



Alexis Butler, an upcoming senior at Darnell Cookman School of Medical Arts is one of eleven 2017 Summer Internship Program award recipients! Alexis aspires to become a fashion designer and marketer. With this in mind, Alexis was placed at Meow & Barks Boutique under the leadership of Traci Evans.

Mrs. Evans had to say about Alexis' experience, "Meow and Barks Boutique had the pleasure of hosting Alexis Butler. On the first day and every day thereafter, Alexis displayed a high degree of integrity, responsibility and ambition. She is a born leader.

Over the six week period, we gave Alexis a fashion crash course. We touched on various aspects of the field; from the roles of a Fashion Buyer to a Style Forecaster, which she created a personal trend report, to a Sales Associate. One role, in particular, that Alexis excelled at was Visual Merchandising. She has a keen eye and does a great job conveying her vision. Her good judgment and mature outlook ensure a logical and practical approach to her endeavors.

The Annie Ruth Foundation's Summer Internship Program would be an asset to any organization, and I am grateful Meow and Barks Boutique was chosen once again as a host."

When asked her thoughts regarding her summer experience, Alexis responded, "After being denied employment opportunities on several occasions, the AnnieRuth Foundation's summer internship program gave me my first job opportunity. It was a blessing working at Meow and Barks Boutique. While there, I was exposed to operating and owning a successful business; not to mention the beautiful and original fashions that I was surrounded with every day. This experience opened my eyes to different trends, critics, and expressions through fashion. This has been one of the most amazing and exciting experiences of my life!! I want to express my most sincere appreciation to the AnnieRuth Foundation for allowing me the opportunity to work in an industry that aligns with my career aspirations."

[Click here](#) to see photos from my amazing summer internship experience.