

Pioneer Hall of Fame: Vincent G. Vargas Quevedo, class of 1981



Vince Quevedo '81 is being presented with the Pioneer Hall of Fame Award due to his significant contributions in the field of clothing and textiles. Quevedo has actively designed and created clothing and works of art while also teaching his craft at a number of institutions.

During high school and college, Quevedo was a very accomplished tumbler. He was the first gymnast to represent U-High at a state meet. He placed nationally multiple times and was the men's tumbling national champion in 1983; that same year he coached the youngest national champion in tumbling.

Quevedo values his time at U-High, commenting:

"As a student at U-High, I was able to discover myself as an artist, athlete and man. The challenges that I faced forced me to realize the person I truly was. Faculty members that helped me explore who I was included: Pam Emmett, Mr. Parmantie, Coach Girardi and my sociology teacher."

After graduation, Quevedo earned a Bachelor of Science in Clothing and Textiles in Apparel Design and a Master of Science in Workforce Education and Development. He then completed a Master of Fine Arts in Textiles. Quevedo has taught at a number of institutions of higher learning and is currently a tenured associate professor in the Shannon Rogers and Jerry Silverman School of Fashion Design and Merchandising at Kent State University. His position as a faculty member has allowed him to sponsor over 25 undergraduate and graduate students in international design competitions.

Considered to be one of the top apparel design professors in the country, Quevedo's quality teaching has led him to receive many nominations and awards such as: Senior Lecturer of the Year, recipient of the Big 12 Faculty Fellowship Program Award, four-time recipient of the Certificate of Recognition for Contributions to Students (presented by Teaching Council/Parent's Association at University of Nebraska), and Professor of the Month at the University of Nebraska.

In addition to teaching, Quevedo has held the positions of artist, designer, and shop owner in Illinois, Missouri, Nebraska, and California. He has designed apparel, known as wearable arts, as well as art to be hung and jointly holds three patents for the functional design of firefighting turnout gear. His works have also brought him national and international recognition, including: Five-time award winner of the highest award given by the International Textiles and Apparel Association to a Design Professor for Excellence in Design; has been presented with 37 international awards for design and art; has been selected as one of the top fashion designers in Northern California in 1990;

and was one of only four Americans selected to exhibit at the Busan International Fiber and Art Exhibition in Busan, South Korea. Quevedo has been a design finalist for 20 years (longest running) with the American Quilting International competition and one of the most consistent designers for Bernina International (six times) which includes work exhibited throughout the United States, parts of Europe and Asia.

Congratulations to Vincent G. Vargas Quevedo on his 2008 induction into the University High School Pioneer Hall of Fame!