

RECONTEXTUALIZE

2026 FASHION SHOWCASE

Sponsored by Rab



AYLIN MUNOS - DESIGNER
OLIVIA MCDONOUGH - PHOTOGRAPHER

BY ROCKY MOUNTAIN COLLEGE OF ART + DESIGN

ROCKY MOUNTAIN COLLEGE OF ART + DESIGN
PRESENTS

RECONTEXTUALIZE

2026 FASHION SHOWCASE

The RMCAD Fashion Design Program is excited to host its annual showcase where graduating seniors and students will display their singular talent and creative direction. The Fashion Showcase highlights the unique creativity, storytelling, and passion driving each designer's collection.

RECONTEXTUALIZE: verb 1. place or consider in a new or different context.

Context fundamentally influences the understanding and interpretation of an artwork, both for the creator and the audience. Because people, places, times, cultures, and sociopolitical circumstances change, context is not singular or static. Artists and their work are shaped, exist, and are understood in flux.



DESIGN BY BELLA RADLOFF
PHOTO BY GWEN CORNELL

EVENT PROCEEDINGS

Welcome from President – Brent Fitch

Senior Fashion Showcase

Recontextualize Fashion Showcase

Awards + Acknowledgments



SENIOR
FASHION SHOWCASE

BELLA
RADLOFF

TREVOHN
CROSBY

KRISTOPHER
DERRICK

AISLING
HIGGINS

ARIEAL
CELESTINE

CAMERON
DUNN

ALEXA
LUTIN PANIAGUA

KY
MARCUM

MILES
LOPEZ

DESIGN BY MILES LOPEZ
PHOTO BY OLIVIA MCDONOUGH



RmCAD

SENIOR DESIGNERS



BELLA RADLOFF

DESIGNER STATEMENT + BIO:

@bella.radloff

This collection brings the Fran Fine energy back from the '90s and channels it into a celebration of femininity. I take her quirky and unique style and turn this vision into a runway-worthy capsule. I put lots of twist on the traditional women's power suit, something that's confident and strong yet still has a playful edge. Mini skirts and shorts paired with stockings and tights for a flirty yet sophisticated feeling. And show-stopper pieces paired with one-of-a-kind coats. This collection represents how fashion is meant to be a fun display of personality and empowerment.

I'm a fashion designer driven by innovative creativity with a focus on empowering women. My style consists of structured silhouettes with playful experimentation, and I enjoy incorporating recycled and unconventional materials. With multiple runway features and tutoring fellow students, I've built a work ethic centered around problem-solving and collaboration. Growing up in Amarillo, Texas, I lived off transforming hand-me-downs into clothes that felt like ME. Sewing has become my way of shaping identity, and this same spirit of reinvention is present and fuels my work today.

SENIOR DESIGNERS



KRISTOPHER DERRICK

DESIGNER STATEMENT + BIO: [@beyondtheveil_by_topher](#)

This is a theme I had previously created called Forgotten Earth which focused on the idea of life coming from death is expanded in this collection by integrating more Rococo, masquerade, and Impressionist elements into the overall aesthetic. I included exaggerated organic textures. Many of the textures come from nature and the idea of life coming from death. To connect everything together, I have put together the theme of an undead Rococo era masquerade ball whose attendants are animals that have been resurrected after their unfortunate deaths. This way I can play with exaggerated textures and emphasize the discomfort of the natural world in a way that is beautiful.

I believe clothing is more than adornment. It is a mirror of the soul. Each piece we create is a conversation between the inner self and the outer world, an elegant silhouette shaped to honor both individuality and authenticity. My work draws deep inspiration from the organic beauty of nature. I am devoted to crafting garments that are inclusive, expressive, and timeless through a design philosophy which centers around celebrating all bodies, identities, and stories. I believe fashion is a space for liberation offering not just aesthetic, but a form of self-discovery. With every stitch, print, and form, Beyond the Veil invites you to reconnect with the beauty of nature and, more importantly, with the beauty within yourself.



ARIEAL CELESTINE

DESIGNER STATEMENT + BIO: @arieallynnore

Roots & Routes is a Fall/Winter streetwear collection that celebrates Black creativity, heritage, and storytelling through fabric manipulation. The title reflects both ancestry, “roots”, and movement, “routes”, touching on the way traditions traveled and evolved across generations and geographies. Historically, braids were not just stylish but also carriers of culture, being used to hide seeds, maps, and survival strategies during the transatlantic slave trade. This collection reimagines those practices through fabric braiding, weaving, tufting, and patchwork, honoring their history while transforming them into expressive, modern fashion. The mood is bold, unapologetic, and layered, taking from streetwear’s oversized silhouettes but with tactile, handmade details. Inspirations include patchwork and weaving. Roots & Routes is ultimately about weaving history and telling stories of resilience, movement, and identity through fabric.

My design aesthetic is avant-garde, expressive, and driven by bold storytelling. I create statement pieces that transform the wearer into the art, garments that push beyond the expected and embrace drama, movement, and individuality. While I currently specialize in custom garments such as prom dresses, my ultimate passion lies in developing high-impact designs that evoke emotion and demand attention.

SENIOR DESIGNERS



ALEXA LUTIN PANIAGUA

DESIGNER STATEMENT + BIO: [@alexalutinpa_](#)

Hand in Hand is a debut collection, a warm introduction to the designer's personal style, beliefs, and culture. This soft core streetwear S/S collection is faith-inspired, highlighting Guatemalan textiles with vibrant pops of color, combined with an earth-tone color palette. Pointy shoulder silhouettes replicate traditional "Huipiles," while monk's cloth imitates "costales de café," a tribute to Guatemala's renowned coffee. Lightweight organza overlays add an angelic touch, symbolizing personal rebirth and growth. The embroidery features meaningful Bible verses and words that have shaped the designer's life, reflecting a journey of self-discovery and love. This collection celebrates cultural appreciation, invites everyone to explore the Kingdom of God, and to foster joy and hope.

As an emerging fashion designer, my mindset extends beyond mere creation. My intent is to cultivate and introduce a new fashionable world. Behind each garment lies a timeless, youthful, and meaningful piece. I'm drawn to a modest yet confident aesthetic, I also enjoy exploring gender-fluid designs. I lean towards working on streetwear, but also love to create other styles out of my comfort zone. Ultimately, I want my creations to empower people to discover themselves and explore new styles. I see each piece as a wearable work of art.



MILES LOPEZ

DESIGNER STATEMENT + BIO:

[@milesmateodesign](#)

Roots, Rupture, Resilience is a collection about the Hispanic home, what it feels like, what it represents, and how it can be both comforting and vulnerable. Growing up as a Puerto Rican-Mexican-American, I experienced the warmth of family traditions, the textures of handwoven fabrics, and the colors and patterns that made our home feel alive. At the same time, I saw the fragility of that safety, especially when families faced the threat of ICE raids. This collection tells that story: the first half celebrates joy, cultural pride, and togetherness, while the second half introduces tension and disruption.

Miles Lopez is a fashion designer with a passion for storytelling. He is originally from Houston, Texas and he uses his identity and Hispanic heritage to fuel his designs. His works push boundaries in both design and culture. He uses a classic silhouette to elevate the design and tell his story. His love of research aids his attention to detail in completing his narrative. When he designs a collection, his goal is to tell a story that resonates with him and the viewer alike. His looks range from ready-to-wear, with the story in the details, to conceptual, where the story is unmissable. He has won RMCAD's Phillip J Steele Gallery Overall Creativity Award for his looks showcased in the 2025 juried "Identity" fashion showcase.

SENIOR DESIGNERS



TREVOHN CROSBY

DESIGNER STATEMENT + BIO:

@vohntori

Snake Traveler Story is created to show the slither of the diamond rattlesnake from the dry desert to the rat filled city and capturing everything in between. This concept comes from my youth when I spent a lot of time on a ranch where I would often find rattlers dead and collect their rattles. This collection includes real rattles sewn into the chest making a statement of creativity on the very first look. Each choice of fabric is used to represent a different area or style of climate as the journey is being taken.

As an up and coming fashion designer, I don't just make fashion or clothes. Instead, I take every conversation and experience from my own life or from someone else's. This is to create a story and vision that attracts either small rare findings inside of them or creates an avante garde garment in whole. I believe those findings that allow me to think outside the box is where I thrive.



AISSLING HIGGINS

DESIGNER STATEMENT + BIO: @lovelybunnydesigns

Pity Party tells the story of a birthday party gone wrong. We will start the story with happy and upbeat looks that progressively get more bloody. This tells the story of the birthday girl snapping. Her party will start off normally but as it progresses, she will snap and take out all of her guests. Inspiration for this collection stems from movies such as 'Carrie' and 'Last Night in Soho'. My collection will be mainly in pastel colours with the last few looks portraying reds as the birthday girl rids herself of her guests. There will be aspects of Romantic Gothic silhouettes to juxtapose with my colour palette. This collection will feature flowy and drapey designs mixed with more form fitting tops. There will be custom printed fabric and nontraditional materials such as resin and silicone used.

As a designer, Aisling enjoys making clothes that are more on the alternative and girly side. Aisling knows that clothing can have a huge impact on how a person perceives themselves, as well as how others perceive them. There is no easier way to express yourself than in the way you dress and Aisling wants to create something that makes someone feel like their best self.

SENIOR DESIGNERS



CAMERON DUNN

DESIGNER STATEMENT + BIO: @__camerondunn

In this collection Look Through My Eyes, we follow a mother and son on a journey of self-understanding and growth through winding green pastures. They say mothers and sons have a close dynamic, but with so many socio-political divergences between men & women, masc's and fem's, I began to dissect the relationship even further. I based this collection off my mother and I who are the acting muse of my brand McClean (MCL), and how our relationship has grown, torn, and blossomed to be what it is now.

In this collection, recurring themes of swapping perspectives through embodying the other's silhouette are apparent; accompanied by surrealist moods and curved and rounded visuals. I want this final showcase to be a fall capsule collection for "plus size women and straight size men predominantly". With styles influenced by academia, utilitarian detailing, and oversized silhouettes. This collection's intention is to create fun, sophisticated pieces for plus size women that can double as unisex clothing for men; adding creativity and versatility to the plus size market.

Hi, my name is Cameron Dunn. I'd describe my design aesthetic as playfully-animated and sexual. Inspired by the many animated shows, films, and media I viewed as a child, I draw inspiration from multiple themes, character personalities/designs and incorporate them into my design projects. Along with the visual concept of androgyny and gender, sensual elements I've always found harmonious to high fashion and creative design.



KY MARCUM

DESIGNER STATEMENT + BIO: @emo___mermaid

D!G!TAL GARDEN is a sustainable streetwear collection inspired by the visual language of digital avatars, anime & manga character design, sci-fi fantasy worlds, & the styling of androgynous K-pop groups. I see my collection as a source of styling for photo shoot concepts, stage performances, & everyday wear.

I have created characters that come from a dystopian virtual reality where fashion comes from leftover fabrics, clothes, recyclables & found objects. Modular design, layering & various closures enable my garments to convert, detach & be restyled for maximum versatility, creating a sense of video game character customization for the wearer. Through modularity, patchworking, unconventional embellishing, & custom illustrative prints, this collection exemplifies uniqueness while still maintaining practical & sustainable design.

My goal is for this collection to be gender & age-inclusive due to its style versatility. For example, depending on how the consumer styles the garments, they can be modest or revealing, fancy or casual, flashy or subtle, masculine or feminine, etc.

Ky is a fashion designer with a passion for sustainable design & styling. She has an experienced eye for aesthetics & an understanding of how to create visually compelling displays for specific target groups. With experience in editorial & digital styling she is motivated to create designs that can be styled in different ways to reach a diverse audience. Ky creates sustainable fashion through upcycling, secondhand fabrics, & unconventional materials that uniquely blends style & versatility. Her designs empower people to express their creativity in a way that is ethical & environmentally responsible.

DESIGN BY KY MARCUM
PHOTO BY OLIVIA MCDONOUGH



RmCAD

RECONTEXTUALIZE
FASHION SHOWCASE

LUISA
MENDOZA

BESS
CAULEY

AYLIN
MUNOZ

FRANK
RODRIGUEZ

CESIA
PADILLA

MIA
PHAM

NICOLE
MISWELL

SILAS
WHEELER

JAKE
KOENIG

UP-AND-COMING STUDENT DESIGNERS

LUISA MENDOZA | @designsby_luisam

At Luisa Designs, we believe in creating a personalized experience that allows us to craft a unique look that blends elegance with modern design while upcycling materials that might not work for their original purpose, demonstrating that fashion is the art of perception.

AYLIN MUNOZ | @aylin.markz + @M.M_Aylin

Recontextualize redefines winter dressing by merging utilitarian outerwear with elevated tailoring. The collection contrasts voluminous puffer construction against sharp silhouettes, creating garments that feel both protective and refined. Rooted in quiet luxury and timeless sophistication, the designs use muted neutrals and modern structure to embody effortless elegance.

CESIA PADILLA | @_bbgcc_

This collection is rooted in recontextualization, taking utilitarian outerwear and transforming it into structured, feminine pieces. Using repurposed Rab materials that were originally made for function and durability, I reconstructed them into fitted silhouettes like corsets that shape and contour the body. I wanted to play with the contrast between something rugged and something more delicate, and challenge what both performance wear and femininity can look like. The color palette of black, orange, and deep red reflects strength, intensity, and a more powerful version of femininity.

NICOLE MISWELL | @nicole.miswell

This collection pays homage to Rab's heritage. Brand Founder, Rab Carrington, was a climber in an era where boldness and risk were the name of the game. Climbers like Carrington tested themselves in harsh environments, relying on equipment that was still in the early stages of development. Participating in rock climbing at that time required a certain type of personality; it belonged to those who valued passion, adventure, and progression above all else. They were the visionaries of the outdoors. This collection channels that same energy, recontextualizing it into the attitudes and silhouettes of 1960's Mod movement. The looks showcase bold, optimistic energy with a feminine twist.

RECONTEXTUALIZE FASHION SHOWCASE

JAKE KOENIG | @regular.jake2

Midnight Merriment is my take on the theme of recontextualization as an act of metamorphosis. Blending inspiration from insects and clowns; Insects in their transformation and evolution and a clown's ability to transform into a living performance. To me, the two are perfect symbols of camp in the sense that they are both "oddities" in their own way. Within this mini-collection, I aim to transform functional materials into something campy and performative.

BESS CAULEY | @ziriacauley77

I wanted to take some of the best parts of camping and bring them to the runway in looks suitable for the red carpet. Based off the concepts of rain, tents, and campfires, the collection evokes the essence of the outdoors in an elevated fashion.

FRANK RODRIGUEZ | @F.A.R.Rstudios

My concept for this collection is about a dark futuristic cyberpunk society. I envisioned a future where individuality flourishes and confidence is needed to survive. My inspiration comes from some of my favorite films like The Fifth Element, The Matrix, and Ghost in a Shell. These films highlight a dystopian/utopian future with an emphasis on technological advancements. For "recontextualize" I will create 3 womens looks. My goal is to use 100% Rab fabrics for the outer shell. The designs will feature paneling, cutouts, lacing, and eyelets. The silhouettes will be fitted and structured.

MIA PHAM | @miavpham

In a society that is living in corruption, I want to shed light on rebellious expression in the modern world we are living in. My design is intended to share a piece of my journey on rebuilding garments and materials that serve beyond ordinary outerwear, inspired by cyper-punk and dystopian styles. My end goal is to encourage exploring innovative ways to repurpose clothing and show the potential of change. In other words, make the most of what you can.

SILAS WHEELER | @sylo_and_fig_art

Warped aims to capture the distorted vision and vast void depression embodies through eerie colors and dark spaces while chaotic layering and intersecting lines create a blur of movement and emits contorted perspective.

JURORS



AMANDA RODRIGUEZ

Sustainability driven - taking unconventional materials and transforming them into wearable art. Seasoned and innovative apparel designer with 12+ years of industry experience in creating fashion-forward, high-quality designs for diverse markets. Skilled in trend analysis, garment construction, and fabric selection, with a strong ability to translate concepts into marketable functional pieces. I'll always be a student at heart, continuously learning and growing—both as a person and as an artist. You'll likely catch me hunting for treasures at yard sales or thrift stores, breathing new life into forgotten finds.



DANIELLE CAP

With close to 15 years of experience in wholesale and product development, I built my career across the accessory and apparel industries. I hold degrees from Michigan State University and the Fashion Institute of Technology in Fashion Design. My work focused on product management, product development, garment construction and price negotiation with overseas manufacturers. Working at the intersection of design and supply chain, I developed strong skills in vendor coordination, timeline management, and cross-functional communication before stepping back to focus on my family and actively volunteer in my community and my children's schools while also pursuing various entrepreneurial ventures.



NICOLE HARRIS

Nicole learned to sew at the age of 7. With a Mom and 2 Grandmother's that all sewed, Nicole learned different techniques and skills from each of them.

In high school sewing class, Nicole was making prom dresses instead of sweatpants. Nicole started her professional career as a piecework seamstress for a Civil War reenactment clothing. She worked making organic baby clothes and photo memory quilts.

Nicole learned pattern making and grading, embroidery digitizing and decorative design set-up. She worked in the embroidery field for many years learning how to decorate difficult clothing and hats. Nicole also worked as a sample seamstress for a costume company and has worked on many prototype designs for companies with particular needs. Over the last few years, Nicole does technical repairs on outdoor gear. Throughout her career, Nicole has been teaching and sharing her skills with her teammates, co-workers and friends.

RECONTEXTUALIZE

FASHION LECTURE SERIES

LECTURERS



**KATHY
SOW**

The Creative Compass:

Navigating Career Pivots with Artistic Integrity + Expression

Born in Seoul, Korea, Kathy Sow moved to NYC in 2007 to pursue a BFA in Fashion Design at Parsons School of Design. Now based in Brooklyn, she has worked actively as a fashion designer since 2010 for RTW brands including SUNO, Adeam, and Roller Rabbit, alongside designing independent, one-of-a-kind prints for clients. Driven by a lifelong love for colors, textiles, and embroideries, Kathy later expanded her creative practice by earning a Master's degree in Art Therapy from NYU. Today, she integrates her design background with a relational, strength-based therapeutic approach, dedicated to helping individuals explore identity, heal, and find their own creative pursuit and purpose.



**GABRIEL
MEDINA**

Hard Truths:

The Business Of Fashion Is Not The Fashion Business

Gabriel Medina is the founder and designer at YOCISCO, a men's sustainable apparel company that focuses on sustainable and stylish underwear made from bamboo. The brand initially started as an online magazine but eventually began offering underwear in 2013. The company has since expanded into loungewear, bags, socks, caps, and swimwear and is sold online and wholesale in the US, Japan, and the United Kingdom. Gabriel is also co-owner of a social media content creation company that works mainly with fashion brands, most notably, FashionNova. Gabriel has a bachelor of science degree in business with an emphasis in marketing and has been teaching at RMCAD since 2018. He is a Colorado native but currently lives in San Diego with his husband and daughter.



**BRANDEN
LARK**

Hard Truths: The Business Of Fashion Is Not The Fashion Business

Branden Lark is a digital marketing expert and entrepreneur with over a decade of experience scaling businesses globally. He is the co-owner and manager of the flourishing e-commerce brand YOCISCO, which grew an online following of over 100,000 for its underwear business by pioneering the use of micro-influencers. As a speaker, educator, and advisor, Branden specializes in supply chain optimization, sustainability, and building global distribution alliances on marketplaces like Amazon and Rakuten. Over the past ten years, his entrepreneurial ventures have spanned a diverse array of markets, including children's apparel, footwear accessories, women's fashion, beauty, men's loungewear, travel gear, and streetwear.



**KAYLA
KALLEBERG**

Intro to Color Design Career Paths

Kayla Kalleberg is a Color Design Manager in the apparel, accessories & footwear industry. After growing up in Minnesota she started her design career at the Fashion Institute of Technology (NYC) and Polimoda (Florence, Italy). Over her 12 years in NYC she designed apparel, accessories and textiles for brands like Fila, IZOD, Goodfellow and Tommy Hilfiger. She then pivoted her career to focus on trend & CMF and went to Nike as a Color Designer II for women's performance apparel. Kayla's passion for outdoor sports then led her to Denver, Colorado for a role at The North Face as a Senior Color Designer of Global Color. Getting more involved with RMCAD has been extremely rewarding because she loves helping and mentoring students as they brave the fast-paced fashion industry. In her free time you'll find her gardening, painting, playing volleyball or camping & skiing with her friends & family.



**ASHLEY
GILBERT**

Fiber Activism, Responsive Design, + Why There's No Such Thing as Sustainable Fashion

Ashley Gilbert Montalvo is a 4th generation seamstress, furniture designer, and sustainability consultant, turned Flax Farmer. Her work, part of a larger mission to re-shore textile production, currently centers on cultivating a land-to-linen movement that holds the promise of Colorado's next Green Rush. Through the Foothills Flax Project she aims to interweave legacies of art and agriculture, uplift generational farmers, and spur forth a regional textile economy.

THANK YOU

TO EVERYONE WHO MADE THIS POSSIBLE

FASHION SHOWCASE COMMITTEE + MENTORS

Carrie Miller, Christiana Lazarine, Karin Soderholm, Amanda Cooper,
Irene Smolyanskaya, + Caitlin MacLaughlin

VIRTUAL FASHION SHOW FILM PRODUCTION + EDITING

Gabriel Medina

SHOWCASE JURY

Danielle Cap, Amanda Rodriguez, + Nicole Harris

LECTURERS

Kathy Sow, Gabriel Medina, Branden Lark,
Kayla Kalleberg, + Ashley Gilbert

THE STUDIO LOFT AT ELLIE CAULKINS OPERA HOUSE

ANN MOORMAN + ERIC JENKINS, RMCAD ALUM

Emcees

JACOB SOSA, DJ SOLO

DJ

NXT MODELS

STACEY JAMES INSTITUTE

STEPHANIE CARLO

Fashion Design Chair

SHANNON MAJOR

Fashion Design Lead

STUDENT FASHION SHOWCASE



nxt|MODEL

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SHAWN LOSEKE

Photography Lead

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Director of IT

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RMCAD MARKETING

TIM KEHOE

VOLUNTEERS

The featured fashions and photos in this program are the work of RMCAD students from the 2025 Fashion Showcase.

2026 Fashion Showcase Sponsor



SPECIAL THANKS TO

Roger Haung, Ecommerce & Customer Experience Manager & Global Pro Sales Lead

+

Nicole Haris, Senior Seamstress

RmCAD

Fashion design combines technical ability and aesthetic understanding with key business skills, state-of-the-industry technology, and consumer culture to turn your artistic vision into a wearable reality. In this program, you'll learn how to achieve a successful career in the fashion industry through courses that cover the history, tools, and techniques used by industry professionals. When you graduate from RMCAD with an innovative portfolio, you'll be ready to set trends and advance in your field.

FASHION FACULTY

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PROGRAM CHAIR
/ ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

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ASSISTANT PROFESSOR +
FASHION LAB COORDINATOR

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IRENE SMOLYANSKAYA, MS

ADJUNCT FACULTY

KAYLA KALLEBERG, BFA

ADJUNCT FACULTY

AFTER GRADUATION

Our alumni have the opportunity to launch exciting careers all across the fashion stage. Whether your interests lie in couture fashion, eco design, accessories, or another specialty, a degree in Fashion Design from RMCAD will help you set you apart and be prepared for the rigor and excitement of the fashion world.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

RMCAD's curriculum will provide you with the versatile education needed to express your creativity through clothing and make waves in the fashion industry. In this program, you will learn:

- Essential skills like draping, pattern drafting, garment construction, and textile science
- The basics of product development, sales, and marketing to gain an understanding of consumer culture
- How to use industry technology and develop technical skills in the studio

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- Fashion Design
- Textile Design
- Technical Design
- Product Development
- CAD Design
- Patternmaking + Draping
- Fabric + Trim Sourcing
- Fashion Styling
- Fashion Trend Forecasting
- Custom + Sample Sewing

BECOME A TRENDSETTER

For more information, visit rmcad.edu/fashiondesign
303.753.6046 | admissions@rmcad.edu

ABOUT RMCAD

Founded in 1963, Rocky Mountain College of Art + Design is an accredited institution of higher education that offers degree programs focused on the arts, design, education, technology, and business. RMCAD serves its students from a 23-acre campus in Lakewood, Colorado, but also virtually, as a leader in online education for more than a decade. RMCAD offers courses taught by practicing industry professionals; an intimate learning environment; multimedia-rich online classes; and a beautiful historic campus. The school strives to allow artists and designers to find their voice, discover their own paths, and thrive as professionals.



RmCAD

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