

Ahead of describing my experience as a recipient of this award, I'd first like to thank the Global Studies Department as well as Mr. and Mrs. Pickup for their investment in this specific program at the University of Sussex. Andrew Pickup's parents began this endowment in the hope of supporting Global Studies students' path to becoming "truly global, resilient and adaptable citizens" — I can think of no better way to describe my experience in receiving this award and the valuable opportunity it provided me. As a result of their foresight and generosity, I and many other students that precede me have been gifted with the privilege to reach higher than we could have on our own.

This summer, with the financial security of the Pickup Award, I was able to conduct research on the sustainability efforts in luxury fashion rental in the United Kingdom. This was supplemented with an internship at Rotaro, a rising star in the sustainable luxury industry in London. While I was collecting data, I got my hand in virtually anything possible to experience the fullness of the textile and apparel landscape: assisting photo shoots, running spreadsheets to track products, interviewing new designer partners, and writing for the business' blog. From the tasks down to the people I worked for, it has been the best work experience to date and each day I would return home bursting with joy and pride for the woman and professional I was becoming.

During this internship, I took the chance to live in London for the summer. As a small-town Midwestern American who never had previous exposure to living in an foreign city, let alone working in the fashion industry, creating this opportunity with the help of the Pickup bursary and Global Studies placement coordinator Su Richards has been monumental. For lack of a better word, it has been a dream come true, and one I hadn't had access to on my own. By living in London, I was able to experience a different speed of British culture to that which I had grown to know in Sussex. It solidified my interest in building a life in London and added a deeper, liberating level of intercultural understanding. Most importantly, by being in the city I was able to dive deeper into the fashion industry that exists there, developing a network of professionals in a city where I previously had lacked a foundation.

Moving forward, I aim to secure a position within textile and apparel that hangs their hat on some of the circularity measures I have come to understand through my

research in London. I believe there is a viable landscape already under works in the city, and am excited to be joining the wave of earth-conscious innovation. I could not have gotten as far as I have without the provisions of this bursary, and extend my gratitude for being chosen for this scholarship.

Very best,

Ryann

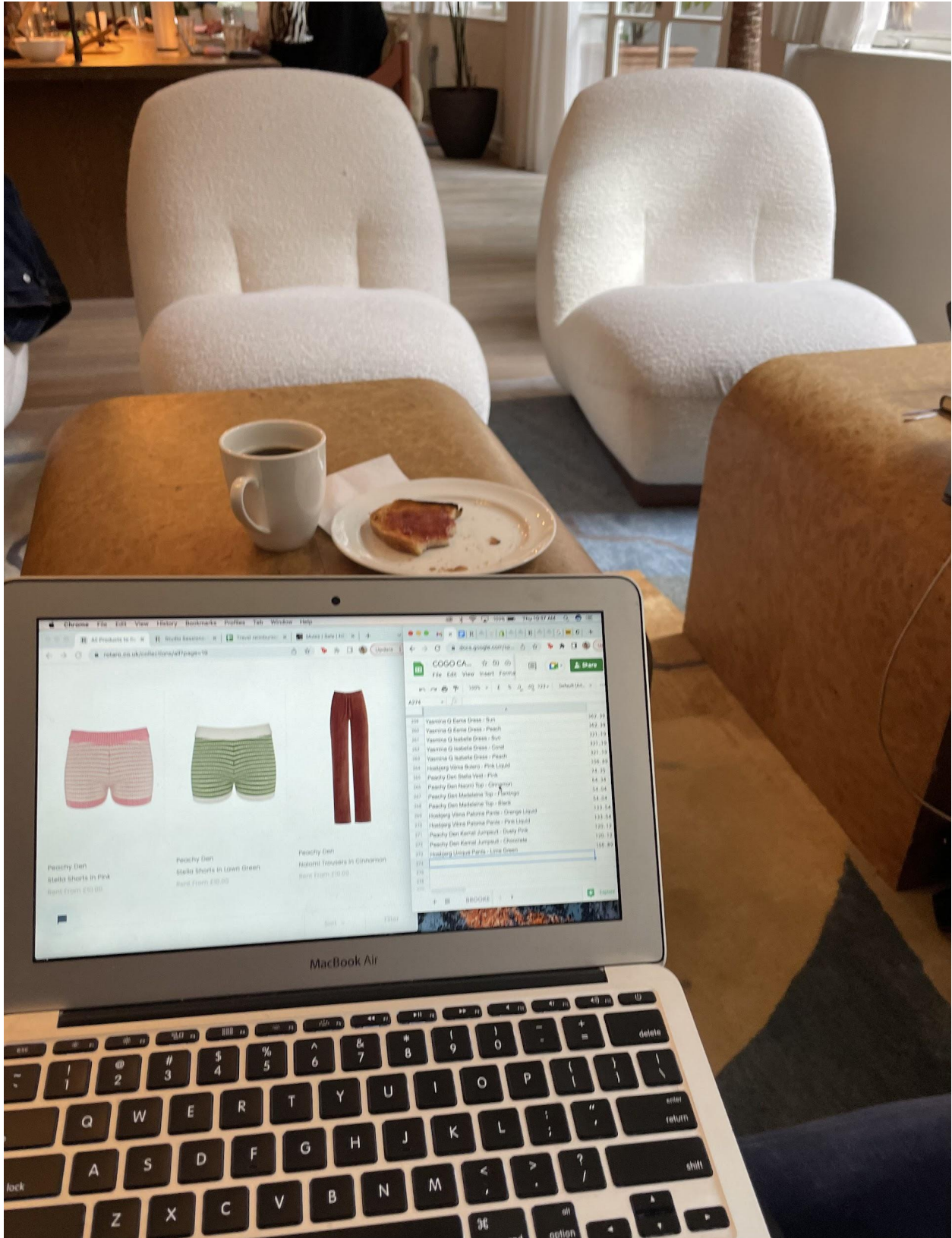


Ryann (top row center) with some of the Rotaro team at a pop-up event





Ryann (back row, second from right) and the Rotaro team at the Tommy Hilfiger x Rotaro launch event



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238	Vanessa G. Rama Dress - Sun	242.35
240	Vanessa G. Rama Dress - Peach	242.35
241	Vanessa G. Isabelle Dress - Red	221.19
242	Vanessa G. Isabelle Dress - Coral	221.19
243	Vanessa G. Isabelle Dress - Peach	221.19
244	Vanessa G. Isabelle Dress - Peach	166.89
245	Hedberg Vana Boveri - Pink Liquid	74.35
246	Peachy Den Stella Short - Pink	44.34
247	Peachy Den Natural Top - Cinnamon	44.34
248	Peachy Den Madeline Top - Flanings	44.34
249	Peachy Den Madeline Top - Black	133.54
250	Hedberg Vana Palma Pants - Orange Liquid	133.54
251	Hedberg Vana Palma Pants - Pink Liquid	133.54
252	Peachy Den Karol Jumpsuit - Dusty Pink	139.35
253	Peachy Den Karol Jumpsuit - Chocolate	139.35
254	Hedberg Vana Paris - Lime Green	106.81
255		
256		
257		
258		



The Tommy X Rotaro photo shoot on a rooftop in East London