



## **MFA DESIGN DEPARTMENT FACT SHEET**

The MFA Design Department prepares students to excel as both form givers and “authors” of original concepts across a broad range of media. Building on fluency with the languages of graphic design and typography, the department focuses on the independent creation of ideas. With the aim of transforming designers into entrepreneurs, the program encourages students to think for themselves in creating objects of value to others, drawing inspiration from visual communication in the fine as well as applied arts.

In the first year, students receive advanced instruction in design history, storytelling and speaking about design, typography, motion graphics, product design and prototyping, and book design and publishing. In the second year, students study design criticism and intellectual property and complete a thesis project based on a product of their own design, including market research, a business plan and brand strategy.

### **2009 – 2010 Student population**

46 matriculated students

### **Department co-chairs**

Steven Heller and Lita Talarico

### **Some notable faculty members**

Gail Anderson, Paola Antonelli, Ken Carbone, Alan Chocinov, Brian Collins, Milton Glaser, Dorothy Twining Globus, Maira Kalman, Kevin T. O'Callaghan, Stefan Sagmeister, Veronique Vienne

### **Some notable alumni**

Deborah Adler, Tarek Atrissi, Miriam Bossard, Peter Buchanan-Smith, Celia Cheng, Rick Landers, Bobby Martin, Elizabeth Morrow McKenzie, Jennifer Panepinto, Thomas Porostocky

### **Student exhibitions**

Each spring graduating students unveil their thesis projects in a group exhibition at the Visual Arts Gallery, located in the Chelsea gallery district. In a separate exhibition, first-year students show original product designs and interactive environments inspired by a unique theme.

For further information, please visit our web site at [www.sva.edu](http://www.sva.edu) and the department web page at [design.schoolofvisualarts.edu](http://design.schoolofvisualarts.edu).