

I: S ARCADEMY



ART AND FASHION
HIGH SCHOOLS

First and second-grade educational institutions within the National Education System in Friuli Venezia Giulia are eligible for a free experience (visit + workshop) during the 2025/2026 school year, subject to availability and upon reservation.

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ROOM 408



Archive exploration

Curated by **Virginia Dordei**

DESCRIPTION

The ITS Academy Archive preserves and safeguards over 20 years of evolution in fashion and contemporary creativity. This extensive collection includes 14,840 project portfolios, 1,100 garments, 165 accessories, 120 pieces of jewellery, and over 700 photographic works. This in-depth exploration offers a unique opportunity to uncover an extraordinary story, told by someone who, from the beginning, has been dedicated to preserving this heritage of art and beauty for both the present and future. The philosophy, conservation and restoration techniques, objectives, and strategies of this one-of-a-kind archive will be shared through historical and technical insights, anecdotes, images, and historical objects. These have been collected over two decades of fashion, accessories, jewellery, ideas, projects, and unconventional materials from designers around the world. The discussion will also focus on the future of creativity: responsible, circular, and inclusive.

BIO

Virginia Dordei is the head of the ITS Academy Archive, overseeing the conservation, restoration, study, and lending processes of the ITS Foundation's heritage

CATEGORY

In-depth exploration

DURATION

60 minutes

LANGUAGE

Italian, English

PRICE

14€ (the price is per person; free admission is provided for up to two accompanying teachers)

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

History and heritage of the ITS Archive

INFO AND BOOKINGS

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Portfolio analysis

Curated by **Michele Colucci**

DESCRIPTION

ITS Arcademy has received 14,840 creative project portfolios from 80 countries, now meticulously organised on the shelves of the ITS Arcademy Library. This collection is a unique treasure trove of ideas, inspirations, techniques, and materials, offering an exclusive glimpse into the private and singular creative processes of each artist. The portfolios have arrived in various forms: simple paper envelopes, boxes, attached to balloons, encased in blocks of concrete to be chiselled away, and even in blocks of ice to be melted. This workshop aims to help students find the keys to understanding, or beginning to understand, their own creative universe and build a portfolio based on personal projects, tastes, and preferences. The dialogue between inspirational sources and the items in the archive will enable participants to update their creative profiles and prepare for fashion selections and competitions.

BIO

Michele Colucci has been involved for over 15 years in discovering creative talents selected by the ITS Contest, interviewing students and reviewing portfolios from around the world.

PROGRAM

1. History of ITS Contest and ITS Arcademy
2. What a portfolio is and what it is used for
3. Each discipline has its own portfolio
4. Examples and best practices
5. Physical and digital portfolios

CATEGORY

In-depth exploration

DURATION

60 minutes

LANGUAGE

Italian, English

PRICE

14€ (the price is per person; free admission is provided for up to two accompanying teachers)

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

What is a portfolio and how is it made? Concept, research, and project diary

INFO AND BOOKINGS

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Upcycling and Repair techniques

From linear to circular: transitioning from linear to circular with participatory and open-source projects related to sustainability, upcycling, and climate change within the creative and production processes in fashion and textiles.

DESCRIPTION

This session offers both a theoretical and practical overview of the repair and upcycling techniques that have inspired ITS designers. By exploring and practically applying various sewing and recovery methods - from the oldest and most traditional to the most creative - we will reflect on the most significant projects related to sustainability, participatory and circular practices. Ethical production and creation, with social and environmental responsibility, are at the heart of this lesson/workshop dedicated to upcycling, focusing on practical strategies and techniques to add new value and enhance the quality of garments.

PROGRAM

1. Introduction to upcycling
2. Theory and technique of upcycling: in-depth exploration of sustainability in the creative process
3. Practical workshop: experimenting with various techniques

CATEGORY

Practical workshop

DURATION

90-120 minutes

LANGUAGE

Italian, English

PRICE

16€ (the price is per person; free admission is provided for up to two accompanying teachers)

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

Upcycling theory and practice, traditional and creative techniques; concepts and projects from the ITS Archive related to sustainability

INFO AND BOOKINGS

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Let's patch it up

Create a unique patch to repair, personalise, or gift as a cherished keepsake.

Author **Rafael Kouto**

DESCRIPTION

Patches - embroidered appliqués - have long been used to express identity, commemorate events, and symbolise belonging. Whether as a postcard from a place visited or a personal memento, patches have adorned uniforms, sports gear, and various fashion pieces throughout history. Notable designers like Martin Margiela and many collections in the ITS archive have celebrated their unique appeal. In this workshop, participants will craft their own patches, delving into traditional hand embroidery techniques and fabric design. Using denim and other primary materials sourced from the ITS Academy warehouse, you will explore the artistic and symbolic potential of patches.

BIO

Rafael Kouto is a fashion and textile designer with expertise in upcycling and sustainable practices, focusing on open source and craftsmanship. A finalist in ITS 2019, he was honoured with the Lotto Sport & Diesel International Talent Support Awards for his innovative work.

PROGRAM

1. Presentation and exploration of the patch in the history of costume and fashion: its symbolic value of both belonging and individualization
2. Practical workshop: sewing and decoration techniques
3. Review and sharing: discussing the projects and experiences

CATEGORY

Creative workshop

DURATION

60 minutes

LANGUAGE

Italian, English

PRICE

14€ (the price is per person; free admission is provided for up to two accompanying teachers)

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

To create a unique and personalised patch, using basic techniques in embroidery, mending, and fabric decoration

INFO AND BOOKINGS

T +39 040 300589

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Innovative materials for responsible Fashion

Gels, fungi, bacteria... what can't be transformed into fabric? This in-depth workshop offers a close examination of some of the most innovative materials and their applications in the clothing industry.

Autrice **Tina Gorjanc Safhalter**

DESCRIPTION

In this session, we will explore the fashion sector's supply chain, discussing the ethical and environmental challenges associated with fabric production. We will also analyse the most cutting-edge materials developed by designers and researchers worldwide, as documented in the Material Archive of ITS Arcademy.

BIO

Tina Gorjanc Safhalter is a Slovenian designer and researcher. Her work integrates speculative design practices and product critique with innovative scientific procedures. She has developed learning programs for Somerset House in London, TEDI-London, and School of Arts and Creative Industries at East London University. She has also been a senior lecturer at Central Saint Martins and London College of Fashion.

PROGRAM

1. Introduction to innovation in textile production and processing
2. Biological, carbon-negative, and recycling alternatives
3. ITS Material Archive: In-depth exploration of ecological and innovative materials from the ITS archive

CATEGORY

Experimental workshop

DURATION

60 minutes

LANGUAGE

Italian, English

PRICE

14€ (the price is per person; free admission is provided for up to two accompanying teachers)

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

To understand the supply chain of the clothing industry and get a close look at some of the most innovative materials and fabrics

INFO AND BOOKINGS

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