

# How Marist Fashion Students are [RE]acting to Create Change

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As we are handling the world now, post pandemic and with all of the chaos that this world presents, it is up to future innovators to figure out an answer on how to better the world. The Marist Fashion Program, ranked by Forbes, one of the "Best Colleges That Are Shaping The Future Of Fashion", rosters several channels of involvement for students with ambitions to prosper and innovate in the fashion industry through several unique courses, Fashion Show Production, Magazine Production, and Mporium. The Silver Needle Runway (SNR) Fashion Show highlights the highest degree of talent at one of the most prestigious fashion programs in the country. The overall theme of Silver Needle Runway for the annual show focuses on an overall aesthetic and inspirational message that applies to the Marist Fashion Community and the students within it, and the world beyond.

The Silver Needle Runway Fashion Show is produced by 41 talented students in the Fashion Show Production course. This class is separated into five teams; Production, Logistics, Communications, Creative, and Branding, with respective duties for the show for each student in producing the second largest event for Marist College at the end of the year. This highly coveted class is selective of the students, as they are handpicked for their talents and what they bring to the real world experience of producing a fashion show.

Silver Needle Runway showcases talent outside of Marist Fashion creative talent and senior design students, presenting the hard work of our future innovators and creators in the fashion industry. It is a collaboration of work and leadership, and a unique experience for students within the Marist Fashion Program to utilize their skills and have their work published and showcased, spreading the overall aesthetic and message of the theme every year. Last year, the SNR theme highlighted new beginnings coming out of the pandemic, and the ability to dream again with *SNR 36: Dream*. This year, the theme: *[RE]ACTION* represents that it is time to act now, and enforce change. It is time to be bold, and rethink everything you thought you knew. It is time to be the answer to change.

Mporium is Marist's own student-run enterprise, where students from all majors take a

semester-based class in order to learn how to effectively run a business. Students hone responsibilities include buying, visual merchandising, human resources, store operations, social media, photography, and more. Mporium sells home décor, accessories, outerwear, beauty & skincare items, and offers consignment where students can sell handmade items. It is a space where students have real retail experience in operations, retail buying, ecommerce, and more.

The Magazine Production class creates Measure Magazine, a student-produced publication that gives students a chance to voice their creative work about fashion and culture, and display how the two interact within the Marist College community, and in the outside world. The student contributors and content is diverse in creation and topics. Published annually, the pages of Measure Magazine highlight the values of inclusivity, creative freedom, environmental sustainability, and innovation. Employing an interdisciplinary approach that engages students in various areas of study, Measure Magazine's goal is to spotlight talent, spark conversation, celebrate innovation and give a voice to those who inspire.

[RE]ACTION is more than a grungy aesthetic for the production of the SNR 37th Fashion Show, but a message that is implemented daily by the students and community of the Marist Fashion program. Marist Fashion students are enforcing their [RE]ACTION with various experiences and tools within the program, in hopes for a more innovative and improved future for the fashion industry. Fashion Show Production, Magazine Production, and Mporium, are a few of the many resources and opportunities that the Marist Fashion students facilitate in order to mark their [RE]ACTION in the fashion industry, and even broader into the outside world.