

The background is a vibrant, abstract collage of various colors and textures. It includes large, soft-edged shapes in shades of yellow, orange, pink, blue, and green. There are also smaller, more defined elements like a blue shape with yellow dots, a green shape with yellow dots, and a yellow shape with blue dots. The overall style is reminiscent of a child's drawing or a modern, expressive abstract painting.

SELF REFLECTION

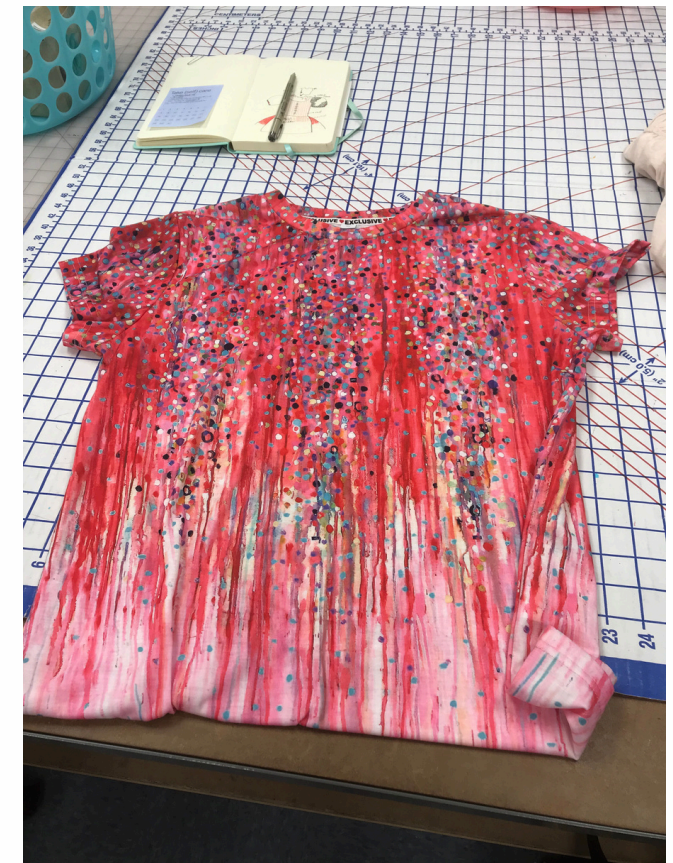
FDC 126

Ronni Rose Swanson

Process

I shopped with fellow student, Robin, at the 1st street GoodWill. My vision of the dress was tight in the middle and then expanded on the bottom with lots of volume. I chose fabrics that was close to the body for the bodice and fell upon the piece that looked like a tubetop for the middle that had stretch fabric. I needed puffed sleeves so I chose two garments I could cut out the sleeves. I needed lots of crinolines for the skirt and the red skirt needed to bubble out to fit the crinolines.

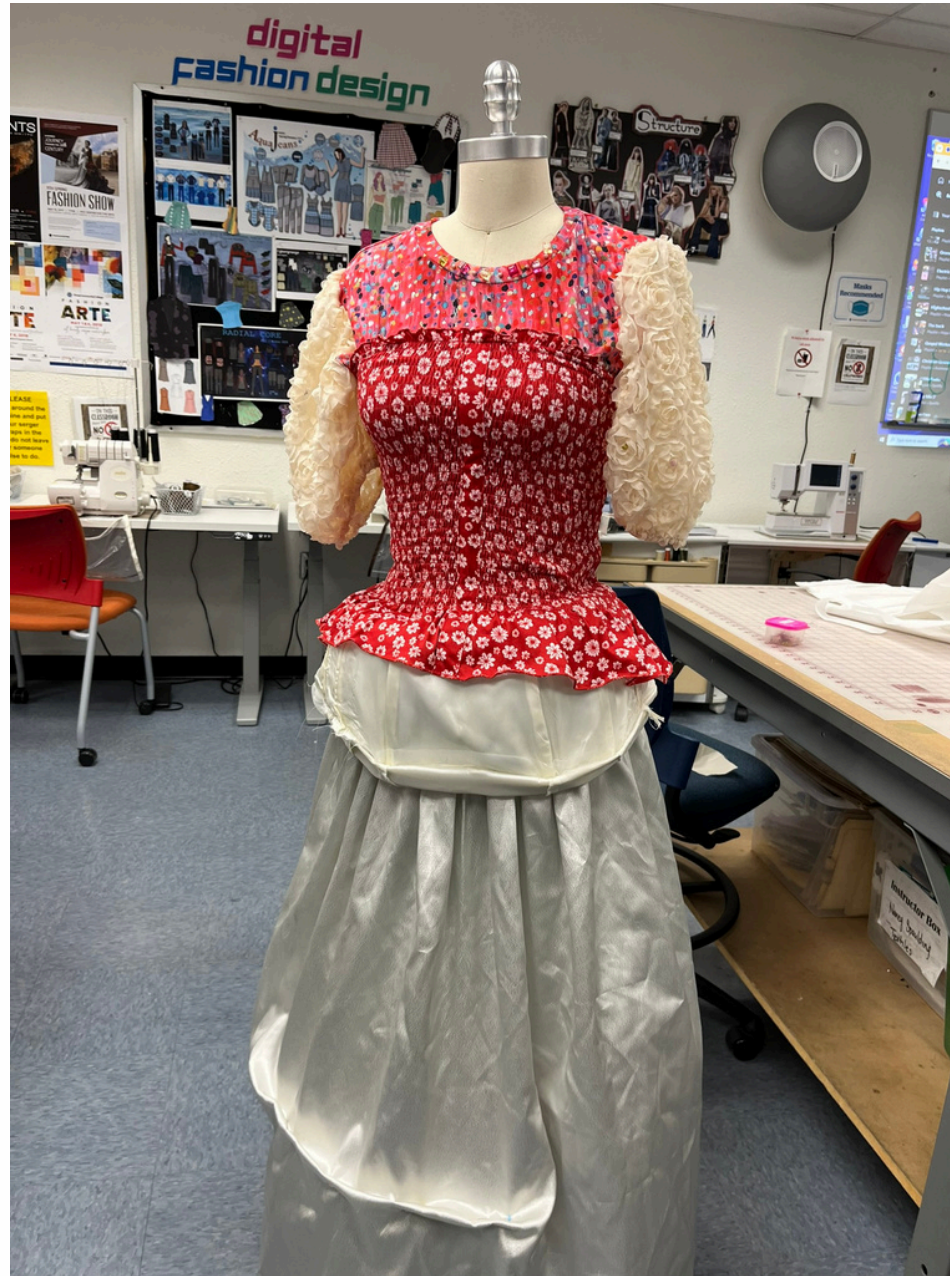
I was inspired by Circus colors, maximalism trend, and Marie Antoinette dresses.



Construction

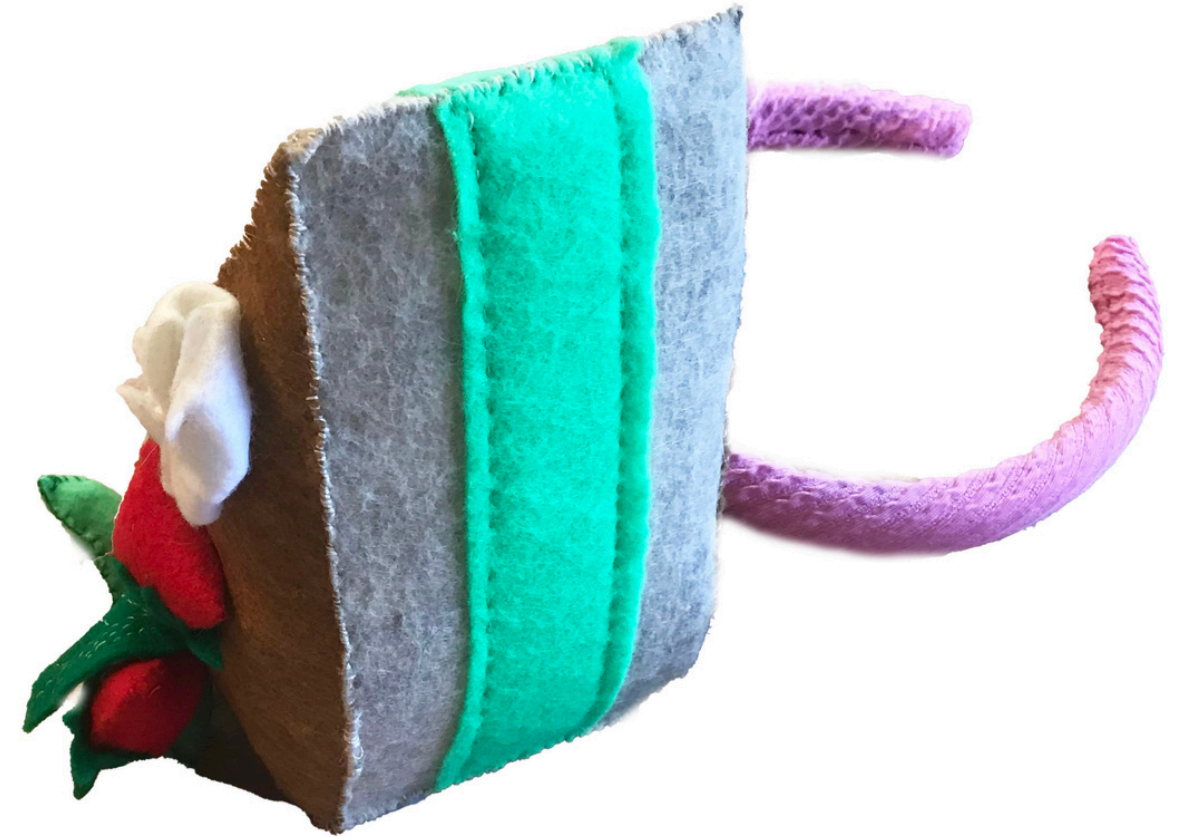
Construction methods - Hope demonstrated how to surge the sleeves to the top, use a seam ripper to take the sleeves off the old tops, take the top off the dress to make only a skirt. We put in elastic and folded over the top of the crinoline skirt to make that skirt and removed the attached sweater.

I can only hand sew so this was a journey.



Add-ons

My favorite part besides designing, and part of my wheelhouse, the hand sewing, was creating the Cake Hat. Through Pinterest I found several patterns and adapted my own and then hand sewn the pieces and glued the Cake Hat to the hairband.



Gone Digital

I teach Digital Arts at Pima, so I was excited to create a digital pattern for my dress. I never did a pattern before so it was a learning process. I drew everything in Procreate and then played with the repeats. I uploaded the pattern with the color background to Spoonflower. It was exciting to see my print on fabric!



Model

One of my prior students agreed to model and that was so fun! We fitted the dress on to her and played around with the proportions.



Process

My sleeves are Fluidity and flow when the dress is on. Structure is in the red skirt that even provides structure for the crinolines underneath. Ornamentation is the digital print and the fun beads I added to sleeve and collar. Compression is the middle of the garment emphasizing the waist. Expansion is the crinolines creating volume with the red skirt.



Process

By reusing garments, we don't clog up the environment with more unused textiles. I have become a huge Upcycling fan. I always wanted to do this to clothes I see thrifting, but I didn't know how exactly it could be done. Through this process, I saw how I could. Seeing designers upcycle clothes opens a whole other door of what is possible designing, not necessarily through creating from the ground up, which at this point would be difficult task for me.

