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## **FASHIONEXT: GET INSPIRED**

Museum's design competition for Chicago-based designers

CHICAGO (September 15, 2009) – *FashioNext* is an ongoing, ground-breaking fashion design competition featuring established Chicago designers asked to create a garment inspired by select pieces from the Costume Collection of the Chicago History Museum. In its second year, Chicago designers who have helped put this city on the fashion map will face a whole new challenge; they must create a wedding gown inspired by pieces from the Museum's collection.

This challenge is presented in conjunction with the upcoming exhibition *I Do! Chicago Ties the Knot* opening in May 22, 2010. This year's *FashioNext* design competition features the following designers: James de Colon, Caroline DeVillo, Elda De La Rosa, Anna Fong, Sam Kori George, Holly Greenhagen of Dame Couture, Jane Hamidi of Palazzo Bridal, Carla Hwang and Kenneth Park from Vwidon, and Katrin Schnabl. The designers are asked to create a wedding gown using fabric from Brentano, which is an interiors textile company, adding challenge and creative direction for the competition. The competition can be followed online through the Museum's blog and Twitter account.

**Ovation TV**, the presenting sponsor of *FashioNext*, is a multi-platform network devoted to art, culture, creativity and making art more accessible to viewers in their daily lives. The Museum partnered with **Brentano Fabrics**, a Chicago-based textile company that manufactures fabrics according to their philosophy of beauty + performance. The Museum also recognizes the Costume Council of the Chicago Historical Society for their support of *FashioNext*.

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The Chicago History Museum, a major museum and research center for Chicago and American history, is located at 1601 N. Clark Street. The Museum can be reached by CTA buses 11, 22, 36, 72, 151, and 156. Parking is conveniently located one block north of the Museum at Clark and LaSalle Streets (enter on Stockton Drive). Admission to the Museum is \$14 adults with audio tour, \$12 seniors/students with audio tour, free for children 12 years and younger. General Admission is free on Mondays. Please call 312.642.4600 or visit us at [www.chicagohistory.org](http://www.chicagohistory.org). The Chicago History Museum is affiliated with the Chicago Historical Society and acknowledges the Chicago Park District's generous support of all the Museum's activities.