



Melissa Slaven-Warren: Creator; Advocate

Melissa received her undergraduate degree in English from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington with the goal of becoming a professional writer. She published a couple of articles in *Our State* magazine and some local stories but took a detour to become a marketing professional. She spent the last five years of her career as a product and brand manager for a major building products manufacturing company.

Melissa has always been interested in fashion – and she LOVES t-shirts. They are the quintessential wardrobe staple no matter who you are and where you are going. Another passion Melissa believes in strongly is celebrating the positive roles young girls and women play in society. She was inspired to create her line after seeing a twelve-year-old girl wearing a t-shirt that had “I’m High Maintenance” written across the front. That’s when she decided it was time to offer women and girls a more positive way to brand themselves. Thinking about powerful messages, but still celebrating femininity, she came up with the idea to marry the manners, opulence, timeless beauty, charm, and structured femininity synonymous with the Victorian era, with modern meaningful and positive messages for girls and women today.



William “Bill” Warren: Co-creator; Support System



Born and raised in Durham, NC, Bill has spent most of his professional career as a musician. He started playing drums at the age of 9 and continues to play a wide range of music – jazz to country – with bands locally and regionally. Bill earned his undergraduate degree from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and a Masters in Music Education from the University of Akron in Ohio. Bill also taught jazz drum set classes at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington for five years.

Bill has amassed his own T-shirt collection over the years, collecting a t-shirt from the nearly 100 musicals and shows he’s performed with over the years.

Though the extent of Bill’s fashion expertise comes from his wife asking “how does this look”, he is her biggest supporter and rallied to help her turn her vision into a reality.