2010/11 Worldstudio AIGA Scholarships
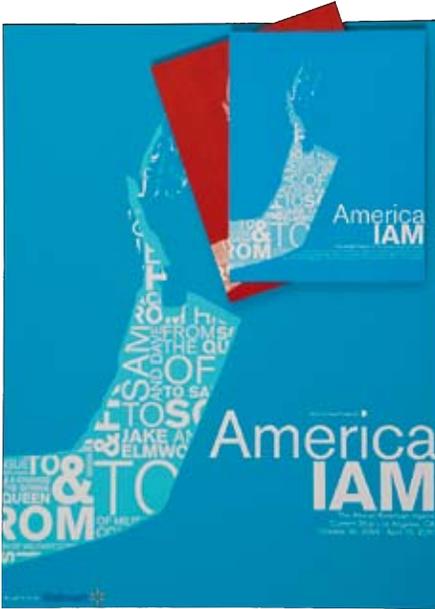## Mohawk Fine Papers Award
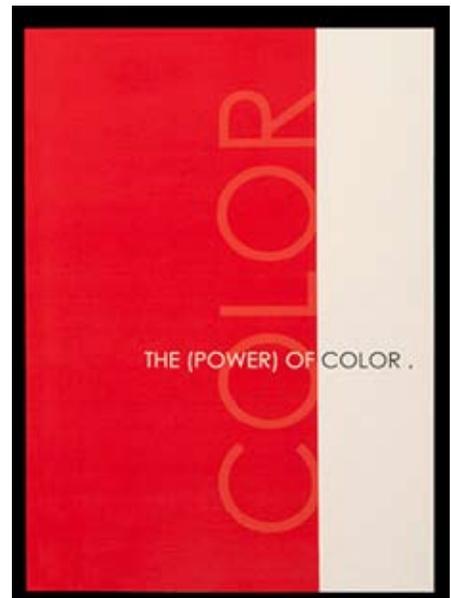

KYHRY TAYLOR
Graphic Design
Freshman
Virginia Commonwealth University

I have always pushed myself to grow artistically by enrolling in several design-related college courses while attending high school. Although I enrolled in many design courses, enrollment into the two-year graphic design program at the Center of Applied Technology North was first to show my ability for designing with type. In my first general design class at the Center of Applied Technology North, I stood out with my mature and simplistic approach to design. Successfully completing the Center of Applied Technology North graphic design program inspired me to learn more about design, especially typographic design.

Independently researching the power of color, type and almost every other aspect of design eventually influenced my decision to apply to the Maryland Institute College of Art pre-college program and Anne Arundel Community College jump start program, both of which fostered my artistic growth. After taking several design courses, I then set out to find real-world experience.

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At first, it was very difficult finding internships. I sent my cover letter and résumé to many print and design agencies, but was told I didn't meet the qualifications because of my age. Sometimes, a response was never received. Since artistic talent often appears at an early stage, no artist should be restricted from receiving real world experience based on their age. Because I was denied so many internships based on my age, in the future I will offer design internships that will foster high school students' passion and commitment for artistic creativity. Also, another goal of mine is to guide minorities, particularly African Americans, towards a successful career in art and design. I plan to be the guiding light for many artists who wishes to express themselves through creative work.

Overall, my artwork clearly thrives to make a difference. Over the past two years, I have volunteered my design services to non-profit organizations and small businesses to raise awareness about AIDS, teen suicide and teen pregnancy. Although I've helped encourage social change through my creativity, there is still more to accomplish. That said, I will continue my career path of leading the 21st century as a green designer who advocates for minorities and social issues.