

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Fashion dream becoming reality for PBCC student

Youn “Eunice” Choi is heading this fall to Parsons the New School for Design in New York, which is the setting of the reality television show “Project Runway.”

(Boca Raton, Fla. - April 16, 2009) Ever since she was a child growing up in Korea, Youn “Eunice” Choi has wanted to be a fashion designer. Now, she will get a chance to pursue her dream in the fashion capital of the United States — New York City.

The Palm Beach Community College international student, who will graduate this summer, has been accepted into Parsons the New School for Design. The private prestigious and highly competitive school is where legendary fashion designers such as Donna Karan and Marc Jacobs received their training, and it is the setting of the reality television show “Project Runway.”

“I still can’t believe it,” Choi said. “That’s the only school I really want to go to.”

After middle school, Choi joined her aunt and uncle in south Florida to pursue her education in the U.S. But before coming here, she researched famous designers, discovering that many of them went to Parsons the New School for Design.

“I also found out that since the school is in New York, the students have more of an opportunity to have internships than fashion design students who attend other schools,” she said. So, she set her sights on Parsons.

Choi attended Boca Raton Christian School where she began honing her English skills. During her senior year, she attended National Portfolio Day in New York City to show representatives from Parsons her collection of work, which includes a variety of landscape and still life pieces and two fashion design pieces. “I was the first one who brought all of the basic drawings rather than focus on one field,” she said. “He told me that if you already know how to make clothes then you don’t need to come here because that’s what the professors are going to teach,” she said, recalling her conversation with the Parsons representative.



(more)

However, when time came to apply for admission, Choi postponed her plans. "I decided not to apply because my English wasn't good, and I was not confident enough to make myself apply," she said. Instead, she enrolled at PBCC in Boca Raton in 2007, determined to polish her English skills and complete an Associate in Arts degree in two years. She has taken five classes each term and will finish her degree after taking her final class in the summer.

"I think my decision to come to PBCC was really good. PBCC helped me a lot," she said, noting that she also had more time to enhance her portfolio.

Choi said she is looking forward to life as a fashion design student in the Big Apple beginning this fall. "I think it's going to be a little bit intense, but I will get used to it."

About Palm Beach Community College: Serving more than 46,000 students annually, Palm Beach Community College is the largest institution of higher education in Palm Beach County, providing the bachelor's degree, associate degrees, professional certificates, career training and lifelong learning. Florida's first public community college, PBCC offers more than 100 programs of study at locations in Lake Worth, Boca Raton, Palm Beach Gardens and Belle Glade.

Editor's note: Please contact College Relations and Marketing for a high resolution photo of Young "Eunice" Choi

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