

Only Natural Student Design Competition 2026



KINORA.

MELINDA BINTE MAZLAN



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[01] Project Summary.

KINORA. is a fashion look that explores the human impulse to gather and keep objects as physical evidence of soul connection. Inspired by the sentimental tokens we collect throughout life, charms, gifts, keepsakes, and fragments of memory, the piece examines how relationships become embedded within physical objects, transforming them into sacred markers of connection. Through weaving, threading, and adornment, the garments translate these invisible bonds into tangible forms, encouraging the wearer to carry and display what matters most.

Rooted in the belief that clothing can act as a vessel for meaning, the piece invites the wearer to become a co-creator by attaching personal tokens and objects over time. Sustainability is approached through adaptable garments, material reuse, natural fabrics and emotional durability, encouraging long-term ownership through personal meaning. Rather than viewing sustainability solely through material efficiency, KINORA. proposes that the garments we cherish, personalise, and form relationships with are ultimately the ones we choose to keep long-term.



For this project, I took a lot of inspiration from the personal tokens in my life, and what I found sentimental. I tried to blend the objects of importance as well as the feelings they invoked into the board, visually showing how they made me feel. I played with opacity, as certain memories or feelings didnt feel fully “solid” capturing just how fleeting they are and the board has an overall chaotic yet organised feeling, which I believe embodies how these memories and feelings flash in my mind and heart when thought about.

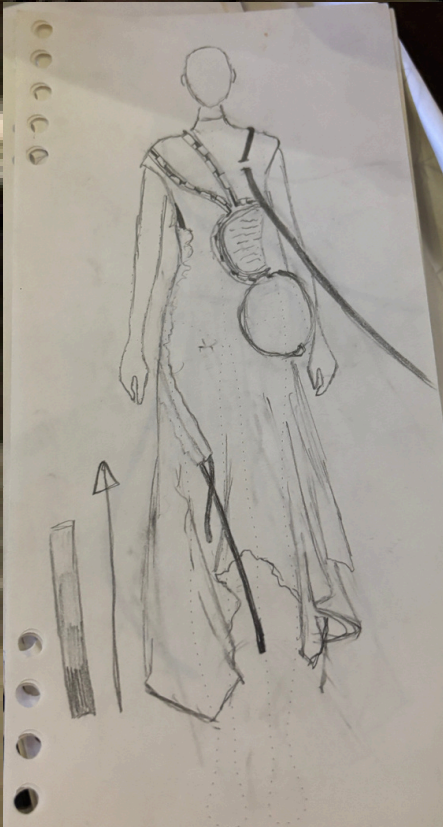
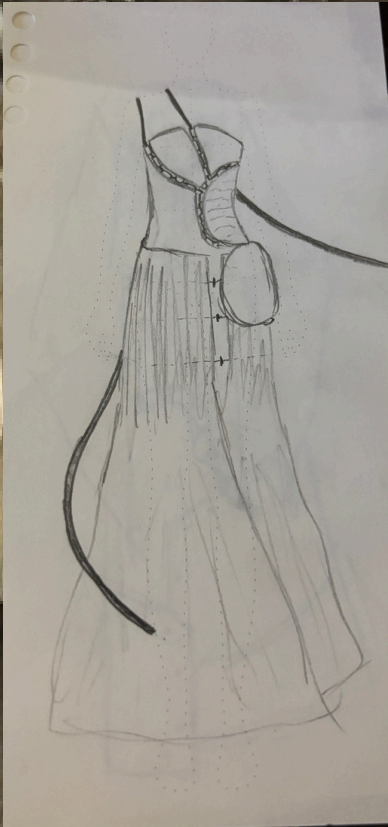
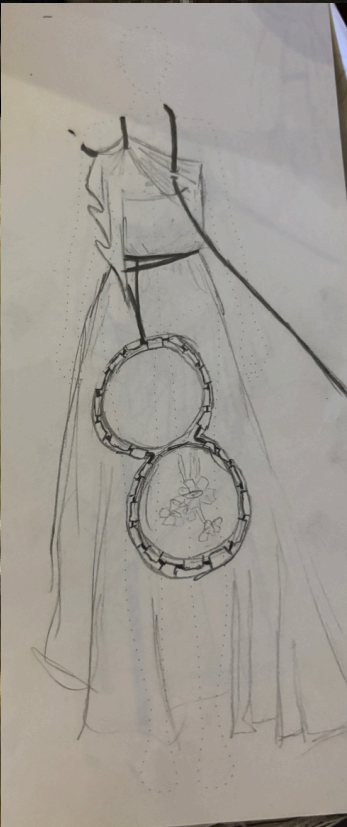
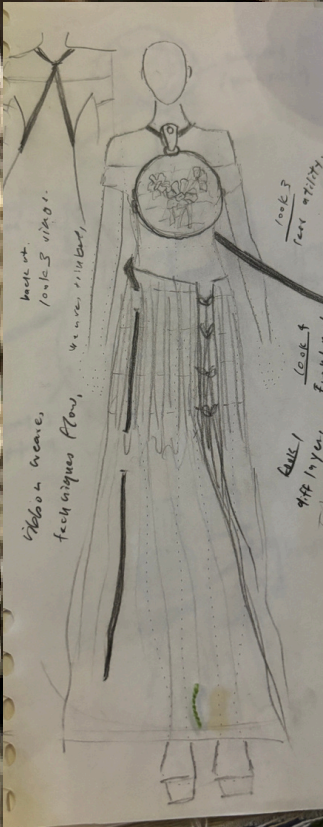
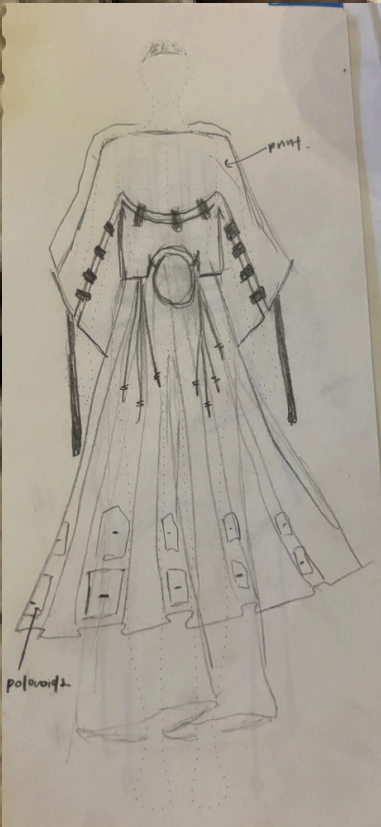
Moodboard.

Soul.
Token.
Connection.
Ritualistic.
Spiritual.



Sketches.

Development of sketches based on the first token I ever received, a matching locket with my family members. Playing with different silhouettes and construction methods to incorporate the locket shape and mechanism.



Final sketch!

[04] Final Render.

This look captures the moment an object first becomes meaningful. Inspired by a matching locket shared with my family, it explores the beginning of attachment and the human tendency to assign emotional value to physical objects. The woven structures and threaded details reflect the formation of invisible bonds, while the adornments act as symbolic tokens of connection. By transforming sentimental keepsakes into wearable forms, the garment becomes a vessel for memory and belonging. The narrative asks why we keep certain objects, and how they come to represent the people, experiences, and relationships that shape us.



Process.

[Sustainable Techniques and Construction]

Hand Embroidered
Eyelets.

Instead of using traditional metal eyelets, I hand-sewed the eyelets. I used an awl to spread the weaves before sewing over the edge with sashiko thread. Because the threads were not broken but rather pushed apart, this method ensured a more durable and long-lasting eyelet.

Boro-stitching/
Patchworking.

Gathered scrap fabrics and created the cover of the locket by patching them together and boro- stitching the layers.

Woven and Wrap
Closure Systems.

All closures of the garments utilise weaving and wrap-tie closures, eliminating the use of plastic zips or hardware. It also allows the garments to fit a wider range of sizes.

Sustainable
Printing.

Tried a small-production printing method of printing on inkjet printers, eliminating the water waste typically generated with fabric printing.

handsewn eyelets on sleeve and arm
hole edge



boro stitching increasing fabric
durability and use of offcuts



wrap, tie and weave closure
systems of top and bottom pieces



printing method using inkjet printers and oil burnishing, creates
interesting 'print gaps' when printed onto textured fabrics



Process.

[Sustainable Techniques and Construction]

Toggle Closures.

The skirt is multi-layered, it's layers are attached using a series of loops and toggles. This allows the wearer to decide how long or short the skirt should be and how many layers to stack on for stylistic reasons or climate reasons (more layers for colder weathers).

Areas For Personal Adornments.

Loops are sewn onto the secondary skirt to allow for wearers to attach their own sentimental tokens, the unused loops on the main skirt based on the wearer's skirt layering can also be used for adornment in this manner. Emotional sustainability plays a huge role in KINORA. the more something means to the wearer, the more inclined they are to take care of it. Areas for personalisation, creates a direct opportunity to boost that emotional attachment.

Modular Components.

The look features detachable sleeves, the sleeves themselves are also constructed with an adjustable gathered seam, allowing for different silhouettes and styles. The locket mechanism on the front is attached by string, making it removable as well. The main skirt is made up of multiple panels, allowing for certain panels to be attached, detached or partially put on, creating endless length, silhouette and asymmetrical options and designs.

loop and toggle system that allows panels to be attach at any configuration, even manipulating the panels to twist to form different silhouettes

panels are drafted in a way that would work at any tier

layers and tiers of panels added to create the skirt

areas for attachment of personal tokens



Process.

[Textile techniques and fabric manipulations.]

Weaves.

Weaving is the main visual design technique I used to convey the sense of sentiment and soul into the look. Focusing not only on the token aspect of the concept, but also how it attaches itself to the memory and feeling of a person or bond. For many of these woven elements, I used off-cut and scrap fabrics from other projects. Creating visual elements to the design without generating more waste.

The top of the look takes inspiration from the physical token and it's form. Influencing it's silhouette and design elements. The bottom of the look represents the memories it invokes, how the feelings of sentiment weaves and tethers itself to the object.

concept of weaving over printed images to show how memories remembered through physical tokens are not always clear but still being able to feel it's significance.

scrap fabrics used to creave woven details on the pieces

different belt variation using woven fabric

slits in belt that allows for weaving closures

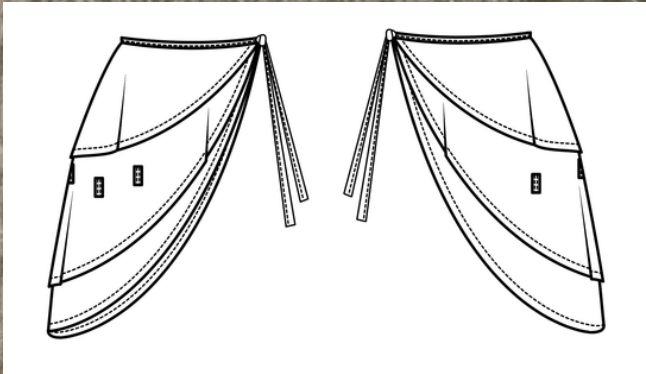
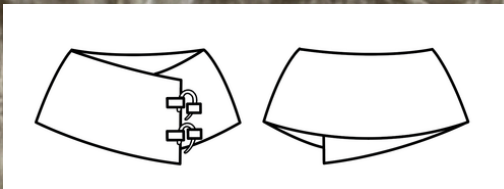
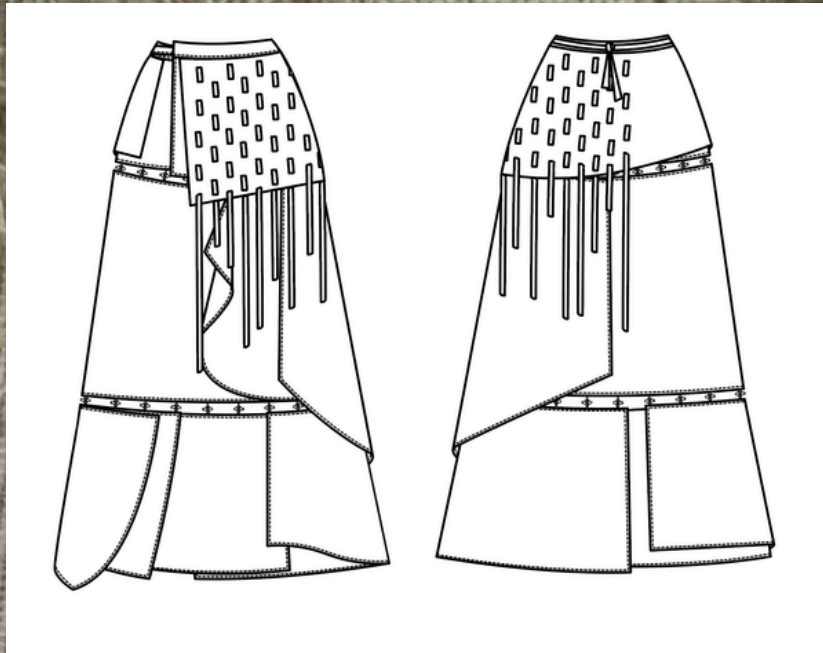
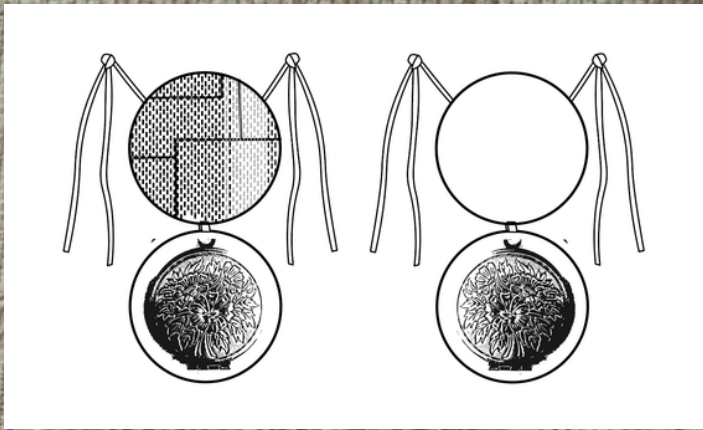
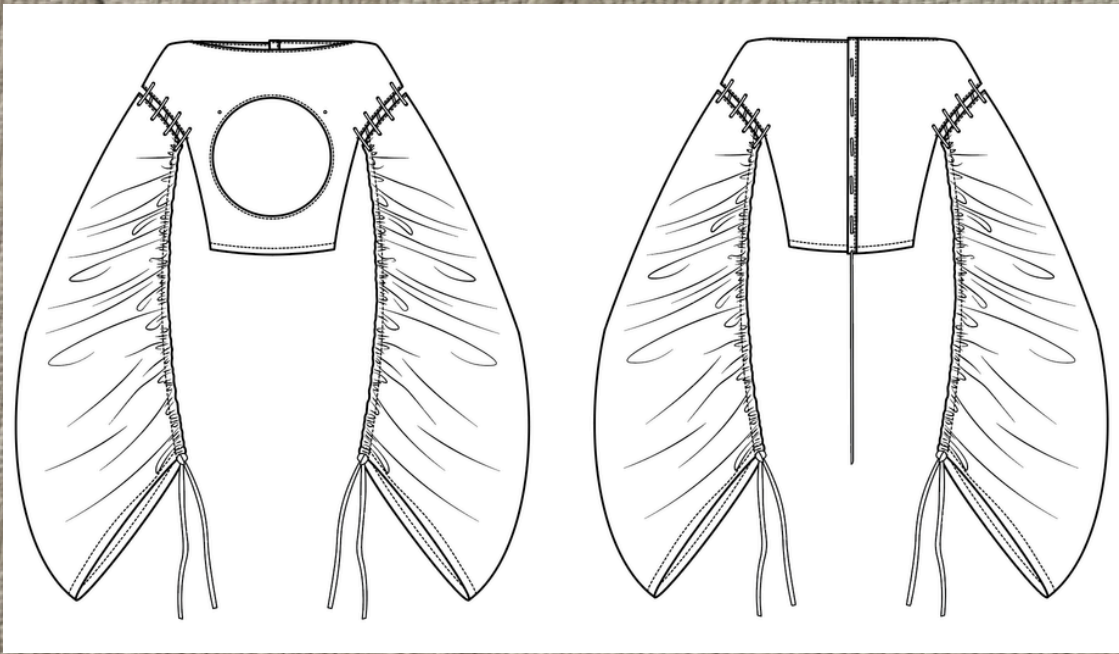
woven closure











Technical Drawings.

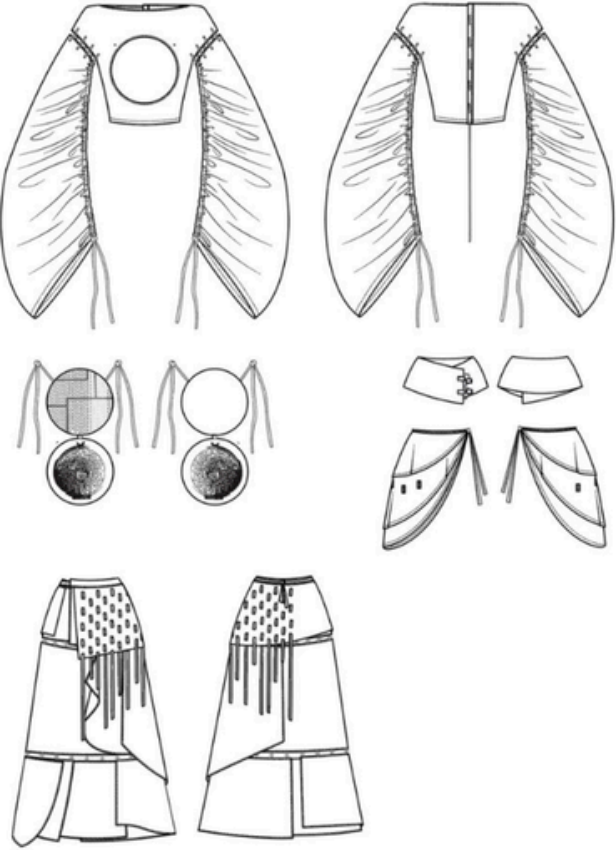
Technical drawings of individual seperate pieces of the look, both front and back.

Material and cost sheet.

*according to price points - eg. last dollar ends with 3, 6, 9, or 0

Specification Sheet

Pattern Specification Sheet

Name: Melinda Binte Mazlan		Date: 27 February 2026	
Drawstring sleeve cut out top with asymmetrical layered modular skirt		Style Number: AW26S01	Size: M
Technical Drawing:		Pattern Pieces: 05	
FrontBack 		Self: Ramie-Cotton	Width(cm/in): 66” Yardage: 8
		Lining: Cotton	Width(cm/in): 66” Yardage: 6
		Interfacing:	Width(cm/in): 44” Yardage: 2
Sewing instructions:		Buttons: 0	
		Zippers: 0	
		Elastic: 0	
		Other accessories: String and hook buckle	
		Special instructions: Sashiko eyelets and button holes	



Thank You.