

International Furnishings and Design Association to host 'Take a Seat' exhibit, auction



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The New England Chapter of the International Furnishings and Design Association announced its fourth annual international "Take a Seat" design exhibition and auction that showcases local designers' up-cycled chair designs.

"Take a Seat" aims to provide architects, builders, craftsmen, designers and students of the furnishing and design industry a platform to display their prowess, promote their craft and

give back to the community. The one-of-a-kind chairs, reflecting the artist's own style and interests will be displayed throughout the Greater Boston area on a traveling exhibit before being auctioned off at the "Take a Seat" Gala on June 1. "This event is an excellent way to help promote local craftsmen while also garnering attention for a great cause. Last year's event raised over \$16,000 for the Women's Institute for Housing and Economic Development and this year we hope to top it. In fact, the 2015 event was so successful we were awarded the 2015 Gold PRISM Award for Best Marketing Event or Series," said Karen Dzendolet, president of IFDA-NE. "We encourage New England designers to submit their work and for residents to visit the exhibits and show support for these hardworking professionals." The gala will be held in honor of the chair designers. All chairs will be paired with exhibits before they are auctioned off, and all proceeds will benefit the Women's Institute for Housing and Economic Development, a national affordable housing development organization.

"The Women's Institute is very grateful for our partnership with IFDA NE and its dedicated members. The Community Service committee's generosity and initiative is making real improvements in the lives of residents in Grinnell Mansion in New Bedford. We are excited for the continued efforts of IFDA throughout the year and years to come," Betsy Crum, WIHED executive director.

The IFDA, founded in 1947, is a worldwide professional alliance of leaders representing residential and commercial furnishings and design. Members are executives from companies engaged in the design, production, distribution, promotion, communication or education in the furnishing and design and/or related industries. The New England IFDA is the organization's largest chapter in the nation. For additional information and updates on a schedule of events, visit takeaseat.ifdane.com or facebook.com/takeaseatifda.