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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **RETHINK: EDUCATE AND CELEBRATE!**

## **Fashion Fights Poverty Supports DC's Woodrow Wilson High School**

WASHINGTON, DC- Fashion Fights Poverty (FFP), the organization dedicated to raising awareness about the fight against global poverty, is excited to announce its "**Community & Youth Program**" partnership with **Woodrow Wilson High School**; Washington, DC's only remaining non-performing arts public school clothing and textiles program. FFP will support the program by fiscally sponsoring its 2009-2010 academic year, collaborating with school administration on activities and workshops, serving as mentors and providing community service opportunities for the students.

Students in the clothing and textile program at Woodrow Wilson High School will also be involved in FFP's inaugural **Student Design Scholarship Competition**, which will be launched in 2010. Entrants will be challenged to design a garment using sustainable materials and write an essay describing their garment's concept, design, and execution. The winner will have the opportunity to participate in FFP's gala runway show and will earn a scholarship to be applied toward fashion school.

"We are incredibly grateful to FFP for their interest in our school and in the clothing and textile program," says Mr. Pete Cahall, Principal at Woodrow Wilson High School. "It is really great for our kids to see that the community cares about them and is willing to dedicate the time and resources towards their education."

FFP is extremely excited about this partnership and is honored to support this unique program, which continues to inspire young talent at Wilson High School and across the city. "Our commitment to giving back and supporting our local community and youth is a high priority for us," says Yvette Castro, VP of Research and Program Development. "We are looking forward to working with Woodrow Wilson to develop their fashion program, which in its own small way, will help sustain the arts curriculum in our public schools."

To support our efforts, **log on to [www.fashionfightspoverty.org](http://www.fashionfightspoverty.org) to donate.**

For more information visit [www.fashionfightspoverty.org](http://www.fashionfightspoverty.org).

### **About Woodrow Wilson High School's Clothing & Textile Program**

Woodrow Wilson High School's clothing and textiles program started in the 1930s as part of the Home Economic and Arts curriculum. The program has evolved over the years and typically includes up to 225 students, three-quarters of the school's total enrollment. The current program is overseen by Ms. Laura Williams whose students created the online fashion magazine, Tenleystyle.com, and have gone to New York to tour the Fashion Institute of Technology and appeared on BET. Wilson alumni, including Ms. Williams, have gone on to attend design programs at colleges and universities such as the Fashion Institute of Technology, the Pratt Institute, Howard University, the University of Maryland, the University of the District of Columbia, and Mary Mount College. Wilson graduates have also gone on to promising careers in design, fashion photography, modeling, entertainment law, fashion show production, and journalism.

### **About Fashion Fights Poverty (FFP)**

Fashion Fights Poverty is a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization that raises awareness for initiatives that encourage and support creative, effective, and sustainable means of challenging poverty. We believe that the industries of fashion, textiles, and design offer unique and effective opportunities for designers, artisans, and consumers alike to contribute to the alleviation of poverty through trade, skill-building, community empowerment and consumer awareness.

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