Teens in Fashion Intensive

Inspiring Beauty, Posing Beauty

Presented in partnership with Cornish College of the Arts, Northwest African American Museum, and Bellevue Arts Museum

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Tariqa Waters (Instructor) & Caitlin Cooke (Assistant)



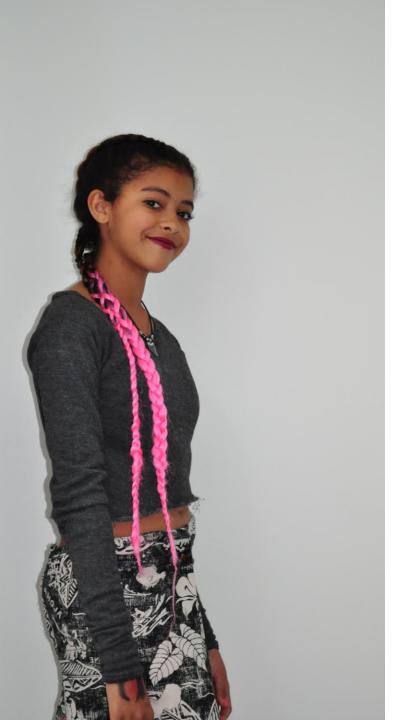
Cypress P. (age: 13)

Materials: Men's button-up shirt, high-waisted "mom" jeans, and a bed sheet (Goodwill).

Construction: I used the bed sheet to make a necktie. I ripped the mom jeans for the distressed "look." I took off the sleeves on the shirt and finished the arm holes.

Concept/inspiration: The look of the 80s and Boy George. I researched him and liked how he mixed and wore clothes for both men and women. I think the jeans can be worn by a man or a woman.

My favorite part about the class was everything. Constructing was the best.

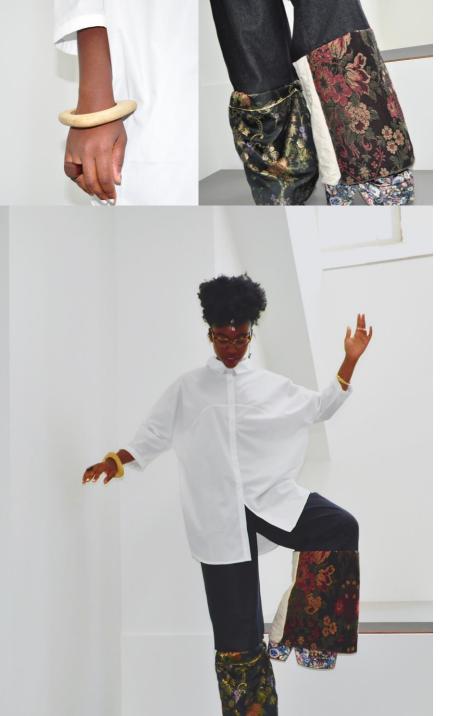


Belle P. (age: 13)

Materials: Men's button-up shirt, men's grey sweater, & pumps (all from Goodwill)

Construction: I took measurements and cut pieces to fit my figure. The button-up become the skirt with a piece of neon orange fabric peeking through. I cropped the sweater.

Inspiration: Traveling. Hawaii. I've traveled to Hawaii twice and it's had a huge impact on my life. It's calm and peaceful. Sunsets are very calming and this is represented by the neon orange – like a sunset or sunrise. The grey represents the clouds and tropical climate in Hawaii. Aloha!



Hera F. (age: 18)

Materials: Fabric from an old skirt, vest(Goodwill), culottes, shirt.

Construction: I took the skirt and the vest apart and attached pieces to the bottom of the culottes to make them into wideleg pants. I also made a tulle smock dress (separate piece).

Concept/inspiration: When Tariqa introduced androgyny. I research androgyny in Africa and found that there are certain tribes that don't really have the gender binary or conform to Western gender binaries. The Dogon Tribe does a lot of layering, ruffles, and very wide skirts. Men in traditional dances and ceremonies, wear wide skirts with ruffles. I was inspired by the shape and the culture of the tribe. Plus, I really like bell bottoms or any long, wide pants.

Favorite part: Going to the Museums and see how they were specifically focused on black/African-American beauty. I've never taken a class structured around that. Heading RISD next year.



Daniel Y. (age: 17) and Hannah N. (age: 17)

Materials: Mirror (Goodwill), denim (cotton), hot glue, and neoprene.

Construction: We shattered the mirror and glued the pieces onto the neoprene mask. We made a pattern for the kimono and sewed it. To create the white turtleneck, we adjusted and shortened the neck and added extra seams on the sides to create a design.

Inspiration/concept: It's about hiding your identity. People judge you off of what you wear. So the mask hides that. With the kimono we wanted something a little more trendy. The turtle neck covers a lot too. The sleeves go over the hands. You want to keep yourself covered and hide your true personality – refrain from judgment.

Favorite part (Hannah): Collaborating with Daniel. It's hard to work together when you have so many of your own ideas. Also the museum visits were amazing. Prairie Underground, too. I got to see how things work. I only see the final pieces in the store. So I got to learn more about how they are made and that there's so much more meaning and story behind each piece of clothing.

Favorite part (Daniel): Working together and meeting people. Also collaborating with another person. There's a Korean saying – work with, gamble, or go on a trip with someone to really know their personality. Some things didn't work out the way we wanted, but it was a good learning experience.



Emily Ojeda (age: 19)

Materials: Spandex/cotton-type fabric, cotton/polyester jacket, stretchy sweater, (Eddie Bauer)

Construction: I cut the sleeves off the jacket and sewed sleeves of the sweater onto the jacket. I also used purple nebula-looking fabric and lined the outside of the jacket, leaving stripes on the side. I also made a hoodie from scratch from another green stretchy fabric and I lined it. I sewed it onto the jacket with highlighter-yellow shoe laces. I also made tights out of a white nebula-like fabric (for contrast).

Inspiration/concept: I looked at the fabrics and found two that gave me the idea for a jacked. It really started with the fabric colors. I didn't have a specific thing in mind before I saw them.

My favorite part: I gained the experience of making my own clothes, from coming up with a design to making it. The best part was being challenged to take a garment that already existed and making it into something new! I like to come up with those new ideas.



Emma F. (age: 13)

Materials: Jacket, shoes, bed sheets, dress (Goodwill)

Construction: I made the pants out of the bed sheets and added strips from the dress for the side stripes. I didn't alter the jacket because it went with the look.

Inspiration/concept: I wanted to create an androgynous piece that was more colorful. A lot of androgynous clothing is black and white and really basic. So with this outfit, I wanted to make it gender neutral and break gender norms. Some of the stuff I do is considered more "feminine." But I think this piece is both gender neutral and colorful.

Favorite part of the workshop: Going to the museums. It was really interesting to see the amazing people's art. Also, the interview with Marcia. She had really good advice. I got to ask her about what to do when you're unmotivated to finish a project. She told me to really continue with it and not let yourself stop completely. I think society is coming a long way and more accepting and open. I think that it's still an important thing, especially or people in high fashion, to break gender norms. Also I realized that feminism isn't a bad word – cause loads of people, all the time, misunderstand and act of peace as a statement of hate. Gender is often expressed through gender and make-up, but it's also a tool and powerful influence (even though we don't realize it) to break down biases and gender norms.



Kaitlyn A. (age:16)

Materials: Table cloth (with denim lining), lace from lingerie (Goodwill)

Construction: I cut out the denim and made a skirt. I also made a top with the denim. I used lace to add to the side of the skirt.

Inspiration/concept: I had a different idea before Goodwill. But I found different ideas. What I made is actually two pieces – you can add the skirt on or off. So you have a dress and a skirt overlay you can add. It's for me – I made it to fit me.

My favorite part: Being able to learn from people in the industry about what it takes and what it's about. Marcia and Prairie Underground. I had an interest in it but didn't know what it really takes. It was also interesting to learn how they came from art backgrounds (not fashion) and made their way into fashion. That's like me – I really like to paint and draw, mixed media. It gives me encouragement that there is a role for me in fashion. Inspiring Beauty was really inspiring – those pieces are traditionally not what you'd see in regular clothing. The black Egyptian piece used chains, there were fringes, and collaged pieces with different fabrics.



Aiko E.



Kate K. (age: 16)

Materials: extra large jeans, vest, accessories (Goodwill), white t-shirt and shoes.

Construction/design: I altered the pants. I liked their color and the comfort. But I had to take the waist in. I like bagginess of them. The vest – I embroidered with white thread.

Concept/inspiration: In the beginning, T showed us androgynous fashion. I liked it but didn't want to go to extremes with nonconformity. I did want to make an outfit that males and females could wear. I am also inspired by space and celestial things. There is a blue moon and a full moon embroidered on the vest.

Favorite part: I liked seeing the Posing Beauty exhibition – the "black is beautiful" through the photos was really, really interesting.



Mattisen P.



Nia P. (age: 18)

Materials: Men's suit, beads, fabric (Goodwill)

Construction: I took off the sleeves of the jacked and added a satin piece to the pocket. I added beads to the shoulders. I added satin cuffs to the pants.

Inspiration/concept: I wanted to make a masculine suit and make it feminine. The purple is associated with being a girl. In doing so, I guess I made it a bit more casual, too.

My favorite part: The best part of the workshop was the challenge to make an androgynous look. I'd never thought of that.



Stephanie M. (age: 15)

Materials: Scarf, dress, curtain, some yardage, pom poms, "things you find in a 'Gramma Tin'"

Construction: I made a dress, and decorated the heck out of it. I make the base - the dress - and continuously add layers and layers of decorations.

Concept/inspiration: I was inspired by lots of decorations. Japanese Street Fashion (Japanese fashion movement). It's very cute.

My favorite part: The best part was going to Goodwill. I love thrift shopping a lot.



Sylvie K. (age: 13)

Materials: Leather jacket, silk flowers, slip dress, lace dress (Goodwill), and Dr. Marten's.

Construction: I took the dress and made it into a shirt. I took petals and added them to the jacked with studs to keep them in place. I also painted the jacket then took it off 'cause it didn't work.

Concept/inspiration: Allowing people to emotional, soft, and delicate, while also allowing them to be tough, strong. A lot of people think that if a man is crying, he's emasculated. But I think crying and being emotional is a sign of strength. My favorite is pink and I was afraid to tell people because they might think I'm weak or not get taken seriously. But then I just realized that wasn't fair to me. I like the color pink. That is why I added the flowers.

My favorite part: Going to Goodwill and making the clothes. The Prairie Underground – seeing the ins and outs of how it works.



Zenyia G. (15)

Materials: Large grey men's sweater, and a summer dress, nude pumps (Goodwill)

Construction: I took in the sweater to fit me better and cut of the sleeves off. The skirt, I cut the thick seams off the sleeves and created a wrap around the waist with a bow. This became a maxi skirt.

Concept/inspiration: I got inspiration from my aunt. Her wardrobe has lots of flashy colors, and chic/chill looking clothes. I used her style ideas to create something for myself.

My favorite part: In this class, I was able to reconnect with my fashion side, which I haven't really done in years. I plan to join the fashion club at my school now! Ciao! Ciao!



Jasmin C. (age: 14)

Materials: Umbrella, cotton fabric, dress (Goodwill)

Construction/design: I made a skirt with the material and took apart the umbrella. The plastic was made into an overlay for skirt.

Inspiration/concept: I wanted to have a "ready to wear" piece with bright colors. The umbrella has a cool eye-catching pattern and I like that it's an unusual and unexpected material. You wouldn't expect to see anyone wearing it.

My favorite part: I liked going to Goodwill.



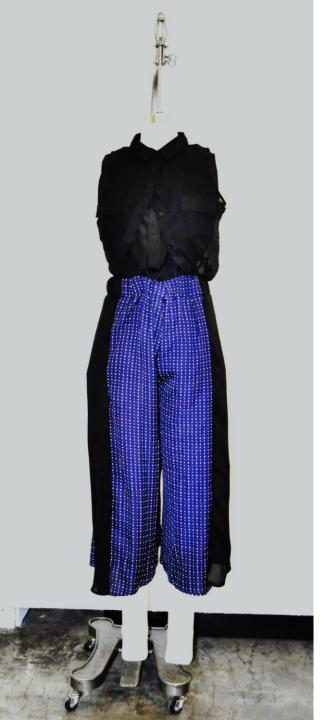
Colette E. (age: 14)

Materials: Curtain, table cloth (Goodwill)

Construction/design: I took the curtain and modified a circleskirt pattern to make palazzo pants. I made a jacket pattern to fit me and made a jacket out of the tablecloth.

Inspiration/concept: I took Tariqa's idea of androgynous clothing and pulled inspiration from a time that was not very androgynous – the 1950s. I was inspired by jazz and zoot suits and decided to make my own version of it with palazzo pants. It was hard to have the juxtaposition of two concepts work in a piece.

Favorite part: Prairie Underground. We got an experience that most people don't – a firsthand view of the manufacturing and how the business of fashion works.



Gjianni W. (age: 14)

Materials: Tank, black sheer button-up, and two dresses (Goodwill)

Construction: Altered and fitted the shirts – meant to be layered. Took the dresses and made them into pants.