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Media Contact:
Carolyn Woodside
516-935-4944
carolynw@egcgroup.com

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WESFELD DESIGN INSPIRES HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Past Contestants of 'Project Runway' Season Five Attend the Illinois FCCLA Runway Competition

BRIDGEWATER, N.J. — Wesley Nault and Daniel Feld of *Project Runway* Season 5 were in Springfield, IL on April 17, 2009 to speak to 3,000 enthusiastic junior high and high school members of the Illinois Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA). Wesley and Daniel spoke about their personal interest in sewing and design, experience on *Project Runway* Season 5 and continued success with their own company, WesFeld Design, during meet and greet sessions with the attendees.

In addition to speaking to young fans, Daniel and Wesley presented an award to the winner of the Illinois FCCLA Runway Competition. The competition was designed to be like *Project Runway* in the fact that the students were given a budget and challenge. This year it was a \$50 budget and a garment to be made from recycled fabrics. You could imagine the excitement of the students and members of Galesburg Sewing Center, who created the competition, when Daniel and Wesley were there to award the winner with a *Project Runway* Limited Edition LB6770 PRW sewing and embroidery machine.

Fourteen-year-old Gabrielle Davis won the competition for her unique vision and construction of an American version of a Japanese Kimono using men's silk neckties. Davis received the LB6770 PRW that has 70 built-in embroidery designs, five monogramming fonts and 120 frame pattern combinations so that she can continue to express her unique creativity by incorporating embroidery into future projects.

Galesburg Sewing Center supplied Davis with the LB6770 PRW and also donated a *Project Runway* Limited Edition Innov-ís 40 computerized sewing machine to her high school, Dwight Township High School. Galesburg Sewing is committed to providing inspiration to young designers and the tools and guidance needed for them to explore their creative potential. By supplying the Family and Consumer Science departments of local high schools with innovative, easy-to-use computerized sewing machines from Brother International Corporation, Galesburg Sewing Center helps students discover a new creative outlet through sewing, embroidery embellishment, design and garment construction.

The competition was created to inspire the younger generation but inspired teachers, educators and even the guest designers. "Although we were there to inspire the students, they too inspired us with their enthusiasm," explained Daniel and Wesley after the event.

"The Runway Competition that Galesburg Sewing Center spearheads annually is always a success. This year's event was very unique since Daniel and Wesley provided even more inspiration during the meet and greet sessions throughout the day," said Dean F. Shulman, senior vice president of Brother International Corporation and head of the company's home appliance division.

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Brother International Corporation sponsored Daniel and Wesley's appearance at the FCCLA event so that the students could hear the designers' first-hand experiences, influences, challenges and success stories. Participating in this conference provided a unique experience for Daniel and Wesley to see the younger generation's involvement in the fashion and apparel fields as they spent hours talking directly to interested students and signing autographs. For more information about Brother and the line of feature-packed, computerized *Project Runway* Limited Edition sewing and embroidery machines visit www.brother.com.

About Brother International Corporation

Brother International Corporation has earned its reputation as a leading supplier of innovative products for the home sewing enthusiast. Through a growing network of sewing machine dealers and retail outlets nationwide, Brother offers a full line of home sewing machines, from basic to top-of-the-line sewing and embroidery machines. The company is recognized for its high-quality, state-of-the-art machines and accessories, offering ease of use and flexibility at affordable prices.

Brother is a wholly owned subsidiary of Brother Industries Ltd. With worldwide sales approaching \$5 billion, this global manufacturer was started almost 100 years ago by sewing fanatics.

Brother offers a diversified product line that includes fax machines, Multi-Function Center® machines, P-touch® Labeling Systems and both color and mono laser printers for home, office and industry.

Bridgewater, New Jersey is the corporate headquarters for Brother in the Americas, from Canada to South America. It has fully integrated sales, marketing services, manufacturing, research and development capabilities located in the U.S. In addition to its headquarters in Bridgewater, New Jersey, Brother has facilities in California, Illinois, Massachusetts and Tennessee, as well as subsidiaries in Ohio, Canada, Brazil, Chile, Argentina and Mexico. For more information you can visit the website at www.brother.com.

About FCCLA

FCCLA: The Ultimate Leadership Experience is a dynamic and effective national student organization that helps young men and women become leaders and address important personal, family, work, and societal issues through Family and Consumer Sciences Education. FCCLA has more than 220,000 members and nearly 7,000 chapters from 50 state associations and the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. The organization has involved more than ten million youth since its founding in 1945.

Competitive events such as fashion apparel construction, culinary arts, and early childhood education help prepare the students for careers. Community service projects are also a huge part of the organizations impact. Family, Career and Community Leaders of America is unique among youth organizations because its programs are planned and run by members. It is the only career and technical in-school student organization with the family as its central focus. Participation in national programs and chapter activities help members become strong leaders in their families, careers, and communities.



Wesley Nault and Daniel Feld with the winner, Gabrielle Davis



Dave Gillett of Galesburg Sewing Center, Gabrielle Davis, Wesley Nault and Daniel Feld

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