



FASHION DESIGN

SHOWCASE

SEPTEMBER 25, 2021

RmCAD | ROCKY MOUNTAIN COLLEGE OF ART + DESIGN
1600 Pierce Street | Denver, CO 80214
800.888.ARTS | rmcad.edu



FASHION DESIGN SHOWCASE

The RMCAD Fashion Design Program is excited to host our annual showcase of graduating seniors to highlight their individual talents and creative directions. This **SENIOR FASHION SHOWCASE** is a blend of a multiple inspirations each of our seniors have.

GATHER is defined as collecting from different places; to assemble and convene. Gather is also a garment construction technique and term - one could gather a waistline, neckline or seam for example. One could also gather and collect items, as well as one's thoughts. Come and see how each of our students have interpreted this theme in their own creative way for their Gather inspired designs.

RmCAD

ROCKY MOUNTAIN COLLEGE OF ART + DESIGN

FASHION DESIGN



NICOLE BARTET
DEPARTMENT CHAIR

*MFA, University of South Carolina
BFA, Ringling College of Art + Design*

 [nrmfashion](#)

The Fashion Design program at RMCAD provides the technical skills and aesthetic understanding that can lead you to a successful career in the fashion industry. Our knowledgeable instructors teach courses that cover the history, tools, and techniques used by industry professionals. You'll also build the business and communication skills necessary to present designs and gain an understanding of contemporary consumer culture.

Your major courses cover draping, pattern drafting, garment construction, and textile science. You'll also learn to use industry technology and develop technical skills in the studio. By the time you graduate, you'll be ready to set trends and advance in your field.

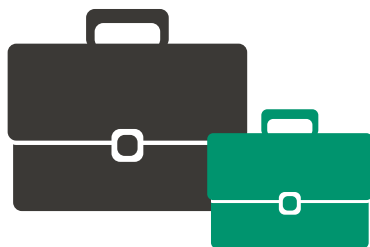
PROGRAM OUTCOMES

Program outcomes can be found in the RMCAD Academic Catalog and serve the Institutional Learning Outcomes. These are Rocky Mountain College of Art + Design's overarching goals and competencies, which include: cultural competence, communication competence, design competence, and critical thinking. In addition to meeting program outcomes, students enrolled in Fashion Design will also fulfill requirements in Liberal Arts and Foundations.

Sources:
www.bls.gov, RMCAD survey data



JOB GROWTH



24,000

PEOPLE CURRENTLY WORKING IN
THE FASHION DESIGN INDUSTRY

2,300

NUMBER OF JOBS THAT WILL BE
CREATED IN THE NEXT 10 YEARS

AFTER GRADUATION

It takes dedication to thrive in the fashion industry. With a degree in Fashion Design from RMCAD, you'll set yourself apart and be prepared for the rigor and excitement of the fashion world. You'll make connections and establish a skill set that will bring your career to life. Whether your interests lie in couture fashion, eco design, accessories, or another specialty, your BFA from RMCAD will help you move fashion forward.

CAREER POSSIBILITIES

Fashion Designer
Textile Designer
CAD Artist

Technical Designer
Product Development
Trend Analyst

Stylist
Pattern Maker
Production Manager

MOVE FASHION FORWARD.

Fashion is a part of your identity. With a BFA in Fashion Design from RMCAD, you'll have the tools to take your eye for style into a trend-setting career.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT
RMCAD.EDU/FASHIONDESIGN OR RMCAD.EDU/FASHIONDESIGNONLINE

RmCAD

SENIOR

FASHION SHOWCASE

F E A T U R I N G

AMAYA
LEVERETTE



MELISSA
GRANADO



MIKAELA
GREENE



AUSTYN
LEWIS



AMAYA LEVERETTE

REFINED UTILITY STREETWEAR

There is something so all knowing but not ever understanding about the power behind being a woman. She can be talked about and seen and those around her can and will have so much to say without ever knowing her name. She can have the prettiest pout and curse like a sailor. A bodacious body with an innocent soul. She is a woman who is a Jill of many thrills because Jack's trades could never compete. She is capable of everything. Most love her and others are simply missing out. But oddly enough the one question both of these parties have in common is one. Who Is She.



@T.nastaye

MELISSA GRANADO

GOTHIC SOPHISTICATION

Sophisticated Gothic meets subtle organic, this collection plays with looks I have grown to love over the years and makes them adaptable to a mature clientele. The inspiration comes from tattoo artists and women of interest in this subculture Gothic look. I enjoyed playing with the strong contrast of soft chiffons and crepes against the harder, more structured vegan leather and chain accessories.



@meli.grando

MIKAELA GREENE

ONLINE
STUDENT

PUNK ROCK ELEGANCE

This collection seeks inspiration from vintage evening wear and fuses it with elements from the 1970's subculture, punk rock. The two contrasting concepts, elegant eveningwear and punk rock are fused together and become complementary of each other. A simplified color palette of black and white throws us back in time to the days of 1950s sitcoms, and a dash of pink is added to interrupt the illusion. These elegant silhouettes are then disrupted and blended with volume and texture to create Punk Rock Elegance.

 @mikaelagreenedesigns



AUSTYN LEWIS

BIO-COUTURE

My work explores the relationship between human movement and expression. Residing in Denver, CO, I create fashion designs by working with alternative textiles and technologies. I play with unconventional items to create exciting art pieces that can be interactive or worn. I am inspired to make fashion art again, to bring forth creativity within the adornment of the human form while striving for sustainability and knowledge of the life cycle of my art and the waste it may attribute to the world.

 @Aussy_..



GATHER

UP-AND-COMING STUDENT DESIGNERS



BEE FALCON

As I look around and see all that is happening in the world, I can't help but pull inwards to create worlds of my own. The world I created for my aesthetic is one of pirates who chose a life in a cottage they will never quite fit into. With their vibrant colors made bolder against the unbeatable black and their tendencies of stepping out of the norm, they find a quiet, happy life as they hide their treasures under the barn. I took the theme Gather as literal as you can get in sewing, to fit this world that I created in my head.



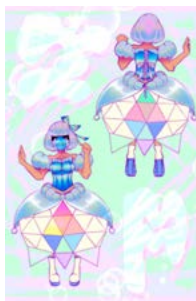
KAI BOONTHANOM

From the beginning, I knew I wanted to create a look that was gender-neutral with both masculine and feminine elements. The asymmetric cut-out top and cropped biker shorts are feminine in nature, paired with the boxy and masculine silhouette of the blazer, creating an interesting dynamic and play. My personal design philosophy is to create a space that is welcoming of all races, genders and sexual orientation, as well as creating a space that cuts through the line between men's and women's clothing.



TERRELL WILLIS ONLINE STUDENT

After a year of sheltering in place, social distancing, masks, and elbow bumps, I missed pre-pandemic life—the days of being in the office and possibly going out afterward with coworkers. I recall weekends of travel, shopping, parks, or anything with friends and having fun anywhere we were. Just gathering together again without fear would be a welcome feeling. However, we are not there yet. So I will relish in all the sweet memories I have collected throughout the years and be thankful for them. I will remember what it is like to greet people with a warm smile and a handshake or hug—hanging out with family and all of the celebrations like holidays, weddings, and reunions. In comparison, we navigate through this new life and try to understand the changes. I will continue to adapt and learn. My looks represent how I will anticipate the future of how we will gather together again.



JUSTIN MORALES

For this fashion show I have created designs to reflect the return of the students to campus after the pandemic, using the iconic dome, the symbol of RMCAD, as my inspiration. When I first heard about the theme of the show, the idea instantly came to me to focus on the “gathering” of the students of RMCAD coming back together and finally seeing each other and the campus once again! In my designs, I have applied various colours to represent the different programs of the school to include everyone from the 2D artists all the way to the Music Production students. I’m so glad I have the opportunity to showcase this idea and to use fashion to include everyone and everything from this school.



ZACHERY REECE

My looks are based on the theme of hunting and gathering and the practice of sustainable material upcycling. In order to complete the two looks, I gathered, deconstructed and upcycled used garments from the army/navy surplus store in combination with new fabrics and trims. For the first look, I deconstructed and reconstructed two heavy weight long sleeve button up shirts into an asymmetrical jacket with a zipper. I also used two camouflaged fabrics for the pants and overalls. For the second look, I upcycled multiple jersey shirts to make the pancho while adding reflective strips.



FULVIA LETMAN ONLINE STUDENT

When I think of gathers, I think of exciting textures in fashion design that offers comfort, great fit and style. In my Fashion Design I class, I used the concept of mushrooms as my inspiration for a collection, from the concept of gathering and forgoing to the colors, textures and lines. I have expanded my concept here for the three looks that I am doing for this show.



LIBBY SHAW

My inspiration was drawn from the natural rhythm of the ocean’s tide gathering objects beneath the water. The physical push and pull of the waves reminded me of gathered fabric, with the receding waves revealing the collected treasures left on shore. This aquatic theme inspired the color palette, whimsical silhouettes, layered textures, and fabric choices for my designs. Together, these ensembles represent the treasures left behind on shore from a receding tide.



SARAH FOX

When it comes to the theme and idea of gather, I thought of the gathering of fabric as well as the gathering of flowers. I included the gather of fabric around much of the dress and I included the gathering of flowers as details. A large portion of the inspirations for my design come from the horror movie *Crimson Peak*. One of the costumes had very long gathered sleeves that interested me. I also usually take a lot of inspiration from historical and fantasy clothing. The idea of a flower for a hat come out of my first design when, instead of a head or face, I drew a flower.



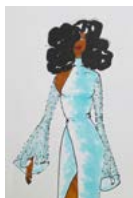
SYDNEY SAIS

We all know the COVID-19 outbreak is to blame when it comes to the lack of social gatherings and the ability to go out, but with vaccines and safety protocols we now have the ability to start over. This time or social distancing has created a newfound appreciation of attending events and seeing friends. I think we have all realized the amazing and adventurous lives we once had the pleasure of living. To be able to dress up and have fun with the people we love after a year of not being able to is such a blessing that we should all enjoy. We miss those opportunities, we miss being able to hug friends and spend time together. This look is a reflection of my love for the ability to dress up, for even the simplest of occasions.



MADALYN GAYDOS ONLINE STUDENT

The inspiration for my designs is the different parts that make up a person. The various and sometimes contrasting components of a life gather to create the whole human being. And collectively, the different layering and overlapping of fabrics in my designs create the unique and beautiful mosaic of those diverse personalities, cultures and backgrounds.



MICHAEL SULLIVAN

The inspiration for this look is the power, attitude, and perseverance of my mother as well as other women of the African diaspora. I wanted to create a look that enhanced the beauty that already exist in our blackness. The silhouette of the gown is inspired by the glamorous singer Donna Summer as well as the Bantu women. This look is an homage to the rhythm and flow of black culture.



JAMEY HERNANDEZ

When I think if the word “gather” I envision a beautiful gathering between fabrics, needles and thread that creates the attire we wear to any special event. After the year of lockdown and fear of catching a deadly virus we went from regularly gathering with our friends and family to staying home. After more than a year missing out on important occasions, and toning down our attire down to the comfortable basics, we are slowly starting to emerge from our comfy pants and returning to our more fashionable pieces with enthusiasm and eagerness to gather with our loved ones once again.

DESIGN ASSISTANT FOR ONLINE DESIGNERS:

COOPER LAFFINS | MICHELE HART

JUDGES

FOR THIS YEAR'S SHOWCASE

SHANNON MYERS **FORMER SVP OF PRODUCT, GOLDBUG**

Shannon Myers is an accomplished brand strategist and product creator who has worked with top international brands for more than 30 years. Starting at K2, a leading international snow sports brand, she was on the team that launched snowboarding for the respected ski brand. Moving to Spyders Active Sports, a global technical snow sports apparel and accessory brand, she again helped a traditional ski brand move forward to realize the opportunity of strategic diversification. While at Airwalk, a worldwide action sports brand, she was responsible for global brand penetration through strategic licensing relationships. As the Global Director for Kids Footwear at Crocs, an international footwear brand, Crocs Kids Footwear was the Winner of the 2011 Footwear Plus Award for best children's footwear brand in recognition of outstanding design and retailing excellence as voted on by industry peers. She was most recently SVP of Product & Marketing at Goldbug, one of the largest distributors of infant and children's accessories in the US, where she oversaw all Product Creation efforts for top retailers like Walmart, Target, Kohl's and Amazon.

In her personal time she is an avid fly fisherwoman, outdoor enthusiast, passionate world traveler and animal evangelist. She and her husband live with the 2 best chocolate labs on the planet and one very feisty goldfish.

DANIELLE CAP **PRODUCT COORDINATOR, MILLER INTERNATIONAL**

Danielle Cap grew up in Michigan and attended the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York City and Michigan State University studying Fashion Design. She has resided in Denver for 7 years and spends her free time camping, skiing, gardening and cooking.

Her latest job was with a leader in western wear apparel, Cinch Jeans. Her role as a Product Development Product Coordinator gave her a tremendous amount of experience following the apparel product life cycle of knits, wovens and denim from development stage through final production. She enjoyed watching designs come to life from just an idea on paper to a physical garment.

In the future, Danielle hopes to apply her apparel background to help companies adopt more sustainable practices in design, construction and manufacturing.

BRANDI SHIGLEY **CEO, FASHION DENVER**

Brandi Shigley is an award-winning designer, entrepreneur, emcee, speaker, a dreamer and a doer. She is the Founder and CEO of Fashion Denver where she created a platform for the Denver fashion industry in 1999. Brandi launched her career as an international designer over 20 years ago, receiving accolades for her handbags which quickly became popular at boutiques in Paris, LA, NYC, and Denver.

As she gained notoriety for her craft, Brandi's handbags were selected by the Paris Opera as gifts for performers and donors. Brandi has been an Emcee at numerous fashion shows including, co-hosting designer runway shows with Project Runway's Mondo Guerra.

Recognized as an expert, Brandi's awards include, "Top Up and Comers of the Year" by 5280 Denver Magazine, "Top 40 Under 40 Business" by the Denver Business Journal, "Best Local Purse Designer" & "Mastermind Award", by Westword Magazine for her efforts on behalf of the independent arts and design community, "Best of Designers" by San Diego Magazine, and as a Featured Designer by 303 Magazine.

Brandi has been featured in ABC, NBC, FOX, CNN Money, WB, Huffington Post, Lucky Magazine, Medium, Denver Post, Westword, 303 Magazine, 5280, HerLife, iHeartRadio, Nikon's "I Am Your Creative Touch" campaign and she is a TEDx Speaker.

THANK YOU

TO EVERYONE WHO MADE THIS POSSIBLE

STUDENT FASHION SHOW VOLUNTEERS:

Ruby Wilson
Isabella Radloff

Damaria Moye
Jake Silveira
Logan McKinney

Elle Reinhart
Otoniel Vazquez

FASHION SHOW COORDINATOR:

Shannon Major

FACULTY MENTORS:

Mung Lar Lam, Jade Johnson, Shannon Major

FACULTY VOLUNTEERS:

Amanda Cooper and Lynette Jachowicz

HAIR AND MAKEUP:

Stacey James Institute

RMCAD FACILITIES

RMCAD MARKETING

RMCAD TECHNOLOGY

ROSE COTTAGE CAFE CATERING

LITTLE EDEN PLANTSCAPING