients.

Gretchen Penny
Owner/President
Easy Expression Products, Inc.

East Expression Products, Inc. is a bra manufacturing company. The bras are designed for women who breastfeed their babies.

Dr. Michel Siegel
CEO/President/Director
Facial Center For
Plastic Surgery

Dr. Siegel is excited to become a member of FGI, and he looks forward to participating in some of our programs.

Les Strech
Regional Director
Tom James Company

The Tom James Company is the world's largest manufacturer and retailer of custom clothing. They go directly to the clients' home or office. They plan, coordinate, and maintain their clients' wardrobe so they are perfectly attired

About FGI Membership

Executive Member Requirements:

\$50 Initiation/\$145 annual dues.

Executive members must have held an executive, professional or managerial position (s) in a fashion-related industry for at least 3 years.

Associate Member Requirements:

\$25 Initiation/\$70 annual dues.

Associate members must be currently employed in an executive, professional or managerial position in a fashion-related industry for at least 1 year but less than 3 years. The application must include a resume.

"We don't work for each other, we work with each other."

Stanley C. Gault

OUR MEMBERS

MEMBER PROFILE—Dr. Esta Kronberg

The picture shows Jeanette Coon introducing the panelists for our Health & Beauty Panel Symposium at the Houstonian.

In the picture is Dr. Esta Kronberg, one of our very own members.

Dr. Kronberg is one of the country's foremost authorities on Cosmetic Dermatology. She has been in private practice since 1984, treating tens of thousands of patients from 27 states and 40 foreign countries.



- In addition to general dermatology, Dr. Kronberg's practice encompasses Cosmetic, Dermatologic and Laser surgery.
- Dr. Kronberg was the first Houston dermatologist to perform AHA/Glycolic peels. She has also performed in excess of 30,000 procedures for sclerotherapy to eliminate those unsightly Spider Veins.
- Dr. Kronberg graduated from the University of Texas at Austin in 1975 with a Bachelor of Arts Degree. She earned her P.A. from Baylor College of Medicine in 1977 and her M.D. degree from the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio in 1981.
- Postgraduate training for Dr. Kronberg included an internship and special 4-year residency in Dermatology at the prestigious Cleveland Clinic Foundation in Cleveland, Ohio from 1981—1985. She also served as the first female Chief Resident in that department for two years from 1983-1985.
- Dr. Kronberg was Chief of Laser Surgery and Dermatology at Memorial Healthcare Systems Southwest and serves on the executive board of the North American Clinical Dermatology Society. She is also on the Harris County/City of Houston Anti-Gang Team by donating her time and fees to remove gang tattoos from individuals who are ready to get on with their lives.

MEMBER PROFILE—Gloria Pearson



Gloria is a designer and owner of Glorious, which specializes in appliquéd children's towels, bonnets, and lace trimmed socks. Glorious has been in business for 13 years. "I was the owner/designer of Glorimont—a Childrenswear Company for 14 years before I sold the company in 1994."

Gloria, RN, is a graduate of the University of Houston, Lillie Jolly School of Nursing.

Professional Awards & Honors: Woman of Excellence Houston Federation; Regional Director Fashion Group—Houston 1999-2001; Regional Director Elect, Secretary Fashion Group—Houston; HFDA President; Delphians—National Recording Secretary, Chapter President; Student Body President Lillie Jolly School of Nursing; Goldstron Award winner.

CELEBRATE HOUSTON FASHION MONTH

Neal Hamil Agency & FGI
present

THOMMY DOUGLASS
Spring Collection 2008

Thursday, March 6th, 6pm—8pm

Brown Eyes Blue
2427 Rice Blvd.
Houston, TX 77005
713-520-5577

No cost to members and guests.

RSVP
Jeff Shell—jeffshell@modellover.com
713.789.1335

Fashion Flock

Shoe Fetish

Thursday, March 20th, 6pm—8pm

Donald J Pliner's
HIGHLAND VILLAGE
4033 Westheimer Road

Hors d'oeuvres & Cocktails

No cost to members and guests

Door prizes

DILLARD'S FASHION WEEK

Fashion Show

Wednesday, March 19th

7pm—8 pm

Dillard's Memorial City location

Light Refreshments

Barbrizon and FGI Models

30TH ANNIVERSARY

The Art Institute of Houston

March 27th

CATHY FITZPATRICK CLEARY

Spotlight on Spring 2008

March 5th

For details contact Cathy at 713.621.0587

*"Unpolished shoes are the end of civilization."
Diana Vreeland*

FGI EVENTS

FEBRUARY EVENTS

Dining With Divas & Dudes

Those of us who attended lunch at the Tea Room at The Junior League on February 12th were very excited by the outstanding fashions presented by Caruggi's. Monica Pesek, owner of Caruggi's, is one of our own. Thank you Monica for a great show.

Career Day

Well, we just can't say enough about Career Day. Gloria Pearson and Jane Hall really outdid themselves.

Career Day, held at Hilton University of Houston Hotel, was attended by 490 students: 429 students from 40 different high schools from Texas and Louisiana; 61 students from 8 different colleges & universities.

\$8,850 was awarded in scholarships (including \$2,500 grand prize winner Paris Trip).

There were 35 guest speakers from all aspects of the fashion industry—fashion design, merchandising, interior design, retail management, fashion marketing and journalism, fashion production, modeling, fashion styling, starting a fashion business and finance.

There were 15 exhibitors.

More than 60 volunteers contributed time to organize scholarship programs, judging, room set up, collect prizes, collect and/or donate items for door prizes, hostess the event, set up for the event, publicize the event, speak or moderate at the event, transport all clothing and materials to the event, produce the fashion show, raise funds for the event, underwrite scholarships, awards and event expenses. This is the first year that the Houston Fiber Artists have partnered with the Foundation as underwriters and volunteers.

Congratulations to Gloria and Jane for a fantastic event!

COMING UP

BREAKFAST WITH DONALD

For Members Only!

Yes, Donald Pliner is coming to Houston, and we are invited to have breakfast with him at his store in Highland Village.

Save The Date!
Saturday, April 5th
10 am—12 Noon

Invitation To Follow

Future Fashion Flocks

- Mint Beverly Hills
- Caruggi's
- Worth Showroom

If you are a FGI member, we would love for you to host a Fashion Flock. Just let us know. We are always happy to promote our members.

Student Membership Program

You want to be in the exciting fashion industry! The Houston Region of The Fashion Group International provides a Student Program just for you. It provides you with the opportunity to learn more about the industry and become involved in fashion events.

FGI is a forum and a force for promoting the advancement of women and men in the fashion industries . . . apparel, accessories, beauty and the home. Our events bring your world into prominence providing information – and answers – on business topics that affect you and your business. We meet the executives and entrepreneurs who drive the fashion world. We deliver news, previews and trend information now – when you need it.

Founded more than 60 years ago, FGI was fashion's first non-profit organization established by and for women. Our founding members were none other than Elizabeth Arden, Edith Head, Eleanor Roosevelt, Helena Rubenstein and Carmel Snow, who had the foresight and who believed that the business of fashion needed a forum and a catalyst to ensure that women would have an ever expanding role in the developing of the US fashion industry. Today, we welcome men among our ranks! We're located in 44 cities worldwide, 6000 members strong – and still growing, still evolving to meet your needs. Each region has a distinctive character and unique involvement in their community.

There are many benefits from joining the FGI Student Program.

You will be part of an exclusive group. Student Membership is limited to just a few members.

You will learn more about the fashion industry.

You have the opportunity to connect with people in your chosen field.

You will receive FGI Bulletins and information about Houston and FGI events.

You will receive discounted rates for at least 4 events per year.

Qualifications for Student Membership

Student must have completed 24 credits.

Student must have a minimum 3.5 GPA and is required to carry at least 12 credits a semester. Verification documentation must be submitted at the time of application.

Student must submit two faculty recommendations or reference letters.

Responsibilities

Assist at FGI events, including Career Day.

Get to know FGI members and find ways to become involved with those in your chosen field.

Dues

The annual dues for Student Membership are \$25 per year.

Our Student Membership Program is currently limited to 8 members.

The deadline for becoming a student member is March 31st.

Other than programs specifically designed for students, such as Career Day, attendance by students is limited to STUDENT MEMBERS only.

If you are interested in becoming a student member of FGI, please contact

Jeanette Coon at 713.467.3988 or Suzette Brimmer at 713.718.6158.

Jeanette Coon
Regional Director—
Houston

12311 Huntingwick Drive
Houston, TX 77024
713-467-3988—office
713-935-0303—fax
713-870-2161—cell

jeanette@professional-
polish.com

www.fgi.org

"Fashion is architecture: it is a matter of proportions." Coco Chanel

HOW WE BEGAN

Founded in the 1930s the first non-profit fashion organization established by and for women. The Fashion Group International today offers membership to men and women alike. Elizabeth Arden, Edna Woolman Chase, Lily Daché, Edith Head, Claire McCardell, Virginia Pope, Eleanor Roosevelt and Carmel Snow were among the founding members; legendary figures who left an indelible print on the American Fashion landscape.

WHO WE ARE

The Fashion Group International is a global, non-profit organization of dynamic professionals, men and women of achievement and influence in all areas of the fashion and design related industries: apparel, accessories, beauty and home.

WHAT WE DO

The FGI mission is to be the preeminent authority on the business of fashion and design, and to help its members become more effective in their professional lives. FGI offers insights on major trends in person, online and in print; hosts programs and business symposiums; provides access to industry leaders and peers.

AS A MEMBER

Publications: The International Membership Directory, an invaluable resource, lists all FGI members around the world. The Members' Bulletin reports regularly on the latest trends and industry issues that help members market and manage their businesses while it updates readers on member related news. The RTW Trend Report publishes twice-yearly straight-from-the-runway commentary.

Website: The FGI online community includes comprehensive news, event information, fashion and business reports 24/7. Updated daily, the members-only Fashion Access Network features members' profiles. Executive Job Bank, forums and more.

Chapter Events: Our member only industry events (retail trends, informational seminars, and panels designed for decision makers, IPOs, etc.) keep you informed.

Our Networking Opportunities are limitless. Use our directory to maximize business trips by networking with potential clients, suppliers, and manufacturers among the FGI membership worldwide.