

# MEL J. KENNELLY

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## EDUCATION

### UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND (URI)

KINGSTON ,RHODE ISLAND

*CANDIDATE FOR A MASTERS IN TEXTILE CONSERVATION*

CURRENTLY STUDYING THE ART OF CONSERVATION WITH A SPECIFIC FOCUS IN HISTORICAL TEXTILES

### RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL OF DESIGN (RISD)

PROVIDENCE ,RHODE ISLAND

*BFA APPAREL AND DESIGN 2020*

SENIOR THESIS COLLECTION | PUSSYWILLOW, A SUSTAINABLE LOUNGEWEAR LINE MADE USING LUXURIOUS VINTAGE AND DEADSTOCK FABRIC WITH A FOCUS ON INCLUSION AND BODY POSITIVITY

HONOR STUDENT FALL 2019

## EXPERIENCE

### COLLECTIONS ASSISTANT | UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND | 2021 - PRESENT

Historic Textile and Costume Collection | Worked alongside Susan Jerome to care for URI's collection of historic clothing and textiles.

**Accession** | Responsibilities included accessioning over 100 Frankie Welsch pieces donated in 1985.

**Exhibition preparation** | prepared artifacts for lending out to exhibits including 1920's water wings and an 1800's pair of beaded leather shoes

### TEACHING ASSISTANT | UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND | 2021 - PRESENT

Sustainability and Fashion | Worked alongside Professor Goswami to assist in teaching a Gen-Ed 100 level course about the basics of sustainability and the textile production industry. Responsibilities included histing office hours, grading projects, and assisting the professor with research.

### SHOE DESIGN INTERN | ROXY (BOARDRIDERS) | SUMMER 2019

Product Line Management | Worked alongside a team of shoe designers, fit developers, and factory consultants to assist with the spring 2020 collection of shoes. Helped organize samples, complete tech-packs, do market research & trend forecasting, and perform Pantone color matching. Designed a potential Pride line for the company

### APPAREL AND SOFT GOOD DESIGN | FREELANCE | 2014 TO PRESENT

- Worked with the creator of DotBeanCo Children's wear, doing production, design and patternmaking.
- Made custom masks and heat packs for a local medical scrub supplier and for a crew of first responders.
- Created sustainable fashion line repurposing vintage bedding into stylish loungewear.
- Hand-made extravagant bikini costume commissioned by a professional female body builder in Providence, RI

### RISD PICTURE COLLECTIONS | COLLECTION ASSISTANT & MONITOR | 2018 - 2019

Managed an archive of hardcopy historical and vintage images for RISD Library and assisted students with visual research

## SKILLS

**SEAMSTRESS** | WOMEN'S TAILORING, PATTERNMAKING, HAND STITCHING SKILLS

**TEXTILE SKILLS** | KNITTING, WEAVING, FELTING, CROCHETING, NATURAL DYEING

**COMPUTER SKILLS** | ADOBE PHOTOSHOP & ILLUSTRATOR, FLAT DEVELOPMENT, COLOR MATCHING, TECH PACK DEVELOPMENT, MICROSOFT EXCEL, GRAPHIC DESIGN.