

# FLARE

Spring/Summer 2023

Edition #8

Activism,  
Service,  
and Self  
Expression

Working  
Wardrobes  
Sustainability  
powerhouse



Fashion for  
**CHANGE**



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# ABOUT FLARE

Flare inspires students in the Sage Hill community to take on the world beyond high school with confidence by helping them discover their individual style, introducing passionate female role models, and advocating for women's empowerment in the context of global culture.

Our core values include: Empowerment, Inclusivity, Sustainability, Body Positivity, Fostering Confidence, Diversity, Creativity, and Collaboration.

Flare Magazine was co-founded by Darcy Chung and Linda Hachim in 2018. Darcy and Linda wanted to create a club at Sage that not only focused on fashion, but also touched on controversial topics, including women's empowerment. Riya Chattervedi led the Flare team as Editor-in-Chief from 2020-2022. Riya's main goal was to expand Flare, and she successfully grew the club from 50 members to 120 members. Riya also created the Flare Leadership team, which includes Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officers. Isabella (Izzy) De Leon now leads the Flare team as Editor-in-Chief alongside Senior Editor Alex Gomez. Izzy's goal has been to create a set writing team, implement more service aspects and opportunities, and expand the cultural awareness, especially in terms of fashion, among the Flare and Sage Hill communities. Ms. Lerch, Flare's faculty advisor, has been instrumental in supporting our endeavors and actively encouraging us to broaden our world view. Flare continues to inspire students of all ages to pursue photography, fashion, art, and writing.



# LETTER FROM THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



## **This Issue:**

Our Spring/Summer 2023 FLARE: Fashion for Change focuses on self-expression and social/political activism expressed through fashion. Throughout varying political, social, and economic contexts, fashion has been utilized to promote and/or advocate for certain causes. What we wear can be used to not only represent how we feel, but also the evolution of certain trends with diverse origins. We hope that this edition of FLARE expands your perspective on the historical meaning of fashion and challenges you to consider the cultural context of fashion through a lens of activism.



In this, my second edition as Editor-in-Chief, my goal was to involve more of the FLARE team during the production process. I therefore encouraged each of our talented writers to create individual spreads for their articles to complete their vision and inspiration. After creating our set team of six writers at the beginning of this year, we have been able to dive deeper into more complex topics as an organized and productive team, and I am very proud of our accomplishments this year so far. As the majority of our leadership team is upperclassmen, we aimed to provide FLARE members with the space to explore their interests in this issue, allowing our team to leave their mark on the magazine. For our 8th edition, I hope to bring awareness to the larger impact fashion and trends have on society, and help display the importance of creativity in contemporary society. As someone passionate about self-expression and an aficionado of the history of fashion and trends, I am especially excited to share this edition with you.

As the FLARE team continues to grow and develop, I am excited to see FLARE encourage more voicing of opinions, displays of creativity, and collaboration. Over the past four years, FLARE has taught me so much about creativity, leadership, project management, teamwork, and respect for other cultures and perspectives. I hope that reading this issue inspires in you the creation of your own form of self-expression and understanding of the impact that fashion has had throughout history. Please enjoy the Spring/Summer 2023 Issue of FLARE. As this is my final issue as Editor-in-Chief, I thank you for the opportunity to share something the team and I have worked so hard on, and for supporting the efforts of the FLARE team. Happy reading!

*Sincerely,  
Izzy De Leon*



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# Fashion For War

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Flare Magazine

By Mirabelle Jiang

Spring/Summer

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Women outside a factory, Early 1900s

The first half of the 20th century was a time of great social and political change. The ripple effects from the two world wars completely upended everything from the economy to ordinary clothing. During this period, women's fashion in particular underwent a drastic change that not only altered how women dressed, but also their opinions on gender and equality in society.

In early 20th century, women's clothing emphasized cinched waists, glamorous hats, and ostentatious jewelry. Corsets, still widely popular, created the fashionable silhouette of an s-shape by pushing the bust forward and the hips back. Dresses were modest and would cover up the body from neck to toe with long, wrist-length sleeves. Lace was the popular choice for upper class ladies to adorn their dresses with, and those who could not afford it choice Irish Crochet instead. Maturity and sophistication was the overarching theme for the beginning of the 20th century.



Fig. 2: Coco Chanel during WWI



Fig. 1: 1890s day dress designed in Europe

The beginning of the 1910s saw loose chemise dresses rising to popularity, doing away with the need for rigid silhouettes and corsetted looks. After the world was thrust into the “war to end all wars”, fashion changed even more. During World War I, there was a shift in fashion towards practicality and simplicity. In the workspace, women replaced the men who had gone

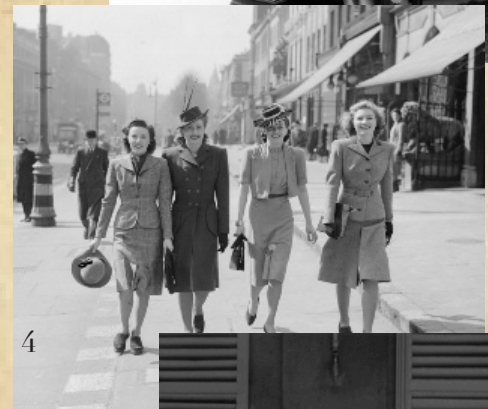


off to war and began to wear more practical clothing. Skirts and dresses became shorter, and corsets were abandoned entirely to allow for greater freedom of movement. Women of the era appreciated the liberation that the new trends brought, especially in comparison to the restricting garments of the Edwardian era. This new taste of freedom for them was enticing, and women were unwilling to let go of it again.

A barrel-like silhouette emerged after the war, resulting in the development of the flapper style of the next decade. This new style featured dropped waists, straight dresses, and low-cut necklines. The flapper style was both a fashion and political statement, as it challenged traditional gender roles that women could be just as bold and daring as men. This new fashion also allowed women to participate more freely in activities that were previously reserved for men, such as dancing and sports. The flapper look became the new symbol of the new, liberated woman, eager to assert her newfound independence.

Germany's invasion of Poland marked the beginning of World War II. Once again, men returned to the battlefield, women took over factory work, and the rationing of food and clothing began. Civilian clothes combined practicality and style, and women's clothing became more utilitarian and masculine. The need to conserve fabrics and clothing rationing led to the shortening of skirt lengths, pants, trousers, and overalls becoming more common, and women's suits rising in popularity. The general style resembled that of military uniforms. Blouses and jackets becoming increasingly masculine while shoulder pads and hats in the style of army berets became the accessories of choice.

Even after the war, these fundamental changes continued to leave a lasting impact on women's fashion. Designers such as Coco Chanel and Givenchy aimed towards simplicity, and simple, casual styles took over, resulting in the subsequent rise of denim as leisurewear in the U.S. Altogether, women's fashion of the early 20th century reflected the rapidly changing social and economic conditions of the time. Extravagance and restriction was abandoned for practicality and simplicity as women procured more freedom and independence in their journey towards equality.









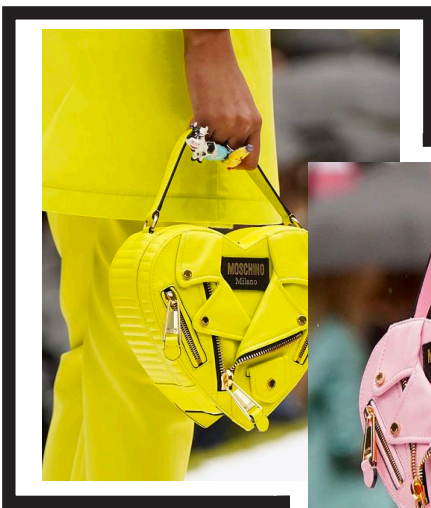


# HEART MOTIFS

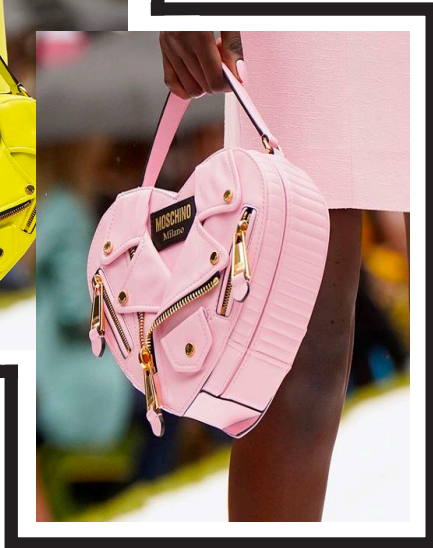


## Heart Motifs

In 2023, hearts and the color red have been reintroduced into fashion. This playful and romantic touch is sure to elevate any outfit. It wpieces varying from dresses, heels, sweaters, purses, jewelry, and vvstatements, heart motifs add sweetness and charm to summer and spring.



Moschino  
SS23



# SPRING SHEER FABRICS



## Sheer Fabrics

As warmer weather approaches, sheer fabrics are a perfect layering piece. Introduced recently on the runways, this trend has become increasingly popular. This lightweight and breathable material adds elegance and style to any outfit. From sheer tops to dresses, sheer fabrics allow for versatility in styling. Sheer fabrics can be dressed up and down depending on the colors, shoes, and accessories you choose. Adding sheer fabrics to your wardrobe will become a much-needed staple for many spring/summer outfits.





FLARE



FASHION.





# FASHION ACTIVISM

*The New York Times*

## POLITICAL MESSAGING AND VIVIENNE WESTWOOD'S ADVOCACY

Anne Chen



*Daily Mail*

Fashion has served as a medium for political expression and protest all throughout history. Most notably, fashion is a visual advocate for various significant causes to people of all ages and backgrounds. Individuals wholly embrace the meaning of what is worth fighting for by representing it through clothing, a phenomenon known as fashion activism.

Although seemingly unrelated, politics and fashion have historically shared a mutually influential power regarding political ideas, social dynamics, and global exchange. The 20th century saw suffragettes draped in purple, white, and green to support women's voting rights. Many African American activists in the Civil Rights Movement wore their "Sunday best," a style characterized by classy hemlines, button-ups, and suits, that challenged Black Americans' place in the social hierarchy. Other forms of fashion activism have a more direct approach to their political messaging, as demonstrated by Representative Alexandra Ocasio-Cortez's white gown scrawled with "Tax the Rich" in red letters at the 2021 Met Gala. Regardless of the message or the clothing itself, fashion amplifies the significance of a cause, whether it is human rights, gender identity, or environmentalism.

As leading catalysts for change in the industry, designers such as Vivienne Westwood dedicated their work to meaningful



causes. Beyond her punk spirit and eccentric designs during her prime years of the 1970s and 80s, Westwood spent her career speaking up about the adverse effects of climate change and overconsumption. As a supporter of various grassroots campaigns and NGOs, Westwood inaugurated the Climate Revolution at the London Paralympics closing ceremony and continues to rally charities, NGOs, and individuals to join forces and take action against disengaged political leaders and big businesses. One exhibition of her designs in favor of this movement includes portraits of individuals in environmentally friendly, unbleached cotton t-shirts imprinted with Westwood's "Save the Arctic" logo. In an effort to raise awareness about the harmful impacts of drilling and industrial fishing in the Arctic, all profits from this collection went to Greenpeace, a global environmental organization, to further Westwood's goal of raising awareness and instigating change. Additionally, Westwood champions sustainability within the fashion industry itself by promoting the use of renewable energy suppliers and imposing renewable energy tariffs on large manufacturing companies. Westwood's involvement with the Human Society International also advocates for fur-free fashion in Britain.

Prominent figures in the fashion industry such as Westwood have paved the way for more intentional designs and freedom of expression through clothing. Her passing in December of 2022 sent a wave of sorrow through the fashion industry, but her legacy inspires others to continue her activism. Fashion activism prevails today, as seen through innovative designers and their approaches

that are often inspired by Vivienne Westwood's work. For example, emerging designer Jeanne Friot centers her work around a genderless label that is politically engaged, and Dior's new luxury bag represents women's rights activist with writer Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie as its muse.

However, fashion activism isn't just restricted to high-end established brands. This unique kind of activism is a form of artistic expression that allows individuals to voice contemporary issues and challenge norms to promote change.



TODAY



Fashion Gone Rogue







# SUMMER TRENDS



BLACK

SPREAD BY CAROLINE LU



MICHAEL KORS, GETTY IMAGES

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# COMMUNITY: FASHION IN SAGE HILL

Fashion is not only about the clothes people wear, but also about the way in which people present themselves and what their clothes mean to them. One of the primary roles of fashion in a community is to create a sense of identity. Fashion



encourages creativity and self-expression that allows individuals to experiment with unique looks that reflect their personalities, empowering them to be more comfortable and confident in themselves. Additionally, fashion plays a role in uniting communities when people support each other's creative choices. Communities can unite under social or political causes in fashion to make a greater impact. Fashion also offers us a platform for social responsibility, such as volunteering at consignment stores and other non-profits to promote sustainability and give all communities and individuals equitable access to clothing.





For me, my clothes represent a reflection of my identity that is both deeply personal and expressive. The colors I choose to wear, whether they're brighter, darker, or neutral looks, vary each day depending on my emotions. I also wear thrifted pieces to show my passion for sustainability. I love having the creative freedom to choose what makes me feel the most comfortable and authentic to myself. Moreover, among the Sage Hill community, I love seeing how people choose to style different pieces, and I often take inspiration from their outfits. I think it's incredibly important to build others up and support creativity while learning from one another.

"Fashion provides an outlet for my many moods in addition to my sense of creativity. By wearing the clothes that I wear, I can express my personality and how I'm feeling on a given day" said Sage Hill junior Yasmin Dennis. Yasmin also said that her favorite item in her closet right now

is a pair of green cargos from her mom, as she is "glad to see that they are coming back in style and they fit [her] personal style." Junior Carisa Koh said, "Fashion is an outlet of self-expression and a mirror of society's latest trends. Furthermore, fashion is a non-verbal form of communication of displaying to the public who you are as an individual. It's the first thing someone sees of me when they meet me. Putting my outfit together every morning is important because it sets my mood for the rest of the day and helps me feel like myself."

Fashion has a unique impact on every community around the world. At Sage Hill, students use fashion as a form of self-expression as well as supporting causes they support, such as sustainability. Not only is clothing used to express one's personality, but also to inspire self-confidence.







# BOUDOIR DETAILS







# FAUX FUR

ALEX GOMEZ



As consumers seek to reduce their carbon footprints and protect animal welfare, materials such as faux fur and vegan leather are becoming increasingly popular. Both offer a cruelty-free, stylish, and durable alternative to traditional animal-derived materials.

Faux fur, also known as fake fur, is made from synthetic fibers that mimic the look and feel of animal fur. The concept of faux fur can be traced back to the 1920s when it was first used as a substitute for expensive animal furs. World War II's increased production of warm clothing for soldiers brought a fur shortage, pushing the fashion industry to depend on synthetic alternatives. However, it wasn't until the 1950s that faux fur became widely available and affordable. Today, many fashion brands and designers use faux fur in their collections, and it has become a popular choice among consumers who want to enjoy the luxurious feel of fur without contributing to company manufacturing that harms animals.

Substitutes for other materials that promote the harming of animals in their production have also risen in the past few decades. For example, vegan leather, also known as faux leather or synthetic leather, is a material made from synthetic or plant-based materials that mimic the texture and appearance of real leather. The history of vegan leather can be traced back to the 19th century when it was first developed as a substitute for real leather. However, it wasn't until the 1960s that more people were able to begin buying and wearing vegan leather. Vegan leather can be made from a

variety of materials, including polyurethane (PU), polyvinyl chloride (PVC), and microfibers, and some niche materials like cork, pineapple leaves, and even mushrooms.

Both faux fur and vegan leather have come a long way since their initial creation and popularization. They are now considered to be legitimate alternatives to traditional animal-derived materials. Faux fur and vegan leather do not require the same level of resources and energy as their animal-derived counterparts and contribute significantly less to the harm, pollution, and waste widely associated with the leather and fur industries.

In recent years, the popularity of faux fur and vegan leather has skyrocketed. Designers focused on sustainability have allowed these alternatives to rise in popularity and be viewed as high-end. Stella McCartney, a luxury designer and animal rights activist, has been a vocal advocate of using vegan leather in her collections. In 2019, she launched a collection of vegan Stan Smith sneakers in collaboration with Adidas, which sold out within hours of its release.

Although the majority of sustainable fashion advocates love these animal-friendly alternatives, nothing is perfect - these materials face their own sets of criticism. Some critics argue that these materials are still not as environmentally friendly as natural materials, as they are often made from synthetic fibers that can take a long time to degrade in landfills. Additionally, critics have raised concerns about the production process for these materials, which can involve the use of harsh chemicals and have a significant carbon footprint. Some vegan leather products are more harmful than others, though. Fabrics made of plastic can harm the environment after usage. These

plastic materials do not biodegrade for thousands of years, and, in the decomposition process, release greenhouse gasses to the atmosphere, contributing to global warming.

Despite these concerns, faux fur and vegan leather continue to gain popularity among consumers who are looking for more sustainable and animal-friendly alternatives to traditional materials. The increase in use of faux fur and vegan leather is not just a trend, but a shift in the fashion industry towards more sustainable and ethical practices. These materials offer a cruelty-free and eco-friendly alternative to traditional animal-derived materials, without compromising on style and durability.



*saint laurant faux coat*



# TREND: CROCHET

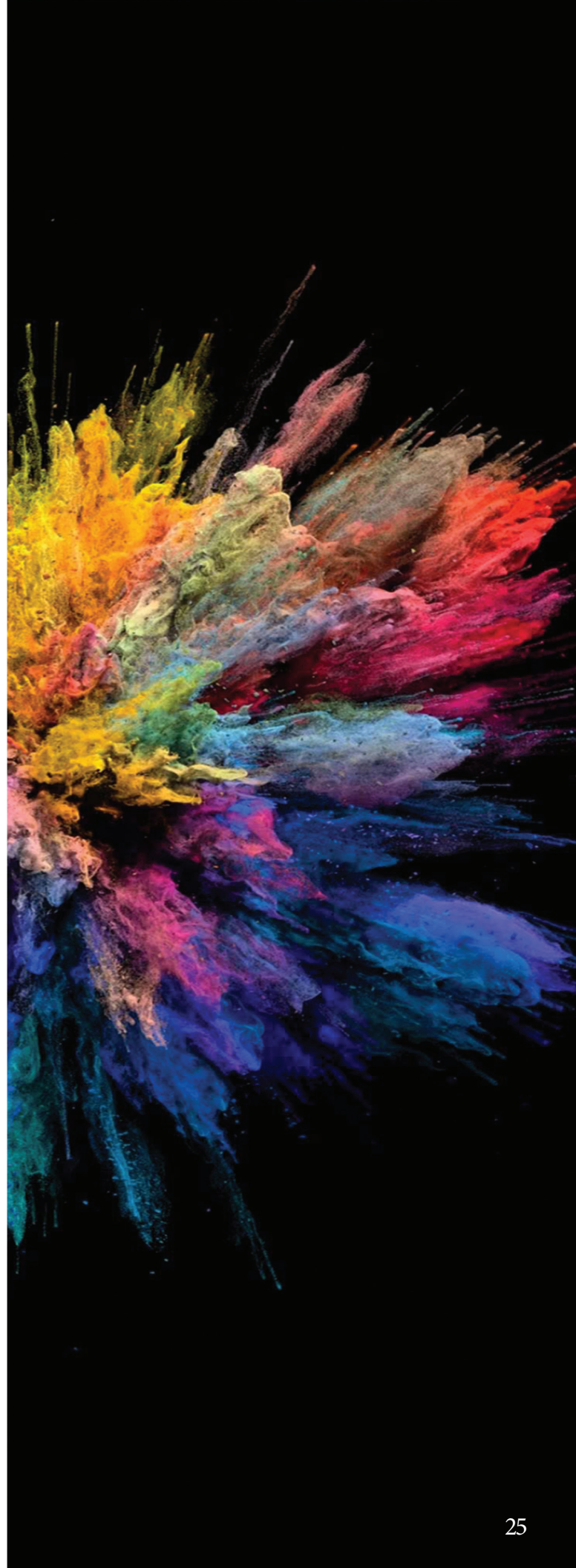




# THE POWER OF COLOR

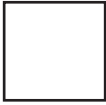
ELIZABETHCHEN

Colors are a vital part of human interaction with our environment, and can be seen everywhere in our daily lives. By helping us perceive our surroundings and communicate ideas that cannot be conveyed with words, colors can provoke emotion and incite vibrancy like no other. Drawing on this idea, the use of colors can be especially symbolic in the realm of activism and fashion.





In the early 21st century, the term color revolution came about in reference to the anti-regime uprisings in post-Soviet Union Eurasia. The origins of the color revolution are most commonly associated with political movements like Serbia's 'Bulldozer Revolution' in 2000, Georgia's 'Rose Revolution' in 2003, Ukraine's 'Orange Revolution' in 2004, and Kyrgyzstan's 'Tulip Revolution' in 2005. Today, activists have found power in associating color with social and cultural movements.



'Suffragette white' has long been an important color to the suffrage movement. But what is its significance? In

1908, Women's Sunday, a suffrage march held by the Women's Social and Political Union, encouraged over 300,000 protesters to wear white in unity with the women's cause of gaining the Constitutional right to vote in the United States. From then on, wearing and using the color white played a crucial role in spreading the union's message. Recently, Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, and many women in Congress, wore all white to the 2019 State of the



*The Conversation*

Union Address to highlight advocacy for women's rights and to pay homage to the 100 year anniversary of the 19th amendment that officially gave women the right to vote. Women today continue to wear the color white not only as a political tool to ensure that women's voices are heard, but also to stand in unity with the suffragists.



As a form of wordplay on the U.S. Department of Homeland Security alert codes, Code Pink: Women for Peace, is a feminist

anti-war group that protests U.S. militarism. The objective of Code Pink is to direct U.S. resources into welfare programs, such as healthcare and education, rather than funding the military, and, in Women for Peace's opinion, war. Code Pink representatives voice their opinions through theatrical protests, all the while wearing their signature color pink.



Green, the color of vitality and life, has been adopted by leaders of abortion-rights movements to represent their causes. All

throughout the Americas, the green bandana is ubiquitous among protesters supporting the abortion rights movement. In Latin America, activists of the Green Wave, or Green Tide, movement successfully achieved the 2020 legalization of abortion in Argentina, the decriminalization of abortion in Columbia in 2022, and, for cases of sexual assault, an exemption to the abortion ban in Ecuador.



The #MeToo, a movement against sexual assault and violence, empowered survivors to break their silence about their experiences,

helping to create a supportive community while bringing awareness to the prevalent issue of sexual assault. As a result, the Purple Campaign aims to bring greater awareness to and establish laws on sexual violence in the workplace. Members of The Purple Campaign can be seen wearing a wave of purple while advocating for



*Yonhap News*

lasting change in American workplaces.

Throughout the history of fashion, colors have been used to represent various movements. It is important to recognize the impact that the simple act of wearing a particular color can have on supporting a cause. While wearing colors in everyday wear is most often an aspect of self expression through fashion, they can also be used

love





# THE HISTORICAL SHIFT OF MALE FASHION TO ANDROGyny

CAROLINE LU



In the early years of men's fashion, functionality and convenience were at the forefront of all fashion choices. With little cloth to spare, fashion and expression was limited by financial and technological options. However, with the popularization of tailoring and sewing in the 1300s, and the technological advancements of the world post-Industrial Revolution, men's fashion slowly evolved from mere survival necessities into a form of self-expression.

In the 1400s, African men used clothing made from the skin of native animals of the region, wearing long cloaks that were perhaps a stylistic choice considering the hot climate in which they lived. Even in the earliest civilizations, the largest of the animal hides were worn by male leaders, possibly indicating differentiations in style and hierarchy in their respective societies. The kings and wealthy men of Mali wore clothing adorned with gold as a way to symbolize wealth as they traveled across North Africa and the Middle East. In Europe, the masculine, knightly figure reigned supreme among male "fashion" and public opinion at the time. The trend of wearing visibly expensive clothing to differentiate class continued until the 19th century.

Western fashion was originally dictated by the French, with trends shifting away from aristocratic high-maintenance styles after the 1789 French Revolution's rejection of drastic class disparities. Men began to prefer the body conforming look of vests and tailored coats over the larger and more extravagant bodice pieces of the past.



JOURNAL DES DAMES ET DES MODES, 1831

British men expressed themselves through the Dandyism movement, characterized by extreme personal cleanliness and a feminine, composed style. This was an act of rebellion against the social inequalities of the time, challenging the stereotype of men of middle or lower classes not being able to appear elegant. In China, the Changshan, which utilized long flowy fabrics similar to dresses, became popular for its functionality during horseback riding. In this time period, Asia was yet to adhere to European standards of masculinity due to limited contact across continents. However, traditional Indian and East Asian clothing influenced what is considered modernly feminine - clothes with long, thin fabrics suited to the hot climate.

Fast forwarding to the 20th century when the Great Depression shook the majority of the United States middle class into poverty, affordable alterations to existing clothing became the preferred methods of enhancing style. As fashion is often dictated by the economy, during harsher economic times, many men have little choice but to dress more plainly and forgo expressing themselves with fancier or more extravagant garments. Around the time of the Great Depression, many men were afraid of seeming unfashionable, or worse, unable to keep up with the latest trends due to lower socioeconomic status. Nodding to this mood, this era was defined by basics and subtle changes to one's style. Along with economic peril, men worldwide left to fight in World War II. During the late 20th century, hyper-masculine and strong styles were highly favored amongst countries recovering from the war. As the world started to recover, fashion houses began to open up once again, and men's fashion was on the rise as one of the most profitable industries yet. With the later rise in popularity of LGBTQ+ male pop icons like David Bowie and Freddie Mercury in the late 1900s, femininity and self-expression was becoming more accepted globally, regardless of gender or sexual orientation.

Male designer Rick Owens gained popularity for his showcases centered around political issues. Gaining notoriety after model Kate Moss wore one of his signature leather jackets in the 1990s, Owens has risen up as a controversial figure in fashion. In the past, Owens' unconventional fashion shows have included models of all sizes, dance troupes, and even nudity. These eye-catching details only served to skyrocket his spectacular designs to popularity. Owens promoted inclusivity as he cast trans and sex-worker models in his MONSTERS Spring/Summer 1998 collection. Especially considering the stigma against the LGBTQ+ community in the 80's after the AIDS epidemic, Owens's choice was a controversial one that sparked conversation. By introducing the Avant-Garde fashion to mainstream fashion, Rick Owens made waves in the fashion community.



ALTON MASON FOR WWD SPRING '19

Modern male fashion trends draw inspiration from hip hop culture in the 2000's with Y2K style. Hip-hop style is integrated into current fashion in the form of sneaker culture, streetwear, skater fashion, and more. However, as male femininity expressed through fashion becomes more widely accepted, more androgynous styling can be expected in high fashion scenes. Men are also more comfortable accessorizing in the 21st century with traditionally feminine garments like rings and necklaces becoming commonplace. With the trends of baggy clothing and androgynous hairstyles rising, male fashion is already well on its way to becoming a more inclusive and free-form space.



RICK OWENS  
SHOT BY DANIELLE LEVITT



**2023**



***FASHION***





# CLOTHES AND THE COMMUNITY

## WORKING WARDROBES AS A SUSTAINABILITY POWERHOUSE

By Alex Gomez

There is no bigger buzz word in fashion right now than sustainability. Brands are rolling out low environmental impact fabrics, collecting used clothing for fabric recycling, and including green-related themes in marketing campaigns. However, the brand that walks the walk more than anyone else on sustainability is not a fashion house at all, but rather an Orange County non-profit that has been operating a sustainability-focused organization for more than thirty years. Working Wardrobes's mission is to help men, women, young adults, and Veterans overcome the challenges of writing a resume, preparing for interviews, and affording work-appropriate clothing so they can achi Pendleton. Working Wardrobes also works with vendors who generously donate new clothes for use with Working Wardrobes' clients or for sale in their retail stores. eve the dignity of work, and The Power of a Paycheck™. An important part of Working Wardrobes's mission is providing their clients with skills workshops for resume writing and interviewing, as well as other job readiness training. They also provide head-to-toe outfits for interviewing and the first days on the job – this is where the sustainability angle comes in.

Working Wardrobes, which primarily operates out of a warehouse in Irvine and retail stores in Costa Mesa, Garden Grove, Laguna Niguel, and Tustin, has an



incredibly positive impact on the Orange County community as a recycled clothing powerhouse.

The warehouse collects new and used clothes, shoes, and accessories, bringing in more than 10,000 items per month. Working Wardrobes's Operations Manager, Johanna Hulme, presented to the FLARE magazine and Blue Bin Group teams at Sage Hill School this spring. Hulme explained how her Donation Center team separates goods that they collect into three categories:

First, they take the "high-end" or name brand goods and send them to one of their fancier retail stores in Laguna Niguel or Tustin. Items in good condition that are not work appropriate are sold at the "outlets" in Costa Mesa and Garden Grove. Proceeds from these four thrift stores fund operations for the non-profit. 80 cents of every dollar in proceeds are returned to Working Wardrobes.

Second, items appropriate for Working Wardrobes's clients to wear for interviews or work are categorized, hung, steamed, and prepared for use in one of their big events, such as the annual

Pendleton. Working Wardrobes also works with vendors who generously donate new clothes for use with Working Wardrobes' clients or for sale in their retail stores.

Third, items that cannot be used in interview-related programming or sold are donated to groups that offer second-hand clothing to those in need or clothing recycling organizations.



This photo from Ms. Hulme's LinkedIn represents the transition from a military service uniform to a workforce-ready outfit from one of Working Wardrobes's annual job fair events in Camp Pendleton.

Sage Hill School has close ties to Ms. Hulme's team in the warehouse, as well as the retail outlet in Costa Mesa:

- Members of FLARE magazine worked shifts at the Costa Mesa outlet store in the fall to learn more about the connection between clothes and service to the community.
- Sage Hill 9th graders sort, steam, and organize clothes in the warehouse as part of their six-part Service Learning rotation.
- Ms. Hulme's team has presented to the Sage Hill Parent Association, and teams of parent volunteers have worked in the warehouse.
- A member of the Parent Association conducted a "drive" among Sage Hill parents for lightly used shoes, handbags, and jewelry, items that Ms. Hulme and her team are always searching for to be the icing on the cake of the outfits that they provide to their clients.

- 28 Sage Hill students and members of FLARE and Blue Bin Group attended a speech by Ms. Hulme at Sage in April that focused on the life cycle of clothing and the environmental degradation caused by fast fashion (and even the seemingly simple – but not! – creation of a pair of jeans or cotton t-shirt).

A graduate of the Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising (FIDM), Ms. Hulme challenged students to consider the impact that they can have on the environment through their clothing choices. Hulme highlights issues related to buying from fast fashion brands, many of which are popular with students because of their social media-driven marketing campaigns. She shared images showing the incredible amount of water that goes into manufacturing a pair of jeans. When accounting for the growing of cotton, the dye process, and the "wash" of a new pair of jeans, almost 10,000 gallons of water may be used. Furthermore, according to EcoWatch, 70% of Asia's rivers and lakes are contaminated by the 2.5 billion gallons of water used by the textile industry. A single pair of jeans can use a thousand gallons of water during production, not to even mention the devastation caused by the dyeing process and contaminated wastewater. To present at Sage Hill, Ms. Hulme wore a pair of "low water" impact jeans from Levi's Waterless clothing line. According to Levi's, their Waterless products are made with up to 96% less water than typical clothing.



Ms. Hulme working in the Working Wardrobes warehouse.



## WHAT CAN WE, AT SAGE HILL SCHOOL, DO TO SUPPORT WORKING WARDROBES AND IMPROVE OUR COMMUNITY RELATED TO CLOTHING?

- Encourage your family to donate high-end, business-appropriate, business casual, and other clothing items to the Working Wardrobes Donation Center in Irvine (17392 Daimler St, Irvine, CA 92614), Tuesday to Saturday from 9-3:00. Items are requested to be clean and on hangers. The team especially appreciates business-appropriate shoes, handbags, and jewelry.
- Shop at one of the Working Wardrobes retail outlets. Locations are listed at [WorkingWardrobes.org](http://WorkingWardrobes.org).
- Volunteer in the warehouse processing clothing, helping with administrative tasks in the office, or serving clients at one of the retail stores.
- Put your skills to work in one of the job readiness workshops.
- Donate!



## HOW CAN WE BE PART OF THE SOLUTION IN TERMS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF CLOTHING?

- Buy less. Resist the constant stream of advertisements enticing you to buy items that are inexpensive to purchase, but expensive in terms of their environmental impact.
- Buy second hand. Many of us love the thrill of finding a diamond in the rough at Goodwill and other thrift stores. Value the creativity it takes for you and your friends to come up with a vintage look.
- Swap jeans, t-shirts, sweatshirts, and dresses with your friends.
- Shop your closet rather than always looking to buy something new.

As conscientious shoppers, each of us can positively impact our communities and the environment by making smart choices when it comes to buying, wearing, sharing, and recycling our clothes.



*The Ecologist*

## OTHER WAYS TO POSITIVELY IMPACT OUR COMMUNITY THROUGH CLOTHES:

### Mission-Driven Thrift Stores

Similar to Working Wardrobes, many organizations in our community operate thrift stores who use their proceeds to fund causes that improve people's lives. Shopping at these thrift stores both keeps consumers away from fast fashion stores and contributes to great causes. Two local stores to consider:

#### The Collection by Casa Teresa

234 North Glassell Street, Orange CA 92866

Hours: Wednesday – Saturday 11am-5pm (but opens at 9am on Fridays)

Located in Orange, this lovely boutique offers unique lightly used men and women's clothing, shoes, purses, and jewelry, all displayed in a lovely cottage-type location. Proceeds from the store fund programs for pregnant women in crisis.

#### TickTocker Thrift Shop

540 West 19th Street, Costa Mesa 92627

Hours: Wednesday – Sunday 10am – 2pm

In operation since 1959 (and in its current location since 1971), the Ticktocker Thrift Shop is run by the National Charity League (NCL) and benefits the groups with whom NCL works including Human Options, Children's Hospital of Orange County, and Orangewood Foundation. Shoppers report being pleasantly surprised by the merchandise offered in this gem of a shop.

#### Cinderella's Closet

Cinderella's Closet works "turning dresses into dreams" by providing dresses, shoes, undergarments, jewelry, and evening bags to juniors and seniors referred by school counselors, social workers, or community outreach coordinators. They make going to prom possible for girls who otherwise could not attend. FLARE thanks members of our community who donated dresses for Cinderella's Closet already and encourage others to donate their dance and prom dresses. See [CinderellasClosetOC.com](http://CinderellasClosetOC.com) for details.



# FLARE

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# THANK YOU

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*The Flare team would like to thank everyone who helped us make this issue possible. We are so grateful for our leadership team and Flare members for their continued effort and active participation throughout the creative process and in producing this magazine. We would also like to thank Ms. Lerch, our wonderful advisor, for her support and encouragement, and for guiding us towards creating the best magazine possible. We would like to give a special thanks to Jennifer Huang for her immeasurable work in organizing the designs for the amazing layouts and beautiful visuals that can be seen throughout the magazine.*

*The Flare team hopes you enjoyed our special edition, FLARE: Fashion for Change, and learned something new and exciting about the history of fashion and trends, and activism in fashion. Spring and summer trends for 2023 are also scattered throughout to add a more modern and applicable aspect that we can all look to incorporate into our closets. The importance of colors and fashion has and will always be relevant in various social contexts. The way we choose to dress and to share our stories will continue to shape the fashion industry and empower others.*

*To read more content from Flare, please visit our website [flaresagehill.com](http://flaresagehill.com), or check out our previous editions from 2018-2023. For updates on upcoming events or magazines, visit our instagram account [@flaremag.sagehill](https://www.instagram.com/flaremag.sagehill). To become a part of the Flare team, DM us on instagram, or email [23deleoni@sagehillschool.org](mailto:23deleoni@sagehillschool.org) or [24gomez@sagehillschool.org](mailto:24gomez@sagehillschool.org).*

*Thank you so much for reading!*





