

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**THE ART INSTITUTE PRESENTS 2010 SCHIFF FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIPS TO
THREE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO STUDENTS
Meghan Funk, Nicholas Krause, and Alec Lisec Receive Prize
Prestigious Architecture and Design Award Celebrates 20th Year**

The Art Institute of Chicago's Architecture and Design Department has announced the winners of the **2010 Schiff Foundation Fellowships. Meghan Funk and Nicholas Krause**, graduate students from the School of Architecture at the University of Illinois at Chicago, have been named recipients of the **\$15,000 Schiff Foundation Fellowship for Architecture. Alec Lisec**, a graduate student in the Department of Art History at the University of Illinois at Chicago, was chosen as the recipient of the **\$5,000 Schiff Foundation Fellowship for Critical Architectural Writing**. This is the 20th year that the Department of Architecture and Design at the Art Institute of Chicago has administered the Architecture Award and the fourth year of the Critical Architectural Writing Award.



Meghan Funk and Nicholas Krause collaborated on the winning architectural project titled *Blame it on the Bossa Nova*, a design for a museum of image and sound. Sited in Rio de Janeiro, this project was inspired by the New Museum in New York and features a permeable

“cloud” façade connecting the museum to the city and offering views of public spaces and program or content “voids” inside the museum. Their project multiplies the number and intensities of thresholds through the building, creating a “responsive arrangement,” or rhythm between entering and re-entering, interior and exterior. Instead of strict divisions of internal space, Funk and Krause devised a scale of relationships that would define museum programming and offer opportunities for both exhibition and exhibitionism, further blurring and enriching the role of the museum visitor. The Jury was particularly impressed with Funk and Krause’s novel ideas about how to visualize the experience of music, as well as the project’s dense layering of plan and program.

Meghan Funk graduated in May 2010 with a Master of Architecture degree from the University of Illinois at Chicago. During her graduate studies Funk worked for Sarah Dunn, principal at the architecture and urban design firm UrbanLab. She received her Bachelor of Science in Architecture from The Ohio State University in 2007 and completed an internship at Neighborhood Design Center, a non-profit design and education studio. Nicholas Krause also graduated in May 2010 with a Master of Architecture from the University of Illinois at Chicago. During his graduate career, Krause was a research assistant for architect Juan Rois and traveled to Chongqing, China for a summer urban design project. He previously graduated from Loyola University Chicago with a Bachelor of Arts in French.

Alec Lisec, a graduate student in the Department of Art History at the University of Illinois at Chicago, won this year’s Schiff Foundation Fellowship for Critical Architectural Writing. His essay “Hovering over the Center” offers a critical analysis of the 1966 Raymond Hilliard Homes by Bertrand Goldberg and their complex challenge to the history of modern architecture, refusing the infinite grid for a “macrocosmic” relationship between buildings and site plan. The jury was impressed with Lisec’s research and his carefully crafted analysis of the Hilliard Homes. Lisec is a practicing architect who received his Bachelor of Science in Architecture from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1993. His practice, Lisec & Biederman, focuses on the construction and rehabilitation of affordable housing. His rehabilitation of the Hilliard Homes (2002-2004) won the National Trust/HUD Secretary’s Award for Excellence in Historic Preservation in 2007. He expects to complete his Master of Arts in Art History in 2012.

The distinguished members of the 2010 Schiff Foundation Fellowship jury include Paul Florian of Florian Architects, Ruth Lopez from The Art Newspaper, Jordan Mozer of Jordan Mozer and Associates, and John Vinci of Vinci | Hamp Architects.

The Schiff Foundation Fellowship is one of the largest fellowships of its kind in the country. Each year upper-level undergraduate and graduate students from architecture schools at the University of Illinois at Chicago, the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, and the Illinois Institute of Technology are chosen by their faculty members to participate in the Schiff Foundation Fellowship for Architecture. Students in a wide range of graduate programs in Chicago-area universities are invited to submit essays for the Schiff Foundation Fellowship for Critical Architectural Writing.

About the Schiff Foundation Fellowship

The Schiff Foundation Fellowship for Architecture was founded in 1988 with a generous endowment from Harold Schiff for the purpose of supporting young architects. The fellowship, first granted in 1989 and administered by the Department of Architecture and Design at the Art Institute of Chicago, is given annually to one student from the University of Illinois at Chicago, the Illinois Institute of Technology, or the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. The winning student's competition entry becomes part of the permanent collection of architectural drawings housed within the Department of Architecture and Design at the Art Institute. The Schiff Foundation Fellowship for Critical Architectural Writing was established in 2005 to promote critical writing about architecture and the urban environment and to encourage interdisciplinary graduate courses in Chicago-area universities. The four- or five-person independent jury for the Schiff Foundation Fellowships changes every year. Students have used fellowship money to travel, complete internships at architectural firms around the world, pay for college expenses, prepare for state licensing exams, and purchase necessary professional equipment.

Harold Schiff is a retired founding partner of the construction firm of Schal Associates—the firm responsible for the construction of such skyscrapers as the Chicago Board of Options Exchange by Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (1981) and 200 South Wacker Drive by Harry Weese and Associates (1981). Mr. Schiff was born and raised in New York, where he earned a civil engineering degree from Columbia University in 1950 and worked at the construction firm

Morse Diesel into the 1970s. Work with this firm led him to Chicago, where he founded Schal Associates with Richard Halpern in 1976. In a generous gesture to support young architects and give back to the city where Mr. Schiff established his successful career in construction management, he gave a substantial gift to the Department of Architecture at the Art Institute of Chicago to endow the Schiff Foundation Fellowship for Architecture.

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MUSEUM HOURS

10:30 am–5:00 pm Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

10:30 am–8:00 pm Thursday, Friday

10:00 am–5:00 pm Saturday, Sunday

TARGET FREE THURSDAY EVENINGS AFTER 5:00 pm

FREE FEBRUARY 1 TO 28

Closed Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day.

ADMISSION

Adults \$18.00 Includes all special exhibitions

Children 14 and over, students, and seniors \$12.00 Includes all special exhibitions

Chicago residents receive a \$2.00 discount with proof of residency

Children under 14 always free

Members always free

Free Evenings are free to all. City of Chicago residents with Chicago Public Library cards can borrow a "Museum Passport" card from any library branch for free general admission to the nine members of Museums in the Park, including the Art Institute of Chicago.