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DC Fashion Week Set to Feature Master Milliner Eileen L. Bleyer

78-Year Old Marylander Reconnects with Her Fashion Roots to Create One-Of-a-Kind Pieces

“All women look beautiful in a hat. They just have to find the right one. If you get the perfect hat, your whole outfit is elevated to another level.”

(Washington, D.C.) September 13, 2019 - She is passionate about hat making and this month the world is getting the chance to experience her work. Emerging designer [Eileen L. Bleyer](#) showcased her wears at the [Designer Debut](#) on September 6th at New York Fashion Week and she is gearing up for the [31st International Couture Collections Show](#) at DC Fashion Week being held at the Embassy of France.

“All women look beautiful in a hat. They just have to find the right one,” Ms. Bleyer [recently told FOX 45 Morning News](#) in Maryland prior to the First Annual Spring Couture Hat Show & Sale and The Lord Baltimore Hotel. “If you get the perfect hat your whole outfit is elevated to another level. You can have a plain dress and a gorgeous hat and it changes your whole persona. And the truth of it is, if you go back over history, the most famous women in the world always wore gorgeous hats. If a woman walks in the room with an outfit with a gorgeous hat, I’ll tell ya, people are going to notice.”

When Eileen Bleyer was a young girl, she would sit outside her Montebello Terrace home and wait for her next door neighbor to bring home scraps of material from a custom fashion shop on Charles Street in Baltimore so she could create elegant clothes for her dolls. She always had an eye for fashion. Earlier this year one of the masterpieces Ms. Bleyer created was

chosen for the 2019 Spring Cover of Ivan Bitton Style House Magazine, Marie Westwood LA. The Ivan Bitton Style House is noted for identifying talented up and coming designers. The spotlight continued to build on her designs when her Preakness inspired hat won the Most Meaningful Hat contest at the annual Hats Off to Hampden Gala on March 30th.

Today, Ms. Bleyer, a 78-year old Harford County resident, owns and operates [Eileen L. Bleyer Millinery](#) out of her Bel Air, Maryland home where she sells upscale handmade fashionable hats and fascinators as well as vintage clothing. Her hats and fascinators are one-of-a-kind pieces that incorporate a variety of elements including silk flowers, feathers, ribbons, fur, and vintage fabric, among other things. Her creations range in price from \$250-1500 for fascinators and couture headpieces.

“I always loved the world of fashion and was inspired by my grandmother and aunts who were entrepreneurial Irish women, always dressed in gorgeous gloves and hats. I used to try them on when visiting. When I was younger, I also excelled in art, particularly oil painting and drawing, so being able to combine the two has been amazing,” said Ms. Bleyer.

At the age of fifteen, Ms. Bleyer bought her own Singer sewing machine and began making her own clothes and at the age of seventeen, she entered an evening gown competition for the State of Maryland and won first prize. (It was pink satin with white lace overlay!) Simultaneously, she continued her formal art training at The Catholic High School where she was enrolled in the Latin Science college prep program and in her senior year, was awarded a one woman show for her oil paintings. Her award winning gown combined with her art show demonstrated her talents and she was awarded a full scholarship to MICA. (Maryland Institute for College Arts)

Although Ms. Bleyer did not complete her degree, she maintained her love of art and fashion throughout the years. She was married at a young age, had four children, got divorced and then had to work various jobs to support her family. She worked in real estate and then as a sales director for a personnel solutions company and through it all, she always found a way to use her art and fashion skills by making clothes for her children or by creating fashion-related projects that could be used for charity fundraisers.

In October of 2018, Mano Swartz Furs recognized her talents and offered Ms. Bleyer a trunk show and sale in their shop in Greenspring Station. She styled custom fall and winter hats with luxurious fur for the one-day event.

“It was after I had been a caregiver to my second husband, who died of Alzheimers in 2009, that I decided to reinvent myself and do something creative again. I felt like things have come full circle. My children are all grown with children of their own, and now it was my turn. Here I am!” said Ms. Bleyer.

Bleyer’s work will be featured at the [31st International Couture Collections Show](#) at DC Fashion Week on September 29th, 2019 at 5 PM, The Embassy of France, La Maison Française, 4101 Reservoir Road, D.C., DC, 20007.

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DESIGNER DEBUT

@ NEW YORK FASHION WEEK

SEPTEMBER 6, 2019

THE WATSON HOTEL

440 W. 57TH STREET

NEW YORK, NY 10019



Montebello Fantasies
COLLECTION

SPRING/SUMMER 2020

Eileen L. Bleyer



*“ Every Women is more beautiful in a hat,
selecting the style and color that fits her personal
taste and the occasion makes all the difference. ”*

Eileen L. Bleyer

Art and fashion design have been a passion of mine for as long as I can remember. I was inspired by my Grandmother and Aunts who always stepped out in the most fashionable dresses, stunning hats and always wore gloves.

I began designing clothes for my dolls at 6 yrs of age and was awarded first place in a state wide evening gown design contest at the age of 16.

I studied art and design through high school and continued to design and make my clothes over the years. Now that my family is grown, my passion for designing and my love of elegant hats has opened the door to the creation of my line of one of a kind couture hats and fascinators.

Hats and garments are available for direct purchase.

Special thanks to the designers of the garments I selected to showcase my hats, the various makers of the untrimmed hat bases and other lovely items used in creating my hats.

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Montebello Fantasies
COLLECTION

Eileen L. Bleyer

Style: Fascinator
Gender: Women
Material: Sinamay Base
Embellishments: Silk Leaves, Branches, Satin Ribbon, Bird
Size: Band fits all

One-of-a-kind

Nature
Item #2936



Montebello Fantasies
COLLECTION

Eileen L. Bleyer

Style: Fascinator
Gender: Women
Material: Sinamay Base
Embellishments: Pink silk overlay, silk floral branch, Satin
Fabric Bands
Size: Band fits all

One-of-a-kind
LORETTA
Item #2940



Montebello Fantasies
COLLECTION

Eileen L. Bleyer

Style: Fascinator
Gender: Women & Child matching set
Material: Sinamay Base
Embellishments: Silk Leaves, Branches, Leaves,
Bird, Ribbons
Size: Adult Band & Child Band fits all

One-of-a-kind

Spring Item #2992A

Young Bird Item #2992B



Montebello Fantasies
COLLECTION

Eileen L. Bleyer

Style: Fascinator
Gender: Women
Material: Sinamay Base
Embellishments: Lt Green Polyester Fabric, Tan Rooster
Hackel Feather Spray, Silk Rose Petals, Dark Pearl Beads
Size: Band fits all

One-of-a-kind

Ginger
Item #3074



Montebello Fantasies
COLLECTION

Eileen L. Bleyer

Style: Tear Drop Fascinator

Gender: Women

Material: Sinamay Base

Embellishments: Fuchsia Ribbons, Gold Weave, Lime And

Fuchsia Orchid.

Size: Band fits all

One-of-a-kind

Orchid

Item #2986



Montebello Fantasies
COLLECTION

Eileen L. Bleyer

Style: Tear Drop Fascinator
Gender: Women
Material: Sinamay Base
Embellishments: Pink Ribbons, Ivory Silk Flowers,
Coque Feathers
Size: Band one size fits all

One-of-a-kind

Whispers
Item #3077



Montebello Fantasies

COLLECTION

Eileen L. Bleyer

Style : Tear Drop Fascinator

Gender: Women

Material: Sinamay Base

Embellishments : Pink Ruffled Metallic Ribbon, Silk Rose

Buds, Ribbons

Size: Band One Size Fits All

One-of-a-kind

Rosebuds

Item #2948



Montebello Fantasies
COLLECTION

Eileen L. Bleyer

Style: Fan Fascinator
Gender: Women
Material: Sinamay Base
Embellishments: Pink Ombre ribbons,
Vintage Roses & Buds
Size: Band one size fits all

One-of-a-kind

Victoria
Item #3010



Montebello Fantasies
COLLECTION

Eileen L. Bleyer

Style: Medium Brim / Uprturned
Gender: Women
Material: Polypropylene
Embellishments: Soft Peach Shade with a Spray of Pastel
Cabbage Roses & Spring Flowers, Ribbon
Size: 22.5 / Medium adjustable Band
Brim W 3.75" Crown Height 3.5"

One-of-a-kind
Alexandria
Item #2908



Montebello Fantasies
COLLECTION

Eileen L. Bleyer

Style: Tear Drop Fascinator
Gender: Women
Material: Sinamay Base
Embellishments: Pink Ruffled Metallic
Ribbon, Large Vintage Pink Silk Flower, Leaves
Size: Band one size fits all

One-of-a-kind

Jennifer
Item #3075



Montebello Fantasies
COLLECTION

Eileen L. Bleyer

Style: Wide Brim Hat
Gender: Women
Material: Veil Netting, Woven Straw Hat Base
Embellishments: Lg Pink Silk Cabbage Rose,
Vintage Leaves, Ribbon
Size: 22.8" medium inner adjustable head band
W 5.5" Crown Height 4"

One-of-a-kind

Eileen
Item #3031



Montebello Fantasies
COLLECTION

Eileen L. Bleyer

Style: Wide Brim Hat
Gender: Women
Material: Veil Netting, Woven Straw Hat Base
Embellishments: Vintage Black Floral Beaded Overlay, Satin
Ribbons, Coque Feathers,
Size 22.8" medium inner adjustable head band
Brim W 5.5" Crown Height 4"

One-of-a-kind
Unforgettable
Item #3028



Montebello Fantasies
COLLECTION

Eileen L. Bleyer

Style: Wide Brim Hat
Gender: Women
Material: Fuchsia Satin Polyester
Embellishments: Vintage Shades Wine Rose Lavender
Spring Flowers, Ribbons
Size 22.5" / Medium with adjustable head band
Brim W 5" Crown H 3.5"

One-of-a-kind

Bloddom
Item #3035



Montebello Fantasies
COLLECTION

Eileen L. Bleyer

Style: Wide Brim Hat
Gender: Women
Material: Poly Crinoline
Embellishments: Purple silk flowers & white Lilies of valley ,
Easter tulip ribbon
Size: 22.5" Medium with adjustable head band
Brim W 4+1 Crown H 3.5"

One-of-a-kind

Easter

Item #3016



Montebello Fantasies
COLLECTION

Eileen L. Bleyer

Style: Wide Brim Hat

Gender: Women

Material: Polyester

Embellishments: Black & Teal Ruffled sheer overlay, vintage
peach flower & leaves, ribbons

Size: 22" inner band adjustable head band

Brim W 5" Crown H 4"

One-of-a-kind

Katrina

Item #3040



Montebello Fantasies
COLLECTION

Eileen L. Bleyer

Style: Event Fascinator
Gender: Women
Material: Sinamay Base
Embellishments: Fuchsia Rose & Flowers, Ribbons
Size: 1" Band fits all

One-of-a-kind

Chloe

Item #2944



Montebello Fantasies
COLLECTION

Eileen L. Bleyer

Style: Mini Fascinator

Gender: Women

Material: Sinamay Base

Embellishments: Pink and Black Lace Overlay, Pink Ombré

Ribbon, Rhinestone Spray

Size: Band one size fits all

One-of-a-kind

Rachael

Item #2958



Montebello Fantasies
COLLECTION

Eileen L. Bleyer

Style: Fascinator
Gender: Women
Material: Sinamay Base
Embellishments: Black Satin Rose, Vintage Black Beaded/
Sequin lace Overlay, Leaves
Size: Band one size fits all

One-of-a-kind

Midnight
Item #2964



Montebello Fantasies
COLLECTION

Eileen L. Bleyer

Style: Fascinator
Gender: Women
Material: Sinamay Base
Embellishments: Glitter Gold Ribbons, Ivory Vintage Flower & branches
Size: One size fits all

One-of-a-kind

Lorie
Item #2977



Montebello Fantasies
COLLECTION

Eileen L. Bleyer

Style: Wide Brim Upturned
Gender: Women
Material: Straw Soft Green
Embellishments: Lg Ivory Silk Cabbage Rose,
Spring Flowers, Ribbons
Size 22" Medium/W adjustable head band
Brim W 4.5" Crown H 4"

One-of-a-kind

Regina

Item #2906



Montebello Fantasies
COLLECTION

Eileen L. Bleyer

Style: Fascinator
Gender: Women
Material: Sinamay Base
Embellishments: Lg Yellow & Green Silk
flowers, Gold bead spray, ribbons
Size: Band one size fits all

One-of-a-kind

Sunshine
Item #3067



Montebello Fantasies
COLLECTION
Eileen L. Bleyer

Style Fascinator
Gender: Women
Material: Sinamay Base
Embellishments: Vibrant Gold Silk Tiger Lilies, Ribbons
Size: One size fits all.

One-of-a-kind

Addison
Item #3070



Montebello Fantasies
COLLECTION

Eileen L. Bleyer

Style: Tear Drop Fascinator

Gender: Women

Material: Sinamay Base

Embellishments: Black/Gold mesh overlay, Gold Ribbons,

Vintage Sequin trim

Size: One size fits all

One-of-a-kind

Sparkle

Item #3071



Montebello Fantasies
COLLECTION

Eileen L. Bleyer

Style Fascinator
Gender Women
Material Siminary Base
Embellishments: Gold Metallic Ruffled Ribbon,
Gilded Gold Flowers
Size: Band fits all

One-of-a-kind
Golden Glitter
Item #2977



Montebello Fantasies
COLLECTION

Eileen L. Bleyer

Style:Fascinator
Gender: Women
Material: Sinamay Base
Embellishments: Brown Silk Ribbon,
Gold Broach
Size: Band one size fits all

One-of-a-kind

Princess
Item #2975



Montebello Fantasies
COLLECTION

Eileen L. Bleyer

Style: Event Fascinator
Gender: Women
Material Sinamay Base
Embellishments: Black & Gold Metallic Stripe Overlay,
Gold Flowers & Leaves, Black Bloom Feathers
Size: Band fits all

One-of-a-kind

Cleopatra
Item #3071



Montebello Fantasies
COLLECTION

Eileen L. Bleyer

Style: Fascinator
Gender: Women
Material: Sinamay Base
Embellishments: Purple Ostrich Plums, Ostrich Feathers,
Vintage Appliqués
Size: Band fits all

One-of-a-kind

Alexis

Item #2997



Montebello Fantasies
COLLECTION

Eileen L. Bleyer

Style: Wide Brim Derby Turn up Hat
Gender: Women
Material Polyester Base Black
Embellishments: Lg Yellow Silk Cabbage Rose,
Satin Ribbon, Pearl
Size: 22" / Medium
Brim W 5" Crown H 4"

One-of-a-kind

Winner

Item #2968



Montebello Fantasies
COLLECTION

Eileen L. Bleyer

Style: Ex Wide Brim Derby Turn Up Hat
Gender: Women
Material: Polyester Pink
Embellishments: White Ostrich Plums,
Pink/Purple Orchid, Ribbons
Size 22" w Fascinator band for perfect fit
Brim W 8" Scalloped edge Crown H 5"

One-of-a-kind
Derby Darling
Item #2947



Montebello Fantasies
COLLECTION

Eileen L. Bleyer

Style: Ex Wide Brim Derby Hat
Gender: Women
Material: Polypropylene
Embellishments: Red Silk Roses, Metallic
Ribbon, Glitter fFlowers
Size 22.5 with Fascinator band for perfect fit
Brim W 8" Crown H 4.5"

One-of-a-kind

Ruby

Item #2991



Montebello Fantasies
COLLECTION

Eileen L. Bleyer

Style: Event Fascinator
Gender: Women
Material: Sinamay Base
Embellishments: Pink, Purple Silk
Flowers, Silver Vines, Ribbons
Size: Band fits all

One-of-a-kind

Grace

Item #2962



Montebello Fantasies
COLLECTION
Eileen L. Bleyer

Style: Event Fascinator
Gender: Women
Material: Sinamay Base
Embellishments: Lime fabric Overlay, Lg. Purple Silk Flower,
Vintage beads, Feathers,
Rhinestone broachgold branches
Size: Band fits all

One-of-a-kind

Joan
Item #2912



Montebello Fantasies
COLLECTION

Eileen L. Bleyer

Style: Event Fascinator
Gender: Women
Material: Sinamay Base
Embellishments: Pink Metallic Ruffled
Ribbon, Fuchsia Flowers, Sheer Ribbons
Size: Band fits all

One-of-a-kind

Diana
Item #2930



Montebello Fantasies
COLLECTION

Eileen L. Bleyer

Style: Fascinator Pillbox
Gender: Women
Material: Felt
Embellishments: Vintage Blue Pearl
Beaded Overlay, Silver Ribbons
Size: Band fits all

One-of-a-kind

Alice

Item #2988



Montebello Fantasies
COLLECTION

Eileen L. Bleyer

Style: Fascinator
Gender: Women
Material: Sinamay Base
Embellishments: Pearl Beaded
Overlay, Silver Metallic Ruffled Ribbons, Rhinestone Broach
Size: Band fits all

One-of-a-kind

Julia

Item #3076



Montebello Fantasies
COLLECTION

Eileen L. Bleyer

Style: Special Event Fascinator

Gender: Women

Material: Sinamay Base Teal

Embellishments: Vintage White pearl Overlay, Vintage Blue

Crystal Broach

Size: Band fits all

One-of-a-kind

Maria

Item #3042



Montebello Fantasies
COLLECTION

Eileen L. Bleyer

Style: Ex Wide Brim Hat
Gender: Women
Material: Veil Netting Straw Hat
Embellishments: Vintage White Pearl Beaded Overlay,
White Roses, Lillies, Ribbons
Size 22.8" inner band/Medium with adjustable head band
Brim W 5.5" Crown H 4"

One-of-a-kind

Amelia
Item #3036



Montebello Fantasies
COLLECTION

Eileen L. Bleyer

Style: Event Fascinator

Gender: Women

Material: Sinamay Base

Embellishments: Vintage pearl beading Overlay, White Silk

Roses, Lillies, Sheer Veiling w Pearls and Sequins

Size: Band fits all

One-of-a-kind

Gabriella

Item #2981



3RD SEASON

**D E S I G N E R
D E B U T
@ N Y F W**

THE WATSON HOTEL

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2019 at 8:05 P.M.

The Designer Debut is a One-Day Fashion Runway Event
Showcasing Designers from Around the World
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