Want to update your wardrobe, but feeling too strapped for cash? Upcycling is the way to go! Utilizing items that we already had in our dorm rooms, we brainstormed ideas of how to upcycle them into something new. With a few good deals and coupons, we created three new items, just under $20.

We focused our attention on three trending fabrics: denim, lace and velvet, and added a touch of flare in an inexpensive way. First, we decided to upcycle a denim jacket by adding some color with paint! After purchasing the stencils, fabric paint, and a sponge brush, we used the stencils to paint pattern onto the sleeves and front of the denim jacket.

To upcycle with lace, we used a plain pocket tee, a strip of lace and fabric tape. In order to avoid sewing, we put fabric tape on the lace and taped it to the front of the shirt. Finally, to incorporate the velvet trend, we used a pendant and velvet ribbon. With both of these previously purchased items, we threaded the pendant onto the velvet ribbon and tied it in the back to make a choker.

We purchased ribbon clamps and other decals to create more velvet chokers, with the leftover ribbon.
Many students study abroad during their college experience, but for others, coming to Albright is studying abroad. Albright is host to approximately two percent international students who come to campus with many cultural differences, particularly in fashion. I spoke with three Albright international students to discover what style differences they have noticed during their time in America.

Hailey Jeong ’17, fashion merchandising/design, Korea

For Hailey Jeong, the most evident difference she has noticed is how free Americans are with their style. Jeong describes Korean style as more conservative. Many Koreans, she says, are more modest with their style and tend to cover more of their body. “When I wear a sleeveless top or bustier by itself in Korea, people think I am weird or ‘out there,’” but here in America, it is how everyone dresses. It’s trendy.”

In Korea, oversized or boyfriend-style clothing is in right now, says Hailey. A popular staple in every Korean woman’s closet this season is an oversized button down shirt with a pin-stripe pattern (usually in a white and baby-blue color), with the sleeves rolled up. Other trendy pieces include wide-legged or boyfriend-style trousers.

Describing her personal style as diverse, Jeong says she tends to match the situation she is going into, but also dresses weather-appropriate. And, she loves to wear simple, modern pieces and accessorize with earrings and lipstick according to the season.

Stephanie Bach ’20, international business, Norway

Stephanie Bach hints that 90’s fashions have recycled themselves in Norway. “Street style is having a big moment in Norway, and baseball caps, chunky sneakers and oversized knits are really popular,” Bach says. She also adds that during the colder months, blanket scarves, turtlenecks and mock-neck tops are staples in everyone’s closets.

Bach explains that Norwegian girls dress more masculine and monochromatic than the average American girl. Unlike the flexibility in American fashion, in Norway, skirts and dresses tend to be exclusively worn in the summer. Many American girls, she notices, wear these pieces year-round by adding a pair of tights or a cardigan. In Norway, during the colder seasons, people are mostly seen in a pair of skinny jeans and dark hooded sweaters or tops.

On her personal style, Bach describes herself as very girly. “I love wearing skirts and dresses, flowy rompers and floral prints,” she says. To keep her look interesting, she tries to incorporate fun patterns into her look, or break up a plain outfit with bright and fun makeup.

Océane Lombardo ’18, economics, France

France is still rocking the trends of high-waisted or “retro” pants and crop tops, according to French international student Océane Lombardo. Floral patterns can be found on most French women, along with pilot shaped or rounded sunglasses. A current trend sweeping France is the mixing of styles, such as cute, casual clothing with a pair of sporty sneakers.

Lombardo says she has noticed, since coming to America, that the French seem to care more about their image when they get dressed to go out in public. She describes American fashion as more open-minded or forgiving. “You would never see someone with socks and flip flops on the streets of France,” she says, “and if someone did wear that, others would judge him or her more than in America.”

While Lombardo describes her style as casual, she says she always tries to match her outfit with her shoes or purse. Studying abroad is a great way for individuals to learn about the new country they are in, but it’s also an opportunity to learn from the students who come to Albright from faraway places. It’s enriching to learn about how other people live, especially the different trends from around the world.
The smartwatch, a technology integrated watch, had innovators reeling for years, and now it’s a reality. So now what? Where else in the fashion world may we soon find technology? Every day new innovations are being made to advance textiles, from controlling temperature and improved durability to monitoring health and purifying water.

Schoeller Textil AG is a textile manufacturer with headquarters in Switzerland that works with performance clothing innovators including The North Face, Columbia and Under Armour. One of their most innovative textiles is titled project C_Change, which is a waterproof and windproof temperature regulating jacket. It contains a membrane designed to mimic the way a pine cone regulates its temperature. As a person gets warmer, the fabric becomes more breathable, and as one gets colder, it becomes more insulated.

The largest innovator in textiles is an initiative by University of Borås called Smart Textiles. Smart Textiles have developed a cheap and effective way to purify water. This is done by using textiles coated in titanium oxide that reacts with the sun, effectively killing microorganisms and using fabric covered in a certain fungus that binds to heavy metals leaving it safe to drink. The company has even incorporated heart and breathing sensors into clothing to alert an electronic device should a health problem arise. “We can expect to see more integration of these innovative textiles in the future,” says Professor Mikael Skrifvars, lead polymer technology researcher at University of Borås. According to the Italian Fashion company, CuteCircuit, other innovations in textiles that are currently in the works include using conductive threads that light up and change color or pattern along with a person’s mood. These can be found in more ready-to-wear lines than couture.

Advancements in technology have even changed the way we think about developing textiles, says Access Seasons. American research company Bolt Threads is currently using spider’s silk to create a more durable material that is stronger than steel. The fiber, says researcher Nils-Krister Persson, is even being tested to replace muscle tissue.

What’s next? The possibilities of what fabrics can now do are limitless.
Where did you study?
In Australia, a student does not have schools such as Albright that are liberal arts and still have a design program. I had to study fashion design at a trade school. I earned my bachelor of arts degree in design from Curtin University of Technology in Australia. From there, I entered the fashion industry and began working as a tailor in 1995. I later obtained my doctorate from Edith Cowan University.

What inspired you to enter fashion?
I just really enjoyed design. It has always been something that I’ve seen as interesting.

Where have you worked?
I have a background in industrial design. I’ve worked everywhere. While in school and for some time after, I worked as a sample machinist for sheepskin, car accessories and bridal wear such as veils. I also worked in shoe design. I’ve worked on projects larger than myself. I’ve been a fashion designer as well as a fashion illustrator and embroiderer for a bridal magazine.

What end of the fashion industry do you prefer?
I prefer bridal wear and lingerie because I enjoy nice, delicate and beautiful things. I also enjoy studying fashion history and doing costume history research projects.

What excites you most about the fashion industry?
It is very universal! The fashion industry is also more fun and more affordable. I like that there is no longer a class or gender barrier. I also like that there are more textiles besides wool and more advanced technology.

What are the benefits to having an international background?
Universal discipline helps me to be more widespread. With this background, designers can influence one another. It’s nice to see the difference in styles and changes between Europe, America and other countries as well.

What are some lessons you have learned?
It is a survival of the fittest. You have to learn or you are never going to make it. You must learn to the best of your ability. It is a cut throat industry; therefore, the more you know the better. As a professor I intend to prepare my students so they can be successful in such an industry.

What courses do you teach at Albright?
Fashion Fundamentals, Textile Fundamentals and Fashion History I

What do you hope to bring to the fashion department?
I am hoping to improve student’s fashion illustration skills and knowledge of textiles. !

Dr. Eluwawalage’s work can be viewed at www.exploro-historia.com and damayanthe.deviantart.com/gallery/
Communications major Travis Hoshauer ’18, who can usually be found on campus wearing a collared shirt and bow tie, was inspired by casual Friday’s to wear a shirt and jeans from Old Navy, complemented by a gray scale denim jacket from Target. In the fall, Hoshauer enjoys “pairing shirts with cardigans and jeans.”

Wearing a sophisticated, chic Nordstrom dress and heels from Plato’s Closet, music industry studies major Bre Cura ’19 explains that her “favorite store is any sales rack.” Cura, who always likes to dress up, describes her style as “put together in a relaxed, yet articulate way.”

CampuStyle
What does your style say about you?

Describing his style as “modern with a twist of throwback,” Luis Quinones ’18, a business marketing and digital media major, flaunts his Goodwill finds, including a black dress shoe and a tartan plaid blazer. Goodwill is his favorite store because it is “the only place where clothes are still in style.”

Inspired by fall, communications major Emily Weaver ’18 embellishes her Forever 21 dress with a matching seasonal sweater from Primark. Primark is Weaver’s favorite store because “the clothes are always in style while being affordable.”

English major Gregory-William Ezekiel Stanislaus Lytle ’17 is dressed to impress in a Calvin Klein suit and bow tie, complemented by Giorgio Brutini dress shoes. Appropriate for a guy who “doesn’t own a single pair of sweats,” he describes his go-to outfit as “something semi-professional.”

Makeup is as much a part of fashion as the shirt and pants that one puts on. And, just like clothing, trends in makeup styles and application come and go.

As a beauty adviser for Kohl’s department store in Spring Township, Pa., for the last two years, I’ve learned some tricks of the trade first-hand at the annual Kohl’s Beauty Expo, recently held at the Gaylord Texan Resort in Dallas, Texas. Vendors such as LORAC, PUR Minerals, H20+, the Balm, Blue, Zaful, Cargo, Paul Mitchell and many more educated 1,200 beauty advisers like me on selling tips and application tricks. At the event, Christie Brinkley shared the story behind her Authentic Skincare line, and Mario Dedivanovic, Kim Kardashian’s makeup artist, presented a master class on makeup techniques.

I left the expo with valuable tips to share with both current and future clients, and you, our Fashion Lion readers!

This season is all about playing with dark colors. For a full glam look, perfect for a night out, try the following: Apply a dark cherry, vampy, black or plum lipstick with a simple gloss over top. When contouring with powder for a more defined look, use an angled or flat top brush and brush in upward strokes to create a natural shadow. Additionally, applying water to your favorite shimmer eyeshadow creates a foiled and metallic look that shines for hours.

Makeup Tips and Tricks from KOHL’S BEAUTY EXPO
by Devan Galan ’18

CampuStyle
What does your style say about you?

by Angela Cramer ’17

Photos by Angela Cramer ’17
As the clock struck 8 p.m. on Sept. 8, the runway on the dimly lit stage at Skylight at Moynihan Station, transformed before my eyes. Two large panels split the center of the backdrop, exposing six elegantly poised figures highlighted in red lights. As the music began to play, the stage lights turned on and the first model strolled down the runway.

The Art Institute had been showing at New York Fashion Week for years, and thanks to alumnus R. Scott French ’87, producer of the Art Institute Annual Fashion Show, Albright students such as myself have had the opportunity to attend.

French worked closely with the designers, providing them with guidance on how to showcase their vision. I have been fortunate to attend the show three times and with each adventure, I have been exposed to innovative designs.

One by one, nine of the best design students matriculated at Art Institute schools from around the country, showcased their long awaited collections. Each designer constructed different types of garments, providing a variation in fabrics, textiles, styles and silhouettes. While all the garments were uniquely constructed, there were some that stood out.

Neoprene made a comeback in designer Devon Pezzano’s collection. Her black, white and red pieces came off as comfortable yet elegant. The garments were appropriate for a work environment or a night on the town. Her most memorable design was a red overall jumpsuit with studded capped sleeves, producing an edgy look.

Designer Mimmy Begazo worked her magic with metallic foil print cowhide. The material actually possessed anti-radiation properties, allowing the garments the ability to block radiation given off by electronic devices. It sounds a little daring, but the results were stunning. These avant-garde looks transformed the models into walking gallery pieces. One model was surrounded in the metallic material, as if wrapped up like a Christmas present. It was done such that Begazo wanted everyone’s attention and she sure knew how to command the room.

The first word that comes to mind to describe Esther Ashiru’s collection is stunning. The collection was light with the use of satin and organza, as well as flashy with appliqués and embellishments galore. The well-constructed garments looked fierce as the models walked down the runway.

White, lace and sheer—Maria D’Ocon closed the show with bridal gowns. There were the usual long gowns, but she also provided options for more adventurous brides. One garment featured sheer sequined pants with a cropped jacket, while another model wore a champagne lace dress and off-white coat. Who could forget the thigh-length dress with the chiffon cape blowing in the wind? These pieces flowed so nicely down the cat walk.

While all of these designers produced different garments, they all shared one thing in common—they were not afraid to take risks with their work. They pushed themselves beyond their known abilities; truly an inspiration for anyone interested in pursuing a career in garment construction.

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Located in what was once the College’s copy room in the vibrant, mosaic-tiled tunnel underneath the Center for the Arts, Albright’s new fashion design lab offers a much larger work space with multiple sewing machines.

The original sewing lab, which was located in Alumni Hall, was a small room on the first floor. In 2008, the lab was moved to the basement of the Center for the Arts and was shared with the theatre department. Although both locations served a purpose, students found it challenging to fulfill many of their larger fashion design tasks in these spaces.

Olivia Connor ’18 is in an “Advanced Construction” class that meets in the new lab every Monday morning. “The new design lab is awesome!” Connor says. “Even though I have to wake up every Monday at 8 a.m. for class there, I enjoy it. It’s an intimate space that’s perfect for our smaller-sized sewing classes.”

Sara Nelson ’08, lab instructor for “Fashion Fundamentals,” says the new lab is “a great, creative and effective space for fashion students.”

William Hill ’19 agrees. “It’s not just the physical location, but it’s the ambiance and the feeling one gets from working within the studio,” Hill says. “It’s more than just a new lab, it’s an exciting future for current and new fashion students.”

“F”

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A common theme in the 1990s was to take style trends from different decades to create a daring new look. For instance, black leather jackets, originally worn by greasers in the 1960s, were adapted into style tribes such as goths and punks in the 1990s. Similarly, chains, chokers and studs of the 70s were carried into the 90s punk subculture. In the 1980s, distressed or ripped denim started to first become popular. This was later used in the grunge look of the 90s.

The 90s were known for recycling earlier trends. Now, it seems the tables have turned. Today's generation is now looking to the 90s for fashion inspiration.

Grunge in the 90s was influenced by Kurt Cobain, lead singer of Nirvana. Years later, the once messy, carefree look has made its way into modern trends. Grunge of the 90s included graphic shirts, worn-out jeans, plaid shirts, over-sized sweaters, distressed clothing, combat boots and chokers, all of which are still being used.

As the trend has evolved, skinny jeans, leggings and other tight-fitting clothing have been added to the mix to create countless numbers of outfits. If you want just a hint of grunge, a flannel shirt tied around the waist is the perfect touch.