

Artists' Alley

Mary Curry

by Cathy Wood

Mary Curry had always loved fashion but “could not always afford my taste, or find an item to purchase that was just right,” she explained. “My mom helped me sew my prom dress and my grandma always insisted on making smart purchases and spending more for a high-quality item that suited you, instead of buying cheap or chasing trends.”

Now as the owner of Indubitably, Mary designs and sells high-quality clothing including custom orders, all made in Canada and made to last, does repairs and alterations and offers private and group sewing and sign-making classes.

After high school, Mary went into paramedicine. “It was my base coordinator inviting me to learn how to sew a quilt that started me in the direction of fashion design. I would sew baby blankets for gifts. Then when my daughter went into her first ice show with the Thunder Bay Figure Skating Club, I volunteered to help with sewing – thinking I would maybe hem a curtain or something. Instead, I was presented with a picture of what I considered, a bathing suit with a skirt in the middle, and just enough fabric to not allow any errors! I stared at that picture and fabric for three days before summoning the courage to cut and sew. The next year I made twenty-one costumes for the show! It was a way to rejuvenate after stressful air ambulance calls. When our family moved from Thunder Bay to Denfield in 2018, I returned to school, taking the Fashion Design Program at Fanshawe College. We love the small, welcoming town and our network of family, wonderful friends and neighbours.”



While studying at Fanshawe, Mary and another student were invited to join Fanshawe’s Centre for Research and Innovation, teaming with industry partner Davwire. “We were working



on a suit to achieve harvesting human kinetic energy, into a reusable energy source. There was so much research and data to pour over and turn into a suit that worked with their sensors. It merged my past of military experience, air ambulance, love of athletics and body movement, and medical background into my new-found love of fashion design.

Mary says that finding solutions for individuals is the most rewarding part of her work. “From helping a young woman fit into clothing she otherwise cannot find on a rack due to traditional sizing and proportions, to medical aides such as ostomy covers and PICC line access, or helping a company with research, samples, and test-fits to start production on an item is very gratifying.”

Mary had been a preceptor when she a paramedic with Ornge. “That naturally carried over into my new-found profession, from setting up classes including for parents to learn how to make skating dresses, to my next endeavour of joining the School of Design at Fanshawe College this winter term. When you pass on knowledge, and share your skills, you also learn and find new ways to achieve your own goals. It becomes cyclical, gaining and sharing ideas and skills, propelling all involved into new insights and achievements,” she says.

To see more of Mary’s designs, learn about upcoming workshops or classes or to shop online, visit www.indubitablyofficial.com and find Indubitably on Facebook.

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