1920s

Eton Crop

Zoot Suit

Flapper
1920s

Prohibition

Talking movies and radio invented

Dancing popular

Stock market crashed
Movie Stars

1930s

Backless Gowns
1930s
Great Depression
The Dust Bowl
Orson Welles' *War of the Worlds*
World War II begins
1940s

Feminine Hair

"Make Do and Mend"
1940s
Rationing
Big Band music
Women entering workplace
World War II ends
1950s

The “New Look”
1950s

Communist witch hunt
Rosa Parks refuses to give up her seat on a bus
Color TV
Soviets launch *Sputnik*
Mini Skirts

Baby Doll Dress

1960s

20
1960s

1st televised presidential debates
Second wave of feminism
1st American on the moon
Civil Rights movement
1970s

Platforms

Jumpsuits
1970s

Watergate scandal
1st portable computer
U.S. troops leave Vietnam
Elvis dies
1980s

"Power" dressing

Aerobic wear
1980s

John Lennon assassinated
Black Monday
Prince Charles and Diana Spence marry
Fall of the Berlin Wall
Appendix B

1. Survey
Appendix B-1

Alpha Center Interview Response

For my senior thesis, I'm creating a portfolio of the interviews conducted at the Alpha Center. The main purpose of this project was to prove that people from different generations and/or backgrounds could find commonalities in life through the clothing styles of previous decades. Since fashion both affects and is affected by social trends, it was hoped that students could gain a greater understanding of life during the 20th Century.

Please the following questions to the best of your abilities.

If you and/or your group conducted an interview at the Alpha Center, please answer the following questions:

1. What decade did you discuss during your interview?

2. Do you feel that the interview was informative?

3. Please list some of the things you learned or thought were valuable during the interview.

4. Do you feel that the interview enhanced your knowledge about life and/or clothing during your respective era?

5. How could you have been more prepared for the interview process? Any specific tips?
Please respond to the following where applicable to your 20th Century Project:

1. Do you feel that having a 1st-hand account from someone who lived during your decade enhanced your presentation, display/paper or design project? If so, how? If not, why?

2. Did hearing about others' interviews bring any extra interest, information or excitement to their presentations? If so, how? If not, why?

3. Would you recommend conducting these types of interviews again?
Appendix C

1. Portfolio
Crossing Generations:  
A Study of Fashion from the 1920s-1980s

By: Ashley O’Bryan
Although Mary was quite young during this decade, she remembered several details about life and fashion during the 1920s. She enjoyed listening to the radio, especially to her favorite program “Little Orphan Annie.” In addition, she recalled attending her first movie, *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*, as well as seeing a vaudeville as a youth.

While Mary was never really into fashion, she did recall her Mary Jane shoes she loved to wear as a girl.
1920s Presentation

"Flappers"

Intricate details
1920s Display

The popular nightlife scene dressed and ready to dance the night away!

The classic elegance of the decade
1920s Design

Inspired by women’s newfound right to vote, the flapper dress signified that women could no longer be confined to the traditional rigidness of dress. Candice recreated a flapper dress made from a metallic lace fabric and intricate beading details.
During the 1930s, Velma was in her mid-teens and twenties. She is the eldest girl among her siblings, and her and her mother loved to shop together.

In addition, Velma made her own wedding dress when she married at the age of 23.

Living through the Great Depression, Velma clearly recounted how she and her family survived off of food and clothing rations. Although times were hard, she and her family found entertainment in movies and dancing to country music.
1930s Presentation

A bias-cut evening gown

A fitted women’s suit
1930s Display

Glamour Dressing

Day wear during the Great Depression
1930s Design

With life at home often very difficult due to the Great Depression, many turned to the movies and Hollywood stars for inspiration and sanctuary. This need to escape created two separate fashion movements—homemade garments sewn from anything available and alluring gowns that exuded the glamour and generated excitement during the hard times.

Glenda created a gown that was inspired by the glamorous styles worn by the privileged few. She mimicked the hourglass silhouette that dominated the decade.
1940s Presentation

A women’s suit

A gown from the latter part of the decade
As the U.S. entered WWII, fashions began reflecting the somber mood and seriousness that dominated most of the decade.

Kelly drew inspiration from her interview by adding military elements to one of her designs.

Women still loved dressing very feminine even though the "Made Due and Mend" era was in full swing.

Kelly incorporated the hourglass silhouette by adding a belt to the design. With the extreme rationing of fabric, gowns ended at the knee.
As a teenager during the 1950s, Barbara described what life was like for youth in the decade. Her very first memory was of her pearl necklace that she cherished and wore with everything. She donned a yellow taffeta gown to the prom and made her own wedding dress when she married in 1951. She stated that girls in these days never left the house without their gloves, hats and stockings on.

For fun, Barbara liked watching *I Love Lucy* as well as going to see movies that starred Elizabeth Taylor or Clark Gable. She also adored listening to Elvis and Abbott & Costello.
1950s Presentation

A brightly colored prom dress

A fir-trimmed coat

A bathing suit
1950s Display

Dressed to dance the Jive!

Glamorous evening wear

Every woman's dream—being a wife and mother
1950s Design

As more and more soldiers returned from the war, looking feminine was a must to get a husband. For the first time in several decades, women donned corsets and exceptionally flared petticoats to exaggerate their female curves.

Justin recreated a typical day dress with a very fitted waist and extremely full skirt, which was supported by several layers of crinoline.
During the 1960s, Dick taught high school; he also coached the school’s football and wrestling teams.

Although Dick said that he mostly wore suits, he did recall that many male students usually wore vests and had longer hair during this time. He also remembered that the girls typically wore short skirts and dresses.

As a World War II veteran, Dick could vividly remember many of the details of his crisp sailor uniform and how his service allowed him to travel around the world.
1960s Presentation

The famed “mini”

Large, bold prints
Mary-1970s

During the 1970s, Mary enjoyed watching *The Mary Tyler Moore* show as well as listening to Elvis. She also liked John Travolta in *Saturday Night Fever*.

Although she was already a mother to a teenage daughter during this decade, Mary still knew about many of the trends during the 1970s. She clearly remembered wearing flowing dresses in printed fabrics as well as brightly colored suits. She also recalled that most of the youth typically wore bell bottom pants suits with platform shoes. Her daughter, as well as many of the other girls, wore their hair very long and straight.
1970 Presentation

Polyester man's suit

Fashionable footwear

Bright colors and bold patterns
Marietta’s life was already in full swing during these decades with a career, family, and son off at war. During the 1970s, she typically donned skirts and loved putting ribbons and flowers in her hair.

She enjoyed listening to the radio, especially Elvis and mystery stories. Although she remembered their activities, she didn’t participate in any of the feminist movements during this decade.

In the 1980s, Marietta distinctly recalled wearing blue jeans for the very first time although she still favored skirts. She also recollected watching Dallas and Dynasty as well as the wedding of Prince Charles to Princess Diana on TV.
1970s & 1980s Display

'70s & '80s Prom Dresses

'70s Denim

'80s Denim

'70s & '80s Wedding Gowns