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### Maur Hill Alum Designs Academy Award Dress

Usually when you think of the dresses worn on the red carpet for the academy awards, you think of world renowned designer dresses worth thousands of dollars.

However, not all the dresses were in that norm.

Two were known as eco-friendly, one of which designed by a person with Northeast Kansas educational ties.

The dress worn Sunday night by actress Missi Pyle was designed by Maur-Hill Mount Academy alum Valentina Delfino.

Delfino, a native of Venezuela, attended the private Catholic board school in Atchison from 2002 to 2003 as an international student before moving on with her educational studies.

She now lives in Miami working as a designer.

She was the winner among hundreds of sketches in a contest that originated three years ago by Director James Cameron's wife, Suzy, as the "Red Carpet Green Dress".

It's a global competition open to designers of all backgrounds.

Designers pay \$65 to enter, and the proceeds go to help fund the private Muse School in Malibu, California, a nonprofit co-founded by Cameron and based on the concept of social responsibility.

Pyle had a supporting role in "The Artist," which won the Oscar for best picture.

Pyle sported a flowing blue gown made from organic silk, hand-dyed with natural mineral pigments and lined with recycled polyester.