El Camino Students Reveal Finer Points of Fashion

Who: Fashion & Related Technologies Department of El Camino College

What: “Fashion Fully Loaded” runway show

When: June 2

Where: Marsee Auditorium, El Camino College, Torrance, Calif.
The Scene: Call Rica Walker a student of theory. She preferred to keep her fashion designs on her sketchpad, not build them for the runway. But when the 18-year-old aspiring fashion designer finally put her theory into practice, she went straight to the top. She landed the Best of Show award at the 24th annual spring fashion event at the college. It was her first fashion show.
Walker’s prize-winning fashion was a dress she called the Peacock. The green-and-gold piece made no bones about its inspiration—a large peacock feather draped sash-like from its bandeau top to the waist of the skirt.

Walker gave her creation an even more exotic feel when she modeled the “Peacock” wearing a teal-colored shawl. But the shawl was not there for mere adornment. During her moment on stage, Walker let the shawl drop, and her piece changed. The shoulder covering turned into a long train for the skirt.

Although the Best of Show award was a highlight, Fashion Fully Loaded was very much a team effort. El Camino students raised $8,000 to produce the event, and 30 aspiring designers showed their latest creations. The show categories included swimwear, officewear, streetwear and formal. A wedding dress designed by fashion student Araceli Arriola, who was last year’s Best of Show winner, received heavy applause from the audience.

— Andrew Asch
photos: VOLKER CORELL