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## Interview with Allison Diamond

Allison Diamond

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Interviewee: Allison Diamond

**Interviewers**: Taylor Trivino and Brooke Greer

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Overseen by: Dr. Chrissy Yee Lau

#### Bio

Allison Diamond is an African American woman who grew up in New Jersey and Ohio. Beginning in high school, she engaged in various volunteer work such as helping immigrants settle in Cleveland as well as providing meals to the unhoused. Expected to go to college since she was a child, she obtained her bachelor's and master's degree from Clinton State University (CSU) in Ohio. She moved to Nevada to pursue a doctoral degree in sociology at University of Nevada Las Vegas where learned how to converse and challenge ideas with other academics. The recession disrupted her studies and graduate school had put her in huge debt. When COVID-19 emerged, Diamond returned to her volunteer and sewing roots as a Sewing Auntie for the Auntie Sewing Squad.

### **Abstract**

Diamond explains why she decided to attend University of Las Vegas Nevada to pursue a doctoral degree in sociology, how the recession disrupted her doctoral work, and provides a commentary on graduate school debt. She reflects on how she grew up in a diverse area in New Jersey as compared to her times in Ohio and Las Vegas. (10:07) Diamond then shares that graduate school left a gap in her history of volunteer work and she was able to return to service when she joined the Auntie Sewing Squad. She reflects on how her participation in the Auntie Sewing Squad has evolved over the course of the pandemic, from when she lost her job due to COVID-19 and was diagnosed with cancer. (19:17) Diamond discusses her own complicated relationship to sewing and how the Auntie Sewing Squad helped her embrace this skill. She moves on to share her hopes for the future of the Auntie Sewing Squad. (26:18) Finally, Diamond reveals her favorite part of being in the Squad: Auntie Care. She talks about the major takeaways: how the Auntie Sewing Squad provides a model for how to organize a group for mutual aid. (34:27)

**BG**: Okay, we are recording. Our first question that we have is...

AD: I'm still here.

**BG**: What was that? OK.

**AD**: (device) fell backwards.

**BG**: We can start with our first question. And it is: can you describe your personal history and background, such as your family history and major influences?

**AD**: Yeah, I was raised first in New Jersey, and so I have a kind of a conservative family, not politically, but just we were very proper. I think that's probably the best way to describe my growing up. They emphasized education, so when we went to this school, it was all about college prep. It was a foregone conclusion we're going to go to college. And the first place that we lived in, that my sister and I grew up in, was very racially diverse. It was awesome! I had no clue that there was, really, I thought racism was in the past because we grew up in Englewood, New Jersey, in this magical little neighborhood. Even now when I talk to people who I grew up with, they said, yeah, that was a pretty magical place. Very odd that we were kind of sheltered from all that stuff. And then we moved to Ohio eventually, there were a couple of other moves, but the rest of my childhood was in Ohio where there was racism in my face, and so that really shaped me for the rest of my life. That was like the most major thing that happened. So yeah, my parents were very hardworking and very conscious about the way we treat other people. My mom's more liberal of my parents. Between them, their influence and the outside negative impact with the outside world. I just came to be very conscious of the underdog and of ignorance and how society plays a role in how we're raised in ignorance and don't often understand how to see beyond that. And so I became a sociologist trying to understand why we believed the things that we believe and why we can't see past that.

**TT**: That's really interesting.

**BG**: Where did you go to school for your sociology?

**AD**: I first went to CSU: Clinton State University. That's where I got my bachelors. And then I went on to get my masters there as well. Then they told me you should get a PhD and I thought that was ridiculous. But I went ahead and applied anyway. And I always wanted to live in the Southwest, and I was shocked that I was accepted at UNLV, which is the university out here in

Las Vegas, and also New Mexico, which ever since I was like twelve I always wanted to live in New Mexico and probably cause I was a linguist. Languages were my thing all the way through childhood and through high school so I always thought for some reason I just latched on to living in the Southwest. So here's my opportunity. I was going as a sociologist, so I accepted the Las Vegas one. I came out here for my doctorate degree, which I didn't finish, thanks to the recession, but that's why I'm here.

**TT**: How is going to grad school?

AD: Pardon

TT: Oh, how was going to the grad school at UNLV?

**AD**: I absolutely loved it. Going to college was the most amazing time of my life. That was the first time that I, at the doctoral level, at the master's degree level actually, is when it started, where you can actually disagree with your professor and not be looked down on. You could speak more freely, share your experiences and learn how it influenced the way that you thought and the way that we interacted with other people. There is a greater acceptance in other ideas without offending each other. We were taught to be open minded. Of course, at the doctoral level, it's even more expected that you're going to be open minded and recognize your biases and learn about how our biases affect how we think. Science is not neutral. Everything is steeped in an agenda of some type. Even if we're not purposely doing that. So those are my most favorite times of growing up and learning. And I was an older graduate student, I was in my 40s, I think when I finally went to the doctoral lessons, because I never saw myself as being a doctoral candidate. But I'm glad I did it even though I didn't finish, that education will never be taken away from me.

5:33

**TT**: Right. Would you ever go back and finish?

**AD**: I wouldn't now, only because I learned with the recession and nobody wants to pay a doctoral student what they're worth.

TT: Right.

5:38

**AD**: And they don't want to hire me because you're over qualified. So it was really...I'm still in debt. I'm still in student debt from those years. I value them, I would never take them away. But if I had to do it again, I would work through them and pay my way. I was paying my way by the time I hit the doctoral level. And of course, that's why I couldn't finish cause I lost my job and I had to drop out. But I think that era of my life, I think everybody should have that experience of a doctoral level education, at least a master's level, just because it teaches you how to think. But I

don't think the way this country is set up that it's valued in the right way. It puts us in debt. And it's too bad. It's too bad the way our educational system is set up now.

**TT**: I agree. How would you compare, I guess, the diversity in growing up in New Jersey and then to getting your doctorate in Nevada?

6:47

AD: Nothing will surpass Englewood, New Jersey. I knew people of so many different backgrounds and people who were new to the country, people of different religions. Going to school in Nevada wasn't quite as diverse. I actually became used to being the only Black person doing most things. So when I went to the doctorate program, there were other African Americans, but not too many, I think maybe two or three in my class. I don't really remember. I guess at that point, race wasn't as big an issue for me, as my mind was blown by so many other things, which was cool, I mean, it was nice to not have that be an issue, being the only woman or being the only Black person or what have you. But, yeah, definitely nothing has surpassed my experience in New Jersey. I would love to live in a community like that again. I would have to probably build it myself, which I thought about sometimes. A little diverse farming community would be what I would love. That's what I want to do with a farming community where we barter everything and we're all from different backgrounds.

**TT**: I like that. [laughs]

**BG**: That sounds pretty cool!

8:09

**AD**: And you'd live there right? [laughs]

**BG**: Yeah [laughs]

[laughing]

**TT**: Oh cool, yeah I never really been to the East Coast. I've only ever really known, you know, California and I have family in Nevada, so I kind of know how it is. But...

AD: Yeah

8:33

TT: I'd like to go to the east coast. Which one do you like better?

**AD**: Which is better?

8:39

TT: Yeah, west or east?

**AD**: West or east?

TT: Yeah

**AD**: You know, it's hard for me to say I feel like my experience is still kind of limited. I kind of idealized the New Jersey thing because I was so young, I didn't have a lot of world experience, so I didn't see a lot of racism. My experience is very minimal, and I just saw it as individual ignorant people. I didn't realize at that time that it was a whole systemic thing. So it's hard for me to say. That's my bias. I can say that when I moved to Nevada, you can tell I'm not from here, but I moved to Nevada, I felt like money was more important than skin color. When we went to the hotels in Vegas, we were treated, I felt less like a Black person here. And I feel like it's because it's a tourism area. Service is more important. And so if your money is green, they'll take it. So that's kind of how I feel out here.

TT: Yeah that makes sense.

AD: Yeah.

TT: Our next question is: what inspired you to join the Auntie Sewing Squad?

10:07

**AD**: I've always been a person who likes to volunteer. I have volunteered with the Salvation Army and all that stuff. And so when I moved to Nevada, I was so focused on going to school that I didn't do any volunteering. In fact I got out of the whole volunteer thing for like a decade just focusing on school and then being behind the eight ball financially because of the recession and still suffering financially. So I just stopped volunteering, it looked like not part of who I was anymore and I missed it! So when the COVID hit and we needed masks and couldn't find any anywhere, I thought I was just going to make my own. My mom sewed my clothes when I was growing up, even though I hated sewing, I thought I had that in my background. So I thought, I know it can be done. I bought one of those little hand sewing things. Don't ever buy one of those things, it was horrible. I think it practically blew up in my hand. It was like a stapler and it fell apart. So I thought, I'm gonna get a real sewing machine. I'm actually going to spend money and buy a real sewing machine. And I did, that first stimulus check came and I bought a sewing machine and I sewed masks for my family. And I thought, I want to sew masks for other people, but I had no way to know who needed them or how to distribute them. And I think I read about the Auntie Sewing Squad so I joined the group and it was just a whole nother world that opened up. Like here's a place where a lot of them thought the way I did and had the same attitudes, perspective on the world, and cared about social issues. And so that's why I stayed. But, yeah, that's what made me join them. I needed a group that cared about distributing masks. And this group was organized and everything.

**TT**: Yeah, at the start of the pandemic, my mom, like she knows how to sew and like a lot of arts and crafts things, that she was doing the same thing and she was...

AD: Yeah,

**TT**: My parents live in L.A. and so I'm not sure what program she was doing it through. But I remember we would be at the table and I'd be like, okay, here's these cloths, and she would be going at it. Coming home from work was making them like bag after bags and just masks.

AD: Mhmm

TT: Really cool

**AD**: Yeah

**BG**: Yeah, that kind of leads to our next question, which is, what does a typical day look like for you when you're doing things in the Auntie Sewing Squad like making masks or distributing them out?

12:42

AD: It's different now. When I first started in March, there was a lot more urgency. So I had a job at the time, I hadn't lost my job due to COVID yet. So I would work and I live in a very small place. So this is my dining room table that I'm at right now. So I would have my computers and stuff set up for work. Then I would remove everything and that would be the dining room table and everybody would eat. And then I would replace it with my sewing stuff, my sewing machine and all that. And it would be the sewing room. And I would sew a bunch of, I would maybe cut out all the templates and I'd have a pile of templates. It was just, that was the production. It became a sewing room and I would do as much as I could. And then it became an office again. So at the beginning, it was that kind of thing and sort of this conveyor belt: computer stuff, dining tables, sewing, and boxes of... I started making templates ahead of time so I'd have boxes full of just the templates cut out and boxes where they were sewn together in the boxes where I needed the work. And then I started getting the bags and stuff together so I could mail them out and I live in a small place that it was not easy to do. I'm sure I annoyed everyone in my family, but I have a wife and she is very encouraging. And, you know, she never gave me a hard time. I'm still surprised at how great my family has been about converting the space into sewing, so it was the threads all over the place of little bits of cloth and stuff everywhere. When I lost my job, I think it was March, no, it was later than that, but when that happened, I had more time to sew. So everything just kind of stayed out here. It just became a permanent sewing area. And then if we needed the table to eat, I would just move it to the side. So, yeah, it's either a sewing space or

an eating space and then I moved into my bedroom. So now the bedroom is the sewing station. And I've just got bits of sewing paraphernalia in different parts of the apartment. That's what it looks like [Laughs].

15:03

**TT**: How many masks do you think you have made?

AD: You know what, I don't know. I've seen people say this like thousands of masks. I've never counted. I've never counted. I just thought that probably because I don't want to feel like I'm competing because then the fun goes out of it. If it becomes you know, I should do so many per day or whatever, then the essence of why I'm doing it is gone. So I don't count. I have no idea. I just know that I'm proud when I send out a batch of masks, whether it's 50 or 75, I think of 75 once in one batch, but usually they're smaller batches. And, last year, like the day before I lost my job, I was diagnosed with cancer. And so that cut down on a lot of stuff that I was doing. And I don't feel bad. I know I'm still doing my best. I'm still contributing. I'm still a member of the group. And so, yeah, I don't count. I just do what I can.

**TT**: How long would you say it takes to make one mask on average?

16:26

AD: Not long anymore. Like, my wife and I have a joke, she'll go weird Las Vegas once a while. She might go to the casino. There's a lot of people that she's met there and they're friendly with one another. So it's kind of a fun place to hang out even if you're not doing anything. So I will make her a mask and a hat set that match. And it's almost like a joke. Like she'll say, you know, she's going, I'm like, do you like this material? So I'll quickly make her a mask and a hat set. And so I'm pretty fast at it. I feel like I could do it in a half an hour, but we'll say an hour at the most. But I mean from getting out the template, cutting it out, sewing it together, put it, I have to make the ties and everything. But what I do now is I will cut things out ahead of time. So the backing I'll already have, the backing already there. I'll have pre-cut ties with everything. So that's what cuts it down. I probably could do it in half an hour if I really wanted to. Don't tell her that. Those things that make me look bad.

17:42

**TT**: Oh wow that's really fast. I've been wanting to try to sew but I don't have a sewing machine. But it's another hobby I'd like to take up.

17:48

**AD**: Yeah, it's fun. I mean, you're doing something useful. Plus, it's something that can be fashionable. I make mine to match my clothes. I even branch out and started sewing clothes like I sewed this, it's not perfect. But I sew dresses for myself. When I go to the hospital, I have to get my scans and stuff now. I now have the clothes I want to wear that are easy to handle when I'm getting my treatment, stuff like that. So it's expanded to more than just masks.

**TT**: Right, you can open an Etsy shop.

**AD**: You know, I thought about that, that Aunties have been so helpful because when I lost my job, I told them, you know, I still want to donate, but I need to make money now. I got to worry about, you know, traveling to get my test done. I got to stay in hotels. So I'm going to start selling masks and they sent me gobs of fabric. They just sent it to me to start my shop.

TT: Oh wow.

AD: Yeah, and and it's taken about a year that I've actually started to do things to where I can, you know, start making money. And I have sold some masks. And I mean, it's been, it's been quite a journey. But the Aunties have been so helpful and supportive. And so, yeah, I do need to sell stuff because I still have to go stay in hotels and things.

TT: Right.

19:17

**BG**: Our next question is, what are some things you wish, you know, before joining the Auntie Sewing Squad?

19:28

**AD**: Probably, I don't know, maybe just the material end of things, I guess. I wish I had, you know what, I don't know if I wish anything because everything I did was part of a growing experience and I enjoyed the journey. So I'm not really upset about not knowing certain things. Yeah. I don't know that I wish that I knew anything because they taught me. And in teaching me, I got to meet so many great people and I love learning so I got the enjoyment of that. So I'm not going to say that there is anything I wished. I struggled to answer this question when I saw it listed because I thought it sounds like something you should have an answer for. Like, I wish I had known how to sew.

**BG**: Right.

20:29

**AD**: Well, I didn't know how to sew before that and I enjoyed learning all the different masks styles and asking them how they did it, and I just learned everything along the way and I loved it.

**BG**: That's good though.

20:42

**TT**: Our next question is, how would you describe your experience with sewing before joining the Auntie Sewing Squad? Like, what skills did you need before joining the squad?

**AD**: All of them. All the skills. The thing I liked about making masks is that I didn't have to buy patterns and follow a pattern, really that was. I mean all I did was make a template. I actually have plastic templates now that I just use to make the masks. I'm not good at understanding templates, just like I'm not good at reading maps. I'm just not good at translating what I see even a piece of paper into something three dimensional. So that's definitely a skill that I had to learn. Yeah, I didn't have many skills when I joined and I actually had an anti-sewing attitude, mainly because I grew up with my mother's sewing and my sister sewing, I thought, I'm going to be different. I am not going to be anything like that. And I'm not a girly person and I associated crocheting and sewing and all this stuff with girly stuff. So I hated it even more. But now I see it as a real craft, a practical, necessary craft and a skill that I am really enjoying building. And so the minimal skills that I had, you know, sort of as a learn it yourself thing before I joined this Auntie Sewing Squad has grown significantly because of my work with them.

22:17

**TT**: Do you guys ever go on like zoom, or I guess, facetime and do it all together, or is it more individual?

22:24

**AD**: I'm not good at Zoom and facetime. I always think that I want to do that because they do that once and a while. And I would love to do that. I'm not an extroverted person in that way. So it takes me a long time to work myself to do it. But I think it would be so fun. And I know they've done it and had fun. I did join a zoom thing as an audience when there was a performance. I got to watch it and participate. That was fun, but it's hard for me to do that. I usually haven't done it and I want to do it at least once in so long, you know, because they're awesome. It would be fun to interact with them that way.

**TT**: How long did they stay on the zoom?

23:14

**AD**: I don't know. It seems like an hour or more. I don't know. I've done zoom meetings with my job. So the concept of seeing everybody in the Partridge family screen, I understand it. And I know it would be fun. I don't know how long I could do it. So that's the reason why I just don't di it. I am just not outgoing in that specific way, I like being in the background.

[laughing]

23:46

**BG**: Our next question is, considering the COVID restrictions have lasted over a year, what has made you stay so long in the Auntie Sewing Squad? And do you think that you would continue even after the restrictions have been lifted?

**AD**: I definitely would continue to do it. Even with the restrictions being lifted, I don't know that the group would be as big. I think it would be considerably smaller as people kind of branch off, do their own thing. I do hope that some aspect of the group is saved, that there's maybe a core

group of members that continue to do things that are useful. I mean, there are still people who need things, shelters or they're still homeless people. There's still people who are in domestic violence situations who need to escape and be safe. There's always going to be a need for the things that we could produce and distribute. I think the group has the skill to do that. So I do hope that they continue in some way, shape or form, even if it's for out of the country making, I know people sew menstrual pads for women in other countries and even this country so that is a skill that could be useful. I do hope that it continues in one shape, one way, shape or form.

25:17

**TT**: Our next question is, can you describe your contributions to the Auntie Sewing Squad and what has been your favorite thing about being a part of it?

25:25

**AD**: My contribution is, well, the masks, of course, and a sense of humor. I don't have a lot of other skills. Yeah. I think those are probably the main thing. Just being supportive member. I do want to do more. I think I've not done as much as I could mainly, partly because of the stuff going on in my life. But I think I could do more and I would like to. There are other Aunties there that are like my role models for how they're there for each other and the things that they do. So I would like to do more of that. What's the second part of the question?

26:18

**TT**: It is do you think that the Auntie Sewing Squad...oh sorry, wrong question. Your favorite thing about being a part of it?

26:31

**AD**: Oh, so, yeah, my favorite thing about being part of that group is the care that we give to one another. Like somebody just contacted me last week about sending me a care package. And it's really cool that we do that for each other. I have not done that yet. And that's one of the things I would like to do is contribute because when you give, you don't always take care of yourself at the same time. And I think a lot of the Aunties are going through their own health issues, family issues, financial issues, and it's nice to, in the midst of caring for each other to, receive little care yourself. So, yeah, that's one of my favorite parts of the group, is that we care for each other, as well as giving to other groups too.

27:18

**TT**: I like that. Do you have any Aunties that are near you that you would possibly visit, like I guess when it's safer to come in contact with one another?

27:31

**AD**: I live in Nevada. I think I'm the only one in Nevada right now. California is, you know, a hop, skip and a jump away. It's not easy, traffic wise to get there. But that's where I would definitely if it were safe. I know some of us are now fully vaccinated. So I think it would be kind of cool if we had a get together at a coffee shop or at a restaurant. I think that's someplace I would maybe do a driving trip or something to hang out. But if I never get to do that, it's not, I feel bad that I am so separated from them, but I'm not holding my breath that I'm going to be able to do that. So zoom might be my closest way of doing it. But yeah, it'll be fun especially if they

travel like if they had a little caravan of Aunties, I would definitely go out and do something or if they all decided to do a weekend in Vegas, I'm here.

28:38

BG: A girls trip

**AD**: Yeah. Yeah an Auntie trip. It would be nice to have an Auntie masks give-away caravan. You know, where we just travel and give out masks and stuff.

**TT**: Yeah a big van with everybody and sewing machines in the back.

**AD**: Yes, we could sew on the way, that would be cool.

TT: That would be cool, just go across the country.

AD: Yeah. Yeah. Livestream.

TT: Yeah

AD: I like that.

**TT**: People would make a lot of donations.

AD: Do podcasts and stuff in different cities. See, I like it. It's growing.

**BG**: Our next question is, what meaning does the Auntie Sewing Squad have to you personally?

**AD**: To me, it was my way of getting back into giving back to the community, something that I used to do and then had lost, like I said, because of the recession and health issues and stuff like that. So it's been my way of getting back to my earlier values, of being of service to people. And it's easy to be really materialistic and collect things that I've kind of been shedding those parts of me. So I really like being around people who value giving and conserving and valuing each other. So it's helped me get back to that part of who I am.

30:02

**TT**: Would you consider, I guess, this project to be one of your favorite acts of service?

**AD**: Yeah. I belong to so many groups on Facebook and I swap about all the time. And I always keep the Aunties right at the very top. Like, when I go on Facebook, I look to see what the Aunties are doing. I love when I get individual messages from different Aunties. Like how are you doing, and just checking on you. I'll reach out, you know, to certain Aunties that have been really kind to me and all that, not the rest of them are not kind, you know, I gravitate towards

certain people. So that's been cool getting a message from one of them. So, yeah, I didn't remember what the question is anymore, but I do enjoy the social part of being in that group.

**TT**: Our next question is what knowledge have you gained since being a part of the Auntie Sewing Squad?

**AD**: I mean, besides sewing, I guess I don't know, I guess how powerful social media can be in organizing people to taking care of a community or society or even the world, like using social media to be activists, to get people to act in concert. I think the group's been awesome at organizing people from all over the place to do one thing and do it well and to get people into specific roles. It's just very well organized. It's just a well-designed group. Everything about it, I think they've done such a great job and I think they're a great role model for how to use social media in that regard. I guess I've learned that if I want to create a group like that I've learned the skills through watching how the Aunties have done that. I've also, because a lot of the members are Asian or have Asian connections in some way, shape or form, it's kind of helped me. I've grown up outside of a community of African Americans. I grew up in the magical place of my childhood, which was very diverse, which I thought was a normal, natural way to live. And then I moved out to Ohio, which I was like the pepper flake in a bowl of sugar, or salt or whatever, I felt very isolated and had no connections or friends with other African Americans. So it's kind of cool to even though they're not a group of African Americans, I relate to the fact that we're all minorities and we all know what it's like to be treated differently. And it's I think it's kind of cool to see my own, the racism I've gone through, they understand, and of course, now with all of the anti-Asian stuff, thank you Trump, I can definitely relate to them. And I know that they have been there for African Americans and other minority groups have been abused and marginalized. So we do that for one another.

**TT**: A good support group.

**AD**: Yeah, I think I guess I would say that's one of the things that I've, I don't know if learning is the right word, I guess, absorbed the similarities set that we all have as minorities, that we're there for one another.

34:27

**TT**: The connections and all that.

AD: Yeah.

34:36

**BG**: And that leads to our last question which is, how has the Auntie Sewing Squad helped those affected by the Asian hate happening recently? And how is Auntie Sewing Squad influencing others to advocate for awareness for the recent widespread Asian prejudice?

**AD**: Because I'm out here in Nevada, I don't really see what they're doing locally. I see what they're posting about things that are happening locally and nationally. So I think that's another thing about being physically far. I think if I were there physically, I would be able to take part in local things that they're doing. I know that there's educational aspects. There's the sharing of information and giving out resources that are working on anti-hatred. I think that our numbers as a group help us in a way. I'm not sure how to describe it. I just feel like when you have a large group of people with the same views, it strengthens all of us in that way of thinking. So it helps strengthen the idea that we need to work against hatred, that we need to educate. I don't know. I think that's important, even though it's not something you see, it's something you feel. Just knowing that there's this network of Aunties who all feel the same way. We're all largely political, and anti-hate is just part of who the group is, part of what we do. Like, even when we're distributing masks, we're distributing to everyone. We're not discriminating, you know. And these are, you know, women with Asian background who could easily withdraw and say screw this. We're only helping Asians, we're only helping people of color. And they don't do that. We help everyone. To me, that's role modeling, what we want from the world.

TT: Yeah

**AD**: So even if we were victims of hatred and marginalization and profiling and all that stuff, we're not responding with hate.

36:55

**TT**: Awesome, I just really wanted to thank you for meeting with us like a very last minute. Cause we had a different Auntie before and she wasn't replying and that's why we had to reach out to you last minute. So I really appreciate you meeting us, especially on Sunday. I know you're busy too, so thank you.

**AD**: Yeah, and I'm glad you guys are doing this project. I've taught before at the college level, and so I know from both sides being a student and being the professor side, it's exciting when you have a project like this and you have a purpose for it. You're fitting all these different pieces into it, folding it in. The Auntie group has really been looked at by different people, journalists and academics and all that. It's just really cool how different groups are seeing the Aunties through these different lenses.

**TT**: Hearing about it all throughout the semester about just the Auntie Sewing Squad and now to be able to actually talk to someone and just make connections.

38:06

**AD**: Yeah, I like being called an Auntie. It's really cool. The title is cool.

**TT**: And that's the rest of our questions.

**AD**: OK, well, good luck with your project and your grade.

**BG**: Thank you for answering all of your questions.

**AD**: Thanks for such good questions too. You guys have a great day.

**BG**: Thank you

TT: Thank you, Safe travels to arizona!

BG: Yeah!

**AD**: Thank you. I appreciate that. Bye bye.

TT: Bye

**BG**: Bye

38:45