

Manchester Historical Society Presents

# The Silk City Runway Project



Featuring the Spring 2007 Collection  
by Jennifer Stern



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## Hands-On History Corner for Children

The Hands-On History Corner at Manchester Historical Society will provide an opportunity for children to experience life in late 19th century and early 20th century Manchester, Connecticut. Not only will kids explore Manchester's rich agricultural heritage, but they'll also test their own skills weaving the textiles that made "The City of Village Charm" world famous!

Over 1500 students visit Manchester Historical Society annually. Here's your chance to make history jump off the pages of a textbook and transport children from present day life into a community of humming mills and mooing cows. We need your financial help to create, sustain and grow the Hands-On History Corner for Children. Won't you please enrich a child's future by allowing him to touch the past? Thank you for your consideration!

## Cheney Era

Renowned for its highly skilled, "high tech" work force, early 20th century Cheney Mills attained a reputation for producing the finest Jacquard woven silk in the United States! Explore Cheney Mills manufactured fabrics and fashions and discover its Hollywood connection!



## Evening Program

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With a very special guest MC from WFSB Eyewitness News  
Anchor, Reporter - Irene O'Conner



View the Cheney Fashion and Textile Display

Silent Auction - bidding closes at 8:45p.m.

Fashion Show

Reception Immediately following

Announcement of Silent Auction Winners



Enjoy music, wine, hors d'oeuvres and  
delectable desserts while bidding on original purses  
and fashion accessories in the Silent Auction.

All proceeds will benefit the Manchester Historical Society

**Hands-On History Corner for Children.**

## Sponsors

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Haute Couture Sponsor  
**Anthony and Paula Viscogliosi**

Bespoke Fashion Sponsors  
**First Experience Communications, Inc.**  
**Manchester Sewing Machine Center**  
**Pizzeria DaVinci**

Ready-to-Wear Sponsors  
**Orlando Annulli & Sons, Inc.**  
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## Silk City Runway Project

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Project Executive Director  
Gail Yellen

Welcoming Committee  
Samantha Dickinson  
Abigail Stern  
Anna Stern

Sewing Volunteers  
John Alexander  
Jean Blain  
Ruth Boyles  
Melissa Brown  
Karin Buus

Joann Cornelius  
Judy Covell  
Marisa Fowler  
Linda Gardner  
Larry Graves-Douville  
Sue Hein  
Cheryl Hence  
Shula Kreiger  
Karlie Lebatique  
Karen Netherton  
Judy Nevins  
Nancy Newcomb  
Margrete Olsen  
Debbie Quinn  
Karen Radding  
Donna Ruggiero  
Pam Schneider  
Annette Smith  
Sue Steinruck  
Diane Trueb  
Erin Wilkens  
Ping Wood  
Gail Yellen

Models  
Justin Benard  
Rebecca Benard  
Kathleen Cabana  
Laura Cascio  
Liz D'Amato  
Joanna Fitzgerald  
Jackie Hoell  
Amy Kestenbaum  
Jackie Nelson

Backstage Coordinators  
Pam Schneider-manager  
Noelle Crump  
Melissa Kelly  
Pam Schneider  
Alaina Tobin

New York Shopping Assistant  
Elizabeth Cornelius

Beverages  
Manchester Wine & Liquors  
1032 Tolland Tpke., Manchester, CT

Catering  
Café Lafayette LLC  
30 Hyde Avenue Vernon

Delectable Desserts  
Carol Nelson and Irene Angiletta

Flowers  
Brown's Flowers  
163 Main Street, Manchester, CT  
860-643-8455

Hair And Make-up  
Alma Michaud  
2561 Whitney Avenue, Hamden, CT  
203-407-1000

Janette Mulcahy Collection:  
Vintage Cheney textiles: black silk  
velvet, a 48 star silk American flag,  
silk velvet patchwork doll quilt and  
a newspaper article.

Jewelry  
Somewhere In Time-  
Mary Beth Pfeiffer  
811 Main St., Manchester, CT

Music, Runway And Lighting  
Leonard Hasemann

Photography  
CTM Photography-Grace Lussier  
860-463-1338

First Experience Communications  
congratulates the  
Silk City Runway Project and  
Jennifer Stern for all their work  
to benefit  
The Hands-On History Corner  
for Children at  
Manchester Historical Society



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# Congratulations to the Manchester Historical Society

Paula and Anthony Viscogliosi



A sewer since childhood, Jennifer Stern seems to have been destined for a career in fashion design.

Years of expanding and honing her technical skills and developing a signature style have brought her recognition and accolades in the sewing industry.

Also Jennifer's original embroidery designs were sold to support Breast Cancer research. All proceeds from the sale of her original collection of roses, (digitized for home machine embroidery), "Roses for Research" were donated to the Susan G. Komen Foundation. And a second collection of graceful border designs, appropriately named "Bordering on the Cure," raised money as well.

Jennifer is a regular contributor to Threads Magazine, and participates in prestigious international fashion events. She continues to evolve as a designer while working on her innovative collections.



"Fashion design is like architecture and I love wearing the clothes that I create. Women want to look hip and stylish, but finding clothes that fit well and look age appropriate is a challenge. My designs meet their needs."  
Jennifer Stern

## Irene O'Connor

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Eyewitness News Anchor, Reporter

Irene O'Connor, anchor of Eyewitness News This Morning every weekday, is well known to viewers in Connecticut.

The recipient of numerous journalism awards and voted one of Connecticut's favorite TV newscasters, Irene has covered major stories around the state and around the country.

Irene, who was born in Hartford, was named co-anchor of Eyewitness News This Morning in February 2007 after a year as the anchor of the weekend editions of Eyewitness News This Morning. Irene returned to her home state to join Channel 3 in October 2005. Her career includes television reporting and anchoring responsibilities at stations in Hartford, Denver and Providence, R.I., as well as experience as an assignment editor, radio newscaster and news director.

In her spare time, Irene enjoys Hartford's many cultural attractions and restaurants as well as the Connecticut shoreline. Born to Irish immigrants, Irene has performed and competed regionally and internationally as an Irish step dancer. Eyewitness News viewers have known her to occasionally lace up her dancing shoes for favorite charities.

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Ron Brown  
President

## Thank You!

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From the start, I knew I was going to need all kinds of assistance to make the Silk City Runway Project a success. I jumped in with my usual enthusiasm, never doubting that help would come. What I did get was beyond my expectations... This evening is special to me because of all of you who made my dream a reality.

To my family—especially Brad, Anna and Abby, my Mom and Dad, Joanna and Scott—I love you.

Thank you to my friend Gail Yellen, creative sounding board and advisor. Without her efforts, we would not be here tonight.

Thank you to John Anton and all my friends at Manchester Sewing Machine Center for your love and support.

To Eric Becker my "other half" (the technical design half). Thank you for listening to me, getting it, and sharing all your expertise.

Thank you to all the sewers who went above and beyond the call of duty, especially: Jean Blain, Melissa Brown, Linda Gardner, Sue Hein and Margrete Olsen. To Mary Beth Pfeiffer and Greg Pfeiffer for doing such a beautiful job with all the jewelry. To Grace Lussier for donating her time and expertise to capture this event on film. To Alma Michaud for making the models look beautiful. To my mother and Irene Angiletta for baking all of the delectable desserts. To Amy Kestenbaum, model and talented graphic designer. To Leonard Hasemann for "making it right for me" by providing the staging, lights and music. And to Mary Dunne and Eileen Sweeney at the Manchester Historical Society.

It truly takes a village.

Jennifer

Also thank you to:

Jim and Mary Bellor  
Florence Johnson  
Laura Reichelt  
Paula Viscogliosi

Tanyss Ludescher and David Shap

