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ANTHEM INSTITUTE STUDENT PLACES SECOND IN NATIONAL GRAPHIC DESIGN CONTEST

Springfield, Penn., February 2, 2012—A Graphic Design student at Anthem Institute in Springfield, near Philadelphia, placed second in a national student poster contest.

Michael Fitzgerald’s poster commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools (ACICS) beat out more than 80 entrants in a “highly competitive competition,” the organization announced this week.

“ACICS received submissions from talented students across the globe, utilizing different artistic styles and techniques that are taught in many of our schools’ art and design programs,” said Dr. Al Gray, Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer of ACICS. “Our Centennial marks an important milestone in accreditation history, and we are pleased to showcase the work of our talented design students.”

Fitzgerald, who holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Temple University, decided to study Graphic Design at Anthem Institute to further develop his technical training.

“I am so happy to see that Michael Fitzgerald placed in the Poster Competition. As this was a ‘holiday break’ project, I am especially proud to see the amount of time he put into this project, despite a new job that often keeps him working until 1 a.m. and continuing to earn high marks in his courses,” says Anthony Profeta, one of Fitzgerald’s instructors.

Fitzgerald used Adobe® Photoshop® for the first time for his design, Profeta says. He first painted four separate and complex images, using a set of 48 markers to give a variety of colors. He then photographed and typeset them into Photoshop. He did not expect his poster, which focuses on education rather than ACICS’ landmark anniversary, to reach the top three rankings.

“Everyone in the class was focusing on the 100 years,” he says. “I wanted to show graduates looking into the future. Because once students graduate with a quality education, they can pretty much do anything they want.”

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Anthem Institute recently launched a new diploma program in Web & New Media Design. The program teaches students the technical and design skills needed to create attractive and engaging websites for businesses, nonprofit groups, and other organizations.

About Anthem Institute-Springfield

Originally established in 1988, Anthem Institute-Springfield is part of Anthem Education, a Phoenix, Arizona-based family of schools and colleges that provides career-focused training and education programs at 23 accredited institutions in 15 states as well as online. The Anthem Education family of schools includes Anthem College, Anthem College Online, Anthem Career College, Anthem Institute, Morrison University, and The Bryman School of Arizona. For more information, visit <http://anthem.edu>.

For more information about our graduation rates, the median debt of students who completed the program, and other important information, please visit our website at www.anthem.edu/disclosures.

About the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools

Founded in 1912, the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools (ACICS) is one of the most respected and longest established national accreditors of academic institutions in the United States. It is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA). ACICS accredits more than 800 private post-secondary institutions offering certificates or diplomas, as well as institutions offering associate's, bachelor's, and master's degrees in programs designed to educate students for professional, technical, or occupational degrees. For more information, please visit www.acics.org.

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