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## Langhorne Carpet Co. announces winners of student design contest

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By Crissa Shoemaker DeBree Staff writer |

The winners of the Langhorne Carpet Co.'s first Morrow Student Design Competition were chosen and announced Friday night at the Marketplace Design Center in Philadelphia.

They are: Teresa Percontino and Olivia Jones from the University of the Arts and Tia Bianchini and Caleigh Stednitz from Tyler School of Art at Temple University.

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The winning designs were chosen by a panel of design experts that included Philadelphia decorator Bennett Weinstock, New York-based designer Alex Papachristidis and Hilary Jay, executive director of DesignPhiladelphia.

The patterns will provide the foundation for the company's Conservation Collection; the carpets should be available for purchase this fall. Proceeds from the sale of the collection will benefit nonprofits, including the Philadelphia Zoo and the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society.

Twenty teams of students from six area colleges and art institutes submitted designs for the competition, which was open to area college students and named for the family that founded and still runs the Penndel company.

A total of 50 students competed. They are students at Arcadia University, Drexel University, Philadelphia University, Tyler School of Art at Temple University, the University of the Arts, and the Art Institute of Philadelphia.

Langhorne Carpet Co. president Bill Morrow said he wasn't surprised by the positive response from students or the quality of their designs.

"We have all these great design schools in Philadelphia," he said. "We thought we'd get great designs. You hope for those things, that you're going to present an opportunity to these students and they're going to rise to the occasion. They certainly did."

The winning designs were judged on creative and technical criteria. Each team was required to submit two patterns, one representing plants and other other wildlife. They also had to demonstrate to the judges that their patterns could be woven on the mill's historic looms, which are programmed using hand-cut punch cards.

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