

Press Release



For Immediate Release

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Erie 1 BOCES FUSION Fashion Show to showcase clothing made by Akron student

West Seneca (March 20, 2023) – The works of students in the Erie 1 BOCES Fashion Design Technology program will hit the runway during the 2023 FUSION Fashion Show: Lust for Life.



Among the student designers is Caydence Sundown of the Akron Central School District, who will showcase her personally designed and crafted collections during the show. Caydence, whose collection is inspired by a story of angels, said she has always been interested in fashion and sewing, and jumped at the opportunity to learn more.

“The wide spread of fashions is what inspires me the most,” Caydence said. “Everything is fashion in a way and anything can be fashion.”

The FUSION Fashion Show, which has been running since 2009, will take place on Thursday, March 30 and will showcase the work of 14 high school fashion students from across Western New York. The theme for this year’s show, Lust For Life, was developed by students, who said they wanted to live life passionately after facing disruptions to their academic and personal lives.

After high school, Caydence said she wants to study fashion design at Genesee Community College. She said that as a result of being in the Erie 1 BOCES program, “I’ve learned more about myself and who I really am.”

The annual show has become a fixture for multiple Erie 1 BOCES programs, who support each other to ensure the success of the show. That includes Barbering and Cosmetology program students who prepare participating models, along with Criminal Justice students that assist with security for the evening. The Digital Media program has created posters and tickets for the show and will record the live show, the Collision Repair program will paint the event’s backdrop and the Building Trades program will build the show’s runway and stage.

The two-year Fashion Design Technology program at Erie 1 BOCES’ Harkness Career & Technical Center teaches students how to dress, style and create trends based on design elements and the fashion

cycle. Students in the program also develop business plans as a part of their studies, setting them up for future success.

This year's show will take place on March 30 at Sto Lat Event Center, located in the Eastern Hills Mall, 4545 Transit Rd, Williamsville, N.Y. Doors will open at 6 p.m., and the show will begin at 7 p.m. For more information about the show, including a livestream of the evening, visit <https://www.e1b.org/en/k-12-education-programs/fusion-2023.aspx>.

About Erie 1 BOCES

As part of public education, Erie 1 BOCES offers a variety of career and technical programs during the regular school day to high school students in Erie County. High school students interested in learning more about how they can participate in various programs such as fashion design, web and gaming technologies, health careers or aviation technology, should visit www.e1b.org/cte or speak with their high school counselor.

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