

# Groundbreaking Change



Craig Shimahara 2007



## President's Report 2007

### The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art

Peter Cooper was a risk taker whose innovative spirit led to marvels of the Industrial Revolution: steam-driven trains, rolled iron I-beams as building infrastructure and the first transatlantic cable, to name a few. Recognizing the importance of creativity and the indispensable role education plays in empowering young people to innovate, Cooper also became the nation's first great philanthropist in founding The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art.

Today, we are experiencing another extraordinary revolution. We are living on the edge of monumental change. Technology is advancing at an exponential rate. Globalization is driving the nation's demand for an innovation-based economy. At the same time, a growing world market is fueling an environment of intense competition.

Inquiry and creativity—hallmarks of a Cooper Union education—are more crucial than ever. Since 1859, we have awarded full-tuition scholarships to thousands upon thousands selected solely for their intellectual and creative promise. Our graduates move on to pursue their dreams and become leading visionaries in their fields. Today, they are driving the growth of cities, protecting our natural resources, forging groundbreaking paths in research and inspiring generations with critically acclaimed works of architecture and art. They are carrying on Peter Cooper's spirit and vision, sharing the gift of knowledge to make a difference in the world, each in his or her own way.