

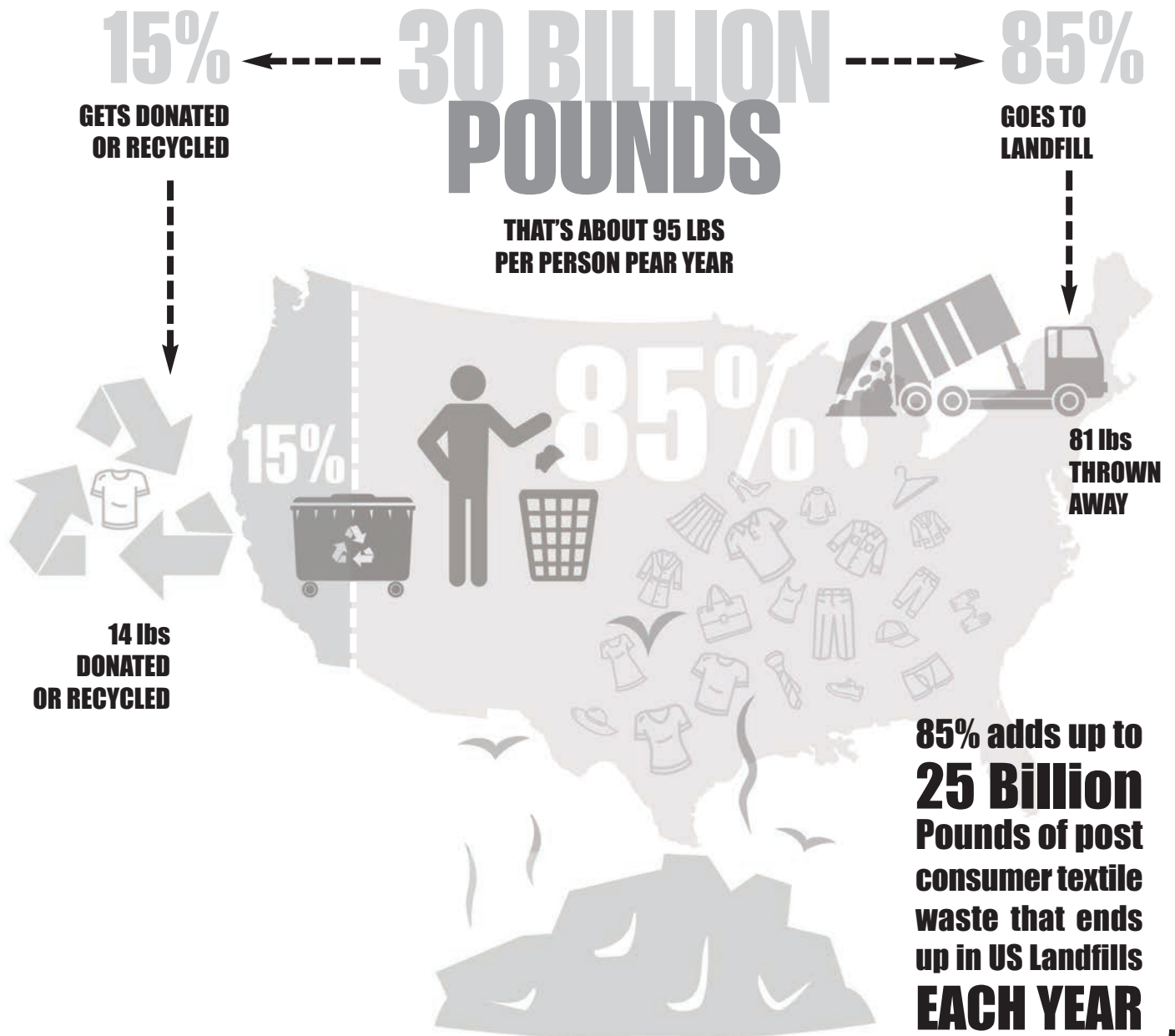
MAGPIES &  
PEACOCKS

NONPROFIT DESIGN HOUSE 501(C)3



KEEP  
FASHION  
OUT OF  
LANDFILL

# the facts about TEXTILE WASTE



Statistics provided by R2ReWear and the Council for Textile Recycling



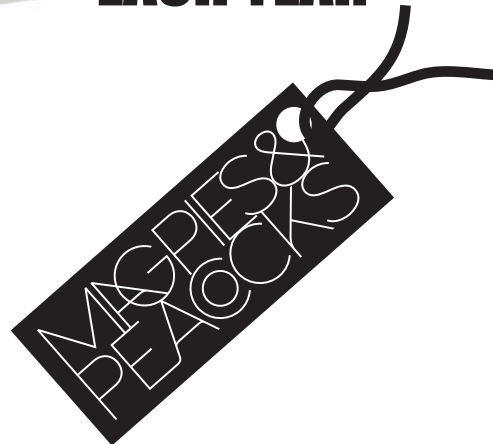
**DONATE**



**RECYCLE**



**DIVERT**



## **Magpies & Peacocks seeks to address two main challenges:**

● **Sustainability** – As part of our arts education program we teach young designers about sustainable fashion practices and incorporating post consumer textiles into their production process – to decrease the large percentage of textile waste that hits landfill. Houston boasts one of the largest consumer economies in the country, but as a port city, it is also home to many of the nations largest textile recycling plants that process and ship out our post consumer textiles problem. By educating consumers on how to responsibly shop, dispose of their clothing and the issues surrounding our current system; creating programs for school participation; and encouraging emerging designers to incorporate sustainable practices, we can significantly impact the textile waste statistic. As part of Catwalks & Classrooms we teach young designers about sustainable fashion practices and ways to incorporate up-cycling into their production process – in order to decrease the large percentage of textile waste hitting landfill. Currently in the US only 15% of post consumer clothing and accessories get donated, resold or up-cycled... That leaves a whopping 85% to be bundled up and sent to landfill or repacked and sold to developing countries, negatively impacting their economies. If we can change how we dispose of our stuff and encourage emerging designers to incorporate sustainable practices in their design careers we can change those statistics. We are currently in curriculum at *The Art Institute of Houston* and supported in part by *The Houston Arts Alliance*.

● **Retaining Hand Skills** – By offering fashion camp to kids as young as 6yrs and an up-cycling design competition for teens through college, we reinforce the value of creativity through sewing skills, pattern and dress making, deconstruction and reconstruction. We currently host workshops outside of school hours and classes within college curriculum, supplying up-cycled textiles as raw materials. With the decline of creative classes in schools and the upswing of interest in green fashion, we have found that kids are excited to be able to create unique clothing for themselves, especially when they cognizant of their environmental impact.

All of the pieces that we supply as raw materials to schools or use to create our collections, start their lives as donations from one of our Closet Deposit events. Our Closet Deposit events are hosted at local boutiques and businesses where guests are invited to make tax-deductible donations – donations of anything from clothing, purses and jewelry. We also collect expired textile samples, leather off cuts, ends of fabric bolts, trimmings and abandoned dry cleaning apparel to form our raw material inventory.

A portion of the items collected are selected to be up-cycled through our designer program. Working with a selection of artists and designers, we then turn those items into a marketable capsule collection. We work closely with local boutiques, gala auctions and charity events to provide a platform to sell each collection, promote our up-coming designers, educate the public on the power of our emerging talent and raise awareness. Each piece carries a message about its material origin, its re-designer and our mission.

All the other materials we collect are curated to form an inventory of raw materials for deconstruction | reconstruction | product development classes as part of our arts education program.

We collaborate with business and boutiques that speak directly to the fashion consumer and who focus on promoting ethical brands, artists and designers that are open to sustainable change, and educators who understand the need for new practices within the industry.

**CALL TO ACTION: Whenever you are cleaning out your closet think of us! We collect all year round – you can drop off at our facility or keep an eye out for the next closet deposit event. Shop strategically, chose ethical brands and timeless pieces. Lastly if you would to host a private closet deposit contact us at [events@magpiesandpeacocks.org](mailto:events@magpiesandpeacocks.org)**

# stylepoint

Lisa Powers For



## Stylist Lisa Powers' top 5 Tips to Maintaining a Closet that You'll Love to Shop

- 1** If you can't see it, you won't wear it! Clothing hung up randomly with no rhyme or reason is difficult to pick out and will most likely be overlooked. Organize your hanging clothing by some type of standard that best makes sense to you.
- 2** Most "Closet Clutter" (clothing that you don't wear) is a result of shopping habits, so I address the root problem and advise my clients to do the following when shopping.
  - If you're in a fitting room and you're not sure about something you're trying on, here's a test that you can always rely on. If you can't think of 3 pieces in your closet that go with the piece, take a picture of yourself in it and put it on hold.
  - If it needs alterations beyond a simple hem and the store doesn't offer alterations, my advice is to just walk away.
- 3** Invest in uniformed hangers and get rid of thick bulky hangers altogether. Also, hang clothing facing the same direction! Not only does this look so much nicer, it also makes it easier to see each piece of clothing. I like the velvet "hugger" hangers, they're so much easier on the clothing. But it's really a personal preference.
- 4** Make sure all of your shoes, handbags, and accessories are easily visible. I like to keep my shoes organized by occasion. But some may like to organize by the type of shoe. Also, drawer dividers are a very inexpensive way to organize sunnies, scarves, gloves, belts, knitted hats/beanies, and (a must for me) shoe and handbag sleeper bags.
- 5** If you are weeding out your unwanted and unwearable clothing and accessories be sure to donate them to a worthy cause - my suggestion is give **Magpies & Peacocks** a call!

When it comes to our closets, it's all about convenience, efficiency, and yes visual aesthetic! If there's something in your closet that you're proud of, SHOW IT OFF with creative display! For further information or to contact Lisa Powers for a personal consultation go to [www.StylePoint.com](http://www.StylePoint.com)

# Top 5 Organizing Mistakes

Buying organizing products  
BEFORE organizing

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Waiting for the PERFECT time.

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Not SCHEDULING time to do the work

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Being unclear about your GOALS

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Being unrealistic about  
how much "STUFF" you have  
and the SPACE available.



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[info@MagpiesandPeacocks.org](mailto:info@MagpiesandPeacocks.org)

[www.MagpiesandPeacocks.org](http://www.MagpiesandPeacocks.org)

Twitter: @MagpiesPeacocks

Facebook.com/MagpiesandPeacocks

Instagram: @MagpiesPeacocks

Pinterest: magpeapins

Tel | Text: 832-299-5609

**For Further Information, Donations, Media Packs,  
Sponsorship and Volunteer Opportunities: Please contact**

Ahshia Berry

*Director of Communications*

**T:** 832-205-7956

**E:** [ahshia@MagpiesandPeacocks.org](mailto:ahshia@MagpiesandPeacocks.org)

908 Live Oak, Houston, Texas, 77003