A sea of naked Barbie's and me in the middle telling my grandmother about just what outfits my dolls would wear today and why; that was me ten years ago. Since then, I've had many ideas about what I want to do with my life. First, I would be a vet, but I couldn't bear the thought of surgery. Then I would be a teacher, but I didn't really like kids. Finally, I wanted to be a business woman, but I was bored. It wasn't until my first semester as a senior in high school that I really came to terms with what I've always wanted to do.

One of my teachers invited a FIDM representative in to talk to our class about their college and what they had to offer to the masses of undecided children. Fashion. Seemed simple enough, and I wasn't buying it at first. It couldn't be possible to really get a career in fashion so easily. It had to be more like the movies where the underdog fought under a terrible boss until they were given the tiniest chance to make a decision of their own and then "poof" everything was perfect, and they were the head of their own company and everyone wished to be in their shoes (designer might I add). But this was different; i could go to school and really learn how to do what I've already been doing my whole life; design.

My friends would often come over for as long as I can remember, and I would dress them and we would take pictures. I was always told I had my own style, and I was a trend-setter. More recently, I began creating my own clothes; however, I've been sewing since I was a small child. I created my own patterns without really knowing what I was doing, but at the same time they sufficed for what I wanted. As I've grown older, I've started investing in more difficult projects like my current love of period ball gowns. I've had a hard time finding a job with my schedule, so I started my own. Ali-Kats Curiosities is a small business my grandmother and I began. We attend things like comic book conventions and even Glendale Glitters and we sell our hand crafted designs. We offer jewelry, dolls, art books and even altered clothing. Everything we sell is designed and put together by either my grandma or me.

In my Future Educators Academy class we were assigned to create our own school. We could do whatever we liked and little was required; however, the possibilities were endless. In the end, I created my school all the way from the dorm room layouts to physically creating t-shirts and giving one to everyone in my class as well as creating a large plush mascot and a school uniform I could bring in and show to the class. Needless to say, I aced that project.

After looking back on everything I've been doing throughout my life, it just clicked in me. I needed to do this. From that moment on, I knew that I had to go to FIDM and start my career in Fashion Design. There couldn't have been a more perfect combination of art and technical aspects if I had set the major up myself. As anyone can tell you, I've always enjoyed being artsy, but I love the tech behind it.

In my dream life, after graduating; I'd go on to work as a fashion designer and work until I obtained my goals, like having my own line of clothing and store if not having my own company and brand. I may even go on to create a line of clothing for that sea of naked Barbie's that in the middle sits another little girl.