

18-year-old fashion designer and artist [Alanna Jewel Jaron](#) says she decided to submit designs in this year's "Scene to be Seen" because there aren't many opportunities to show off her thrifty and upcycled creations. She describes her runway looks and inspiration:

"All of them are sustainably made using denim and t-shirts and some other things," said Jaron.



Tara Calligan /

18-year-old fashion designer and artist Alanna Jewel Jaron [third from left] says she decided to submit designs in this year's "Scene to be Seen" because there aren't many opportunities to show off her thrifty and upcycled creations. She poses with her models, that she refers to as "muses." "All of my models are people that I know. My friends, muses, if you will. I styled them and created these pieces kind of to go with their personalities, what they like to wear on a daily basis," said Jaron.

"But I'm very inspired by punk fashion. But I really like, you know, the contrast between girly and feminine to grunge styles. You can see there's some short skirts, but some dramatic shoulders. So, kind of both going on. I have a lot of fun prints that really don't make sense, like cats on fidget spinners and whatnot. But, you know, chains and black, and just rocker, you know, empowerment. I really like all of that stuff."

Jaron says all of her materials are sourced from thrift stores and on their way to landfills.

"I think it's awesome to take that stuff out of landfills and make art out of it," said Jaron. "Since it's here anyway, you know, we don't need to use things that are new and produced all the time it can be recycled, sustainably."

As the production crew gathers models and designers for the start of the show, music luring attendees into the ballroom begins to shake the walls of the backstage area.

Waiting for the start of the show is Naples Art Executive director Frank Verpoorten.

"It takes a lot of courage for the artists and designers to, I think, really put themselves out there," said Verpoorten. "And I want to encourage people to be in the moment and to be happy and enjoy and take it all in tonight."