



## Colleen Moffitt Alletto '83

Our featured alumna this month started her business in January 2016 after she ran out of room in her basement. **Colleen Moffitt Alletto '83** is no rookie to repurposing and creating beautiful pieces of furniture. She and her business partner, Sue, have been spending their weekends at flea markets for years, finding and purchasing furniture twice their size to take home and make new again. Earlier this year, they decided to find a bigger space and turn their hobby into a business, opening up their own store, Mayfaire Creations. The store is located in the heart of Lakewood on Detroit Road, and has attracted quite the customer base in the few short months it has been open.



### What makes your business venture unique?

I believe what makes Mayfaire Creations unique is the passion we put behind each piece. We genuinely enjoy finding and creating new pieces for our customers. We create whimsical, fun, funky pieces that you can't find anywhere else. Last week, we created a dog bed out of a coffee table and it sold within two hours of being on the floor, and we had several custom order requests for more! We also make old items new again by accepting customer requests for "facelifts" to pieces they already own. At Mayfaire Creations, we are committed to giving back to our community and making our customers happy at the same time. Many of the pieces we refurbish are from the Habitat for Humanity Restore, where all profits go to benefit Habitat for Humanity projects in the local area. Making our customers happy and providing an enjoyable experience at the store is the heart of Mayfaire Creations.

### How did your Magnificat education prepare you for being a female business owner?

Magnificat not only provided me with a great education, it provided me with an amazing network of female peers who I could learn and grow from. My best friends today are women I met at Magnificat, and it amazes me how successful we all are. Magnificat taught us to handle our problems with strength, grace and humility, and we learned we are resilient women who could handle any challenges thrown our way. My friends and I have each gone through some difficult times throughout our friendship—loss of loved ones, illness, financial troubles—and the amount of strength, grace and humility that each of these women has had during these hard times never ceases to amaze me. I truly believe that Magnificat influenced the way we look at life's problems.

### What advice or best practices do you have for young women starting their careers?

Be Magnificat Strong! Take what you learned—the values of humility and grace, and the confidence and strength instilled in you—and run with it! Don't be afraid to take risks and follow your passion!



For more information about Colleen or Mayfaire Creations, contact Colleen at [paint@mayfairecreations.com](mailto:paint@mayfairecreations.com) or visit [www.mayfairecreations.com](http://www.mayfairecreations.com). Also, "like" [Mayfaire Creations](#) on Facebook!

By: Madeline Hutchinson '10, Young Alumnae Committee