

**Title-** Fields of Summer

**Program of Study-** Clothing/Textiles

**Presentation Type-** Power Point

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**Category-** Creative/Artistic

**Abstract-** The purpose of this design is to portray the natural beauty of a field of wild flowers in a wearable garment. The strapless fitted bodice is made from green striped cotton with a ribbon bound lace sleeveless overlay that resembles baby's breath. Hand stitched cotton flowers of teal, yellow, and pink cover the bodice. After the flowers were constructed they were sprayed with starch as a stiffener. At the waist there is a pink belt with a bow that turns the flowers into a bouquet. The knee-length skirt is A-line and uses the same green striped material as the bodice, resembling the stems of flowers. Over the skirt is a full lace peplum that is slightly longer in the back and is bound with white ribbon. The unique texture and handmade quality make this piece one of a kind. The layering of the cotton with the lace and then the three-dimensional flowers creates beauty by turning a fabric that is usually thought of as casual into something a little more elegant. Working on this design helped open up my eyes to all the different ways you can manipulate fabric to become something completely different and the beauty of layering to create depth and add texture. In the future I would like to make more pieces that are layered with different colors and textures to create interest. I would also like use the flower technique that was showcased in this dress in my future work.

**Christian Worldview-** As a Christian my life is inspired by God, consequently my designs are simply a product of that. Nature is my favorite place to draw inspiration from because it is such a beautiful example of God's artistry, pure beauty, and love for us. This piece was inspired by the beauty of God's creation. It is so easy to just go through life simply focusing on the tasks before us, but if you just stop and look there is so much beauty to be found all around us. My worldview also makes me very conscious of how my designs portray the wearer. As Christians our bodies are temples of the most High God. We are His representatives on Earth; so we must be certain that the way we present ourselves is an accurate representation. We are children of God, making us royalty, so we should dress accordingly. We must present ourselves in a way that shows we respect ourselves and those around us. My piece makes an impact because it is young, fresh, and wearable with a bit of a twist that makes it stand out. I believe that people will respond positively to this dress because it is so unique with so many bright colors and textures, without being tacky or uncomfortable. Another aspect is work ethic. God wants us to do everything to His glory. I put countless hours into this dress because I wanted to do my absolute best. I could have chosen a more simple design, but that would not have been my absolute best. God gave me this idea because He wanted to push me to try new techniques, so I could become better at what I do.

## References

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