Project Runway at the Library
Tori Russo, Public Services Librarian, Bethlehem Public Library

Our sewing machines: Brother CS6000i
Amazon.com price: $143.99  (March ‘15)

What you need:
- A program space or multipurpose room
- A staff member with some basic sewing knowledge
- Sewing machine(s)
- Storage for sewing supplies

Our serger: Brother 1034D
Amazon.com price: $190.42  (March ‘15)

The overview:
- Program ran over two months, with a required information session, two or three optional workdates, and the culminating fashion show.
- The challenge: create an outfit inspired by a book.

Introduction session:
- Explained the rules, challenge, and what supplies the library can provide.
- Teens brainstormed, searched the library for book inspiration, and tried out sewing machines.

Workdates:
- Teens returned to work on their projects and get assistance

Fashion Show:
- Set up the community room as a catwalk.
- Teens arrived an hour early to practice walking the runway.
- Teens filled out a slip with their book inspiration for me to read during the show.
- I put together a slideshow with images of their book inspiration.
- I made a Grooveshark playlist for background music.
- Teens nervously but enthusiastically modeled their creations for family and friends.