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**The Illuminating Engineering Society New York City Section Announces the  
Winners of**

**The 2014 New York City Student Lighting Competition**

**Parsons The New School of Design's Esli Teker Awarded the First Prize for  
"Livre Noir"**

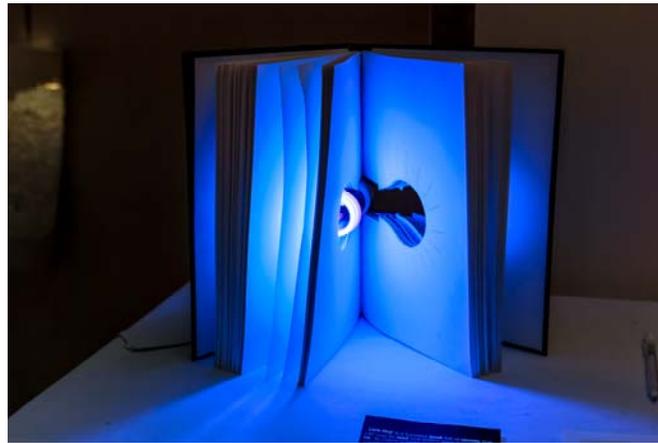
**An Interpretation of this Year's Competition Theme – A Light Touch**

Out of an unprecedented 160 student submissions from the New York City-area, "Livre Noir," designed by Esli Teker, attending Parsons The New School of Design won First Prize in the Illuminating Engineering Society New York City Section's (IESNYC) 14<sup>th</sup> annual Student Lighting Competition. Teker will receive a cash award of \$2,000 from the section. Second prize was awarded to Pratt Institute's Ia-Chi Pan and third prize went to Jordan Ringdahl also of Pratt, who will receive \$1,000 and \$500 respectively. Additionally, four students and their projects received honorable mentions. A video essay of all the winning projects is available at <http://vimeo.com/88712301>.

The Student Lighting Competition, which is one of the IESNYC's signature events, demonstrates the section's support for students and lighting programs. This year's event was held in honor of Patricia Di Maggio (1964-2014), LC, a lighting project design manager at Osram Sylvania and a lighting educator at New York School of Interior Design (NYSID). Di Maggio started the Student Lighting Competition during her tenure as president of the IESNYC (2004-2005). The section is establishing a fund that will continue to give financial assistance to lighting students, a cause championed by Di Maggio.

As in previous years, students are tasked to apply their education, ingenuity, and skills in order to take an elusive concept and transform it into a three-dimensional illuminated visual experience. “This year’s theme asked students if they could ‘touch with their eyes’ and challenged them to consider how light conveys the sensation of touch,” says Erin Gussert, LEED AP, lighting designer at Kugler Ning Lighting Design and co-chair of the IESNYC Student Lighting Design Competition.

Teker’s project, “Livre Noir,” can be described as a book that’s full of secrets and these confidences can only be read once the book is touched and it becomes illuminated. The installation engages several of the senses and beckons interaction. By touching the “black book,” it produces different colors and elicits various moods. As viewer flip through the pages of the book, they are invited to share their own feelings.



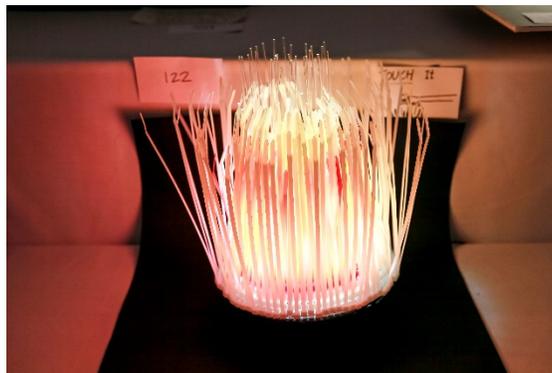
First Prize  
“Livre Noir” by Esli Teker  
Parsons The New School of Design, BFA – Product Design, Erika Doering, instructor



Second Prize  
“Divisiono Interactive” by Ia-Chi Pan  
Pratt Institute, BID – Industrial Design, Scott Vandervoort, instructor



Third Prize  
"Fluid Passage" by Jordan Ringdahl  
Pratt Institute, BID – Industrial Design, Scott Lundberg, instructor



Honorable Mention  
"Tentacle" by Huiru Koo  
Parsons The New School for Design, BFA - Product Design, Andrea Ruggiero, instructor



Honorable Mention  
"Cave" by Emily Soderberg  
Pratt Institute, BID – Industrial Design, Willy Schwenzfeier, instructor



Honorable Mention  
“Lambent Contingence” by Armand Damato  
Pratt Institute, BID – Industrial Design, Scott Lundberg, instructor



Honorable Mention  
“Flux” by Dillon Chen  
Pratt Institute, BID – Industrial Design, Willy Schwenzfeier, instructor



Honorable Mention  
“Thumbprint” by Tobias Holler  
Parsons The New School of Design, MFA Architectural Lighting, Derek Porter, instructor

Additional photos are posted on the IESNYC website at <http://iesnyc.smugmug.com/A-Light-Touch/Images/>

In addition to selecting first, second, and third prizes winners, each juror selected one project for honorable mention and the fifth honorable mention (Lambent Contingence) was chosen by the IESNYC Student Lighting Competition Committee. This year's jury consisted of Steven Rosen, IES, IALD, lighting designer and principal of Available Light (Thumbprint) - who also delivered an impassioned keynote about the role of lighting designers - Margaret Rietveld, FAIA, BNA, LEED AP, partner, Rietveld Architects (Tentacle), Paul Tarricone, editor/associate publisher, LD + A (Cave), and David Weeks, designer of lighting, furniture, household products and founder of David Weeks Studio (Flux).

Submissions from this year's competition came from students studying lighting design, architecture, art, electrical engineering, interior design, product design, photography, and product design in undergraduate and graduate programs in area schools including Fashion Institute of Technology (FIT), Fordham University, New York School of Interior Design (NYSID), Parsons The New School of Design, Pratt Institute, and the School of Visual Arts (SVA).

"The record amount of participants in this year's competition shows that the IESNYC continues to engage professors and students in a valuable experience, says Shaun Fillion, LC, lighting project design manager – Osram Sylvania – General Lighting and co-chair of the IESNYC Student Lighting Competition Committee. This year, we honored Patricia DiMaggio, founder of the competition and she would have been proud of the high attendance and creativity that went into so many of the entries.

### **About the IESNYC Student Competition**

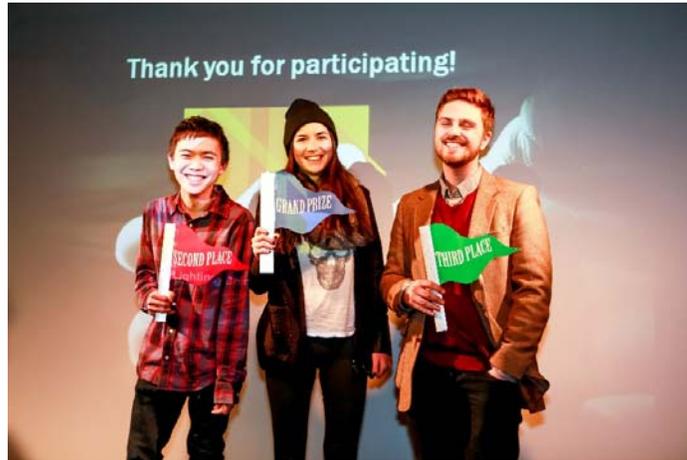
One of the goals of the IESNYC is to promote education and greater awareness about the importance of lighting and the Student Lighting Competition is one of the contributors towards these efforts. The first IESNYC Student Lighting Competition was held in a classroom with eight lighting design students' projects in competition. Now in its 14th year, the competition is open to undergraduate and graduate students enrolled in a lighting class at a New York City-based college or university either during the Fall 2013 or Spring 2014 semester. Last year, over two hundred design students, representing Fashion Institute of Technology (FIT), Fordham University, Parsons the New School of Design, Pratt Institute, and the School of Visual Arts (SVA) and from inter-disciplinary academic programs such as architecture, interior design, industrial design, engineering, and theater arts, in addition to lighting design entered the competition. The IESNYC Student Competition has been incorporated into the curriculum lighting classes in several area schools and has piqued an interest in lighting design of close to a thousand design students to date.

### **About the IESNYC**

IESNYC ([www.iesnyc.org](http://www.iesnyc.org)) is the New York City Section of the Illuminating Engineering Society. The IESNYC is a volunteer professional membership organization whose members share a mutual appreciation for and fascination with, all things lighting. They are lighting designers, architects, engineers, consultants, lighting manufacturers, lighting representatives, electrical distributors and allied professionals. IESNYC members are dedicated to promoting the art and science of illumination engineering to their members, professionals, the lighting industry, and the public through inspiring events, informative programs and educational series, social outreach, and networking opportunities.

Image credit: Eric W. Valentine, [www.praisephotography.com](http://www.praisephotography.com); Photo credits: Naomi Castillo Photography

Video credit: Video: Colin J. Weber



(left to right) Ia-Chi Pan, Eli Teker, Jordan Ringdahl)

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