

2009-2010 FashionNext Designers



James de Colon attended the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York City. Following college, he freelanced in design before moving to Puerto Rico where he opened a successful boutique. In early 2001, he was lured to Chicago by the appeal of the Magnificent Mile, the thriving theater district and the opportunity to expand his market. For more information: <http://www.chicagofashionresource.com/designers73>



Caroline DeVillo enrolled in the Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising (FIDM) in Los Angeles, where she worked as a stylist for film, TV and print. She debuted her first collection at the New York Bridal Mart in 2003. Three years later she opened her first retail space in Bucktown. For more information: <http://carolinedevillo.com/>



Elda De La Rosa studied fashion at the School of the Art Institute and the Illinois Institute for Art and Design before launching her own couture line in 2001, when she opened her first boutique in the Andersonville neighborhood. She relocated in 2004 and now works from a boutique located in the arcade of the historic Edgewater Beach Apartments. For more information: <http://www.eldadelarosa.com/>



Anna Fong studied at Columbia College in Chicago, completing her bachelors in Liberal Arts with a major in Fashion Design. After working in New York at Chaps Ralph Lauren licensee design house, where she gained professional experience in the fashion industry, Fong decided to return to Chicago to pursue her own business. Anna Fong recently opened her own self-named design studio in Chicago designing for the marketplace as well as custom designs for a legion of private clientele. For more information: <http://www.anna-fong.com/>



Holly Greenhagen of Dame Couture has been making clothes since she was 13, but she started her professional life with a journalism degree from Northwestern and eight years of wordsmithing at the Chicago Reader. In a late-20s existential crisis, she decided to chuck her job for a stint at the Fashion Institute of Merchandising and Design in Los Angeles. After interning with Richard Tyler and Max Studio and working as a technical designer for Warner Brothers Studio Stores, she made the decision to return to her Midwestern roots. For more information: <http://www.damecouture.com/>



Palazzo designers **Jane and Saeed Hamidi** specialize in bridal gowns that have clean, architectural lines, with an emphasis on thoughtful details. Palazzo designs have been seen in *Wedding Bells*, *Modern Bride*, *Bride* and *Martha Stewart Weddings*. For more information: <http://www.palazzobridal.com/>



Husband and wife designers, **Kenneth Park and Carla Hwang** met each other in their senior year at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Park majored in fine art, and Hwang majored in fashion design. After graduating from the school, they launched a partnership named VVWIDON which was followed by their first bridal collection in 2001. For more information: <http://www.vwidon.com/index2.html>



Katrin Schnabl has been presenting collections since the mid 1990s, following a career as a professional modern dancer. In 2002 she launched her signature collection. She graduated summa cum laude from the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York and worked in the ateliers of several noted fashion designers before branching out on her own. She came to Chicago in 2004 at the invitation of the School of the Art Institute's Fashion Department, where she currently teaches beginning and advanced studio courses. Previously, she taught at Parsons School of Design in New York. For more information: <http://www.katrinschnabl.com/>

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