

**For Immediate Release**

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## **ICMAD Announces Finalists in 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Young Designers Competition**

**Winners to be named at Awards Ceremony Dinner**

Thursday, Feb. 18, 2016

6-10PM

Island Hotel Newport Beach, CA

Tickets: <http://bit.ly/YD16Dinner>

**Deer Park, IL; January 27, 2016** — The Independent Cosmetic Manufacturers and Distributors (ICMAD) Association is proud to announce the three student finalists and two honorable mentions in the 2016 Young Designers Awards Competition.

Finalists and honorable mentions were selected among more than 135 student participants from 14 schools competing in the annual program that fosters excellence in graphic and packaging design among colleges and universities nationwide.

As guests of ICMAD, all finalists will receive an all-expenses-paid trip to California to attend the Young Designers Awards Ceremony at the Island Hotel Newport Beach, on Feb. 18, where the winners will be revealed, after spending the day touring major beauty brand facilities such as Benchmark Cosmetic Laboratories, Gordon Laboratories and The Beauty Collection.

“Our Young Designers program encourages and develops future creative talent for the beauty industry by tapping into the higher education system and providing real-world experience,” said Pamela Jo Busiek, ICMAD President and CEO. “This is a visionary way for ICMAD to help shape and ensure emerging creativity and ability among students to pursue an in-demand profession in cosmetics and personal care.”

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ICMAD established the program in 1999 to showcase the extraordinary talents of college-level students studying graphic and package design. The Young Designers Competition recognizes the best design students through their creativity and ingenuity on an original cosmetic package project representative of the industry.

Students participating in this year's competition each received a clear 8 oz. plastic bottle generously donated by **East Hill Industries, Inc.** and **Collcap Packaging**. Professors are provided instructions for incorporating the competition and project into their classroom curriculum or as an extra-curricular activity.

A panel of judges, selected for their expertise in the package design field, evaluates all entries and determines finalists and winners. This year's judges are: Greg Chambers, CEO, Gordon Laboratories, Inc., Jani Friedman, VP, Dermstore, Chris James, VP, East Hills Industries, Inc. and Lindsay Pedder, VP Marketing, Joico.

The winners will receive cash awards for First Place, Second Place, and Third Place, plus two cash prizes for the Honorable Mention recipients.

The 2016 Young Designers Finalists in alphabetical name order:

- **Stephen Finley from Colorado Mesa University**
- **Emily Lora Harris from Colorado Mesa University**
- **Nicole Shepherd from Academy of Art, Chicago**

The 2016 Young Designers Honorable Mentions:

- **Esther Betancourt from University of Las Vegas Nevada**
- **Sarah El Mouden from Miami International University of Art & Design**

View design entries from all participating schools in our [2016 Young Designers Photo Gallery](#).

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#### **About ICMAD**

ICMAD, the Independent Cosmetic Manufacturers and Distributors, has been the voice of independent cosmetic companies around the world since 1974. Offering innovative business tools, timely publications, educational programs, networking opportunities, and key advocacy support, ICMAD provides invaluable guidance and support for all facets of the independent cosmetic industry. Stay on top of the latest regulations and events with ICMAD and connect on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/ICMADTalks](http://www.facebook.com/ICMADTalks)), Twitter ([@ICMADTalks](https://twitter.com/ICMADTalks)), LinkedIn (<http://bit.ly/ICMADTalks>) and online at [www.icmad.org](http://www.icmad.org).