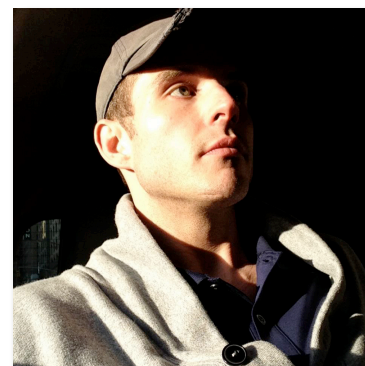


The Beckman Project • Fall 2013

CHRISTOPHER BECKMAN was born in 1977 in Brockton, Massachusetts. Considered one of the most promising and influential young artistic voices on the scene today, he is a New York based painter, photographer, sculptor, author, motivational speaker, and entrepreneur.

As an artist, his work has been shown in galleries, exhibits, fairs, and private collections across the globe. Currently represented by Anonymous Gallery in New York and Mexico City, his solo exhibitions include Infinity Gallery and Media Gallery in Boston and the Candice Gallery, Wooster Project, and Elizabeth Foundation for the Arts in New York, among others. His works have also been shown at Boston's Courtyard Gallery; New York's Cheryl Hazen Gallery; the Fireplace Project in East Hampton, N.Y.; Anonymous Gallery in Mexico City, the Armory Show in New York; Art Hamptons in Bridgehampton, N.Y.; ArteBA in Buenos Aires; and Lima Photo in Lima, Peru.



As an author and speaker, he found his inspirational voice following a tumultuous road of chemical dependency that started when he was only 11. Shortly after finding sobriety in February 2001, he was chosen as one of the seven young men and women cast in MTV's *Real World: Chicago*. He became the first *Real World* personality to be both openly gay and in recovery. His very successful book that followed his move into celebrity—*Clean: A New Generation in Recovery Speaks Out* (Hazelden, 2005)—is part autobiography and part guide. He is currently finalizing recording the book with GPR Records, adding a sequel chapter titled "Sill Clean."

Chris has spoken at dozens of colleges and universities across the country from Yale to Pepperdine from all SUNY campuses to the University of Arizona, and dozens in between, as well as schools and community centers. His talks and lectures touch on issues that carry personal weight including alcohol and drug awareness, sexual orientation, and expressing his world through art. Audiences are captivated and engaged with his genuine personality and life story and the openness in which he shares his thoughts and experiences.

He has appeared on *Good Morning America*, *The View*, and *The Roseanne Show* and has been interviewed by Diane Sawyer, among others. In 2002, he was a judge for Miss Teen U.S.A. In 2005 for their 20th anniversary issue, *People* magazine named Chris one of the 100 "Sexiest Men Alive," the first openly gay man to be named to the list. He has also worked as a Ford Agency model for Polo Ralph Lauren and others.

This will be Beckman's third visit to the Indiana area when he will present a 6 O'Clock Series event for IUP on both the Indiana and Punxsutawney campuses and a community session for parents, teachers, and staff. Several other meetings will be held regarding future activities and exhibit work.



This visit is being funded by

- **Lively Arts at IUP**
- **Armstrong-Indiana-Clarion Drug and Alcohol Commission and the Armstrong-Indiana Drug Free Communities Coalition**
- **Marion Center Area School District**
- **The 6 O'Clock Series**
- **BACCHUS**
- **Center for Health and Well Being**
- **Office of Student Affairs**
- **IUP Punxsutawney**

<http://www.christopher-beckman.com>

<http://www.iup.edu/livelyarts>



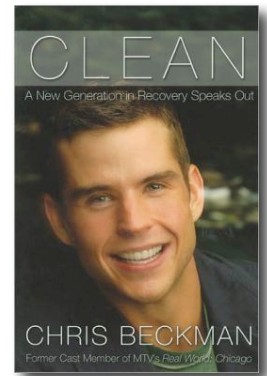
Thursday, September 26

Christopher Beckman: An Open Talk About Substance Abuse

7:00 p.m.

Holiday Inn of Indiana, Wayne Avenue

Catapulted into the national spotlight when he was just 24, artist and former Ralph Lauren model Christopher Beckman's substance abuse and his homosexuality were tabloid fodder during his stint on MTV's *Real World Chicago*. Sober for over 12 years now, Beckman will lead a talk candidly discussing his struggles with addiction, his recovery, and how he deals with the "real world" today in an environment constantly surrounded by temptation. He will share his story—documented in his book *Clean: A New Generation in Recovery Speaks Out*—and share insights from other people's stories that are shared in his book. Beckman will discuss signs that may point to addiction with this talk being of great benefit to parents, teachers, and administrators relating to students of elementary through high school age. With ample time for Q&A, the Armstrong-Indiana-Clarion Drug and Alcohol Commission will also have several experts on hand and "Teen Scene" with examples of items that might be found in a student's room that could indicate substance abuse. This event is being coordinated through the Marion Center School District and is open, free of charge, to all community members. Light refreshments will be served



Monday, September 30

Christopher Beckman: 6 O'Clock Series

6:00 p.m., Ohio Room, Hadley Union Building Beard Auditorium

This event, presented in collaboration with the Six O'Clock Series, features former *MTV Real World Chicago* personality Christopher Beckman, who was propelled into the national spotlight when he was only 24 years old. A former Ralph Lauren model and now a successful artist and author, Beckman's substance abuse and homosexuality were tabloid fodder following his reality-show stint. Now 36 and in recovery for over 12 years, Beckman returns to Indiana to speak about his perspectives—detailed in his successful book, *Clean*—on how best to inform friends and family struggling with similar issues with their loved ones, including drug abuse, alcoholism, acceptance, and openness.

Other

During Mr. Beckman's visit, he will also be attending several other events and meeting to discuss future collaborations. Also planned is a presentation to students attending IUP Punxsutawney.