

2007/08 Worldstudio AIGA Scholarships

Mohawk Paper Honorable Mention



CHRISTOPHER LYLE

Graphic Design

Freshman

Minneapolis College of Art & Design

I have achieved a lifelong goal in having been accepted into the BFA program of the Minneapolis College of Art & Design, beginning in the fall of 2007. Having come out of a very difficult time in my life, losing my father at age 16, and having to overcome the emotional upheaval of that, which caused my grades to take a temporary dip, it was the “medicine” I needed to push me in the right direction and realize my dream for the future, and to work toward my goal of becoming an illustrator and graphics artist.

My interest in art started for me when I was 4 or 5. I’ve always been interested in being able to manipulate empty space with all sorts of different tools; I find that it’s just a great concept. I felt like every time I draw, or paint something, I get better, and that’s why I keep doing it. I create art out of impulse. I’ve always seen art as a huge form of life enrichment, in that it can change people’s moods, personalities, and most of all, it can serve to change people’s lives. I had heard about it a lot through summer classes that I had been taking at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts, where I was successful in having two of my paintings accepted into the Institute’s youth show for two years in a row.



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CHRISTOPHER LYLE

Graphic Design

I was more overjoyed than I can begin to express the day I got the job on the Art Team at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts, working with children to create art on the Institute's Family Days. I've always seen that job as my window to a future at the Minneapolis College of Art & Design and my future as an artist, and I knew it would bring me closer to that dream. I've had the job for 4 years now, and I don't know what I'd do without it. I feel that art is more than an activity or a hobby; I believe it's a way of life, and all of the artist's personality is put into the art that an artist creates. I am greatly concerned with world issues such as global warming, the plight of the small family farmer (my mother came from a family farm in North Dakota) and poverty, not only in Third World countries, but right here in the United States, and the constant strife and wars in the world, and an artist can express his feelings and views on politics and world issues vividly through his creation of art. I have been fortunate to work with a community theatre company that serves the inner city, on many multicultural shows, serving in several facets: mask maker, set painter, and sound engineer. That work allowed me to work with community and professional artists, as well as to see firsthand what encompasses the creation of a production.



I firmly believe that the Minneapolis College of Art & Design will help me do that. It won't only teach me new skills to apply to my craft, but it will allow me to experience and see all other kinds of styles from people all around me, to see art is an experience, and to see the world through other people's art as well. I believe this college could help me live that experience, and to pursue and fulfill my future dreams as a working artist within the fields of graphic communications and illustration.

