



MORGAN DALLAS

STRONG ROCK CLASS OF 2013

WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN UP TO SINCE GRADUATION?

Since graduating from Strong Rock almost ten years ago and from college (SCAD) five years ago, I honestly spent the first couple of years figuring out adulthood and life post college. Not everything was as romantic as I thought it would be, but in college I had one amazing professor who really believed in me and her words of wisdom and affirmations continued to ring in my ears as I navigated life post SCAD. So after a year of applying to fancy fashion jobs that never panned out (except for the occasional intern and freelancing gigs) I worked my way up in retail for almost four years. In January of this year, I took a leap of faith and quit my job as a means to respond to that nudge that never left ever since graduating college in 2017. The "nudge" was that thing in me that let me know that there was more for me to pursue and to explore. I would have never been satisfied had I not at least given myself a shot, so after leaving my job I worked very hard the next six months to build up my made-to-order womens wear brand that features four dresses. These dresses are a culmination of a team of people and their support, their valued opinions, late nights, some doubts, excitement, and my ultimate passion and aesthetic as a designer. They are all available on morgandallas.com



IN WHAT WAYS DID YOUR ACADEMIC PURSUITS AT STRONG ROCK PREPARE YOU FOR THE ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS AT COLLEGE?

I wasn't always the biggest scholar during high school, however my art teacher at the time--Mrs. Livingston--was one to always enhance my artistic abilities which helped to further push my creativity during college.



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WHAT ARE YOUR UPCOMING PLANS?

Currently, I am preparing for a show that will be featuring emerging designers in Savannah, Georgia in a little less than two weeks. Aside from that, my upcoming plans just continue to consist of all things that a beginner entrepreneur is involved with, including following up with buyers for independent boutiques, fulfilling orders, learning marketing strategies, consistent research on my field, etc.

WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR FAVORITE PART ABOUT YOUR COLLEGE/LIFE EXPERIENCES?

My favorite part about college life was learning my aesthetic and where I can fit into my desired line of work with the help of some of my favorite professors. College was where my training ground took place and where I made my first set of connections with peers of mine that I would eventually want to partner with or learn from. I loved gleaning my professors and their experiences and hearing what they saw in me as an up and coming designer.

LOOKING BACK, HOW DO YOU FEEL YOUR TIME AT STRONG ROCK PREPARED YOU FOR COLLEGE AND FOR YOUR CAREER AHEAD?

I feel like Strong Rock best prepared me for life after highschool by providing me with teachers that saw me and believed in me. While I didn't have to apply what I learned in statistics or chemistry, It was conversations with Mrs. Tavarez, or after school moments with Mrs. Livingston or even those proud dad statements from Mr. Olender that really boosted my confidence for what was ahead.

