



September 15, 2008

Mr. Steven Kolb
Council of Fashion Designers of America
1412 Broadway
Suite 2006
New York, N. Y. 10018

RE: Geoffrey Beene Design Scholarship

Dear Mr. Kolb:

In researching and studying the work of Mr. Beene, our students found his 3-dimensional concept and work inspirational. They felt his designs addressed a woman's body in one concept with sculptured front, back and sides. It was evident from their research that he marched to the beat of his own drum; he did not pay attention to "trends", building upon his own body of work and furthering his exploration of shape, form, color and texture. Developing garments that were weightless, to move along with the body was truly unique. The students considered Mr. Beene evolutionary as an artist and an inspiring designer to learn about.

We are very proud of our finalist, Min Kwon who found researching Geoffrey Beene an amazing opportunity to help herself as a designer. Finding him more of an artist conceptually, she gained insight into designing and exploring her ideas and thoughts in a more meaningful way. Min loved his work and took influence from his asymmetrical sculptured designs. Ms. Kwon felt learning about Mr. Beene was very inspirational for a young designer just starting out.

On behalf of the Fashion Design Department and the students who participated, thank you for the opportunity for them to explore such an icon as Geoffrey Beene and gain in-sight into one of our best known American designers. We look forward to working on the upcoming CFDA Geoffrey Beene Design Scholarship Program.

Yours truly,

PROF. COLETTE WONG
Chair,
Fashion Design Department

CW:nb
cc: J. Arbuckle