

My name is Tanasha Alice Sayi Chonde, I am 19 years old, and I am from Malawi. I have a deep passion for fashion, storytelling, and transforming ideas into tangible expression. For me, creativity is not just a skill, it is a language through which I understand the world and my place in it. I am currently pursuing my path in fashion and design as a first-year student at the Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (LUANAR), a journey that has become both a personal identity and a long-term vision for my future.

Alongside my studies in fashion and design, I have always had a strong drive to create and explore different forms of artistic expression beyond fashion alone. My creativity often extends into multiple mediums, including paper florals and origami, which I developed into a small creative business called Florigami. This experience taught me how ideas can move from personal passion into something tangible and impactful. I am also drawn to abstract drawing, where meaning is not fixed but open to interpretation, allowing each viewer to connect with the work in their own way. Alongside this, I enjoy content creation and capturing everyday moments, as I am inspired by storytelling through visuals and atmosphere. Together, these creative practices reflect my curiosity and constant need to explore, experiment, and communicate ideas in different artistic languages, all of which continue to shape my identity as a multidisciplinary creative.

A path I am deeply passionate about developing is my dream of becoming an international model. This journey has already begun through my experience working with internationally recognized fashion designer Lilly Alfonso, where I have had the opportunity to model for her creative work. This experience marked an important step for me, introducing me to the discipline, expression, and confidence required in the modeling industry. It also taught me that modeling goes beyond appearance; it is about storytelling and bringing a designer's vision to life. This exposure has strengthened my ambition to grow within the field on a global scale and build a professional identity as a model. Visiting London would be a transformative opportunity, as it is one of the world's leading fashion capitals, offering essential exposure to international standards, agencies, and industry networks needed to advance my modeling career.

I have recently been offered a place on the UAL Study Abroad programme, an opportunity that feels both significant and deeply personal in my journey as a creative. Receiving this offer represents a turning point for me, as it aligns closely with my long-term aspiration to grow within international fashion and creative spaces. At present, I am in the process of securing the required tuition fee of £2,630, which is due by Monday 25th May. This payment is essential in order to confirm my place and allow the university to proceed with issuing the necessary visa documentation. I am currently working with urgency and hope to arrange the required funding through all available means, as this opportunity holds great importance for my academic path and the future I am striving to build.

This opportunity holds deep importance for me, not only as a personal academic step but as a chance to contribute to the growing presence of fashion and creative industries in Malawi.

Fashion is still an emerging field within my country, and opportunities for international exposure and structured creative development are limited. Because of this, I see my journey as something that extends beyond myself. Gaining experience through this scholarship would not only shape my own growth as a designer and model, but also position me to inspire other young creatives who may not yet see fashion as a possible or sustainable path. I want to show that it is possible to pursue creative dreams seriously and professionally, even from environments where the industry is still developing. This scholarship would therefore play a vital role in helping me access the exposure and skills needed to return and contribute meaningfully to the creative growth of Malawi.

This is a defining step and an adventure into a wider creative world I have long envisioned. It brings together my passions for fashion, modeling, and multidisciplinary creativity, while opening the door to experiences that will challenge and refine my perspective. I see this journey as both growth and exploration, stepping beyond familiar spaces into international creative environments where I can learn, adapt, and evolve. At the heart of it, I carry not only personal ambition, but also a deep desire to represent Malawi within global fashion and creative industries, contributing to how African creativity is seen and valued. With the support of this scholarship, I would be able to fully embrace this opportunity and gain the exposure needed to grow into the creative professional I aspire to become. Ultimately, I hope this adventure becomes a cycle of impact where what I gain is eventually shared through inspiring other young creatives to pursue their dreams with confidence, purpose, and belief in their own potential, back home in Malawi.