

# LOCALE<sup>®</sup>

## Editor's Note



When Tyra Banks and Heidi Klum dominated the fashion industry through their dramatic yet iconic reality TV shows, my middle school self dreamed of rocking six-inch heels and couture dresses with all the grace and confidence that the legendary models had embodied. I went from flipping through channels to flipping through the pages of *Vogue*, completely and utterly enamored by the world of fashion. What mattered most to me wasn't my appearance, but how I discovered my own style during a time when my self-identity crisis was at its peak.

It's not *what* you wear but *how* you wear it. The same can be said for this magazine, which I hope guides you through all the different poses of life like Banks and Klum did for me. Strap yourselves in for a shopping trip around Orange County, Los Angeles, San Diego and Greater Palm Springs with our Shoppe Guide (pg. 63), and then slow down and meet some local Shoppe Experts (pg. 51) who are dedicated to their (hand)craft. We'll then introduce you to the incredible women of MADE by DWC in our Humanitarian Profile (pg. 80) before transporting you to our futuristic fashion photoshoot (pg. 72).

Once you seize your style, we're calming our grumbling tummies with Cafe Gratitude's vegan "Whole Bowl" in Meals Deconstructed (pg. 98) and getting a taste of Cal Mare's Mediterranean Branzino (pg. 86). Then we'll explore the **Downtown Arts District** (pg. 104) before crossing paths with Shelby and Sandy and their vibrant art in our Artist Spotlight (pg. 110). To round it all off, we're escaping to the desert to marvel at the various exhibits at the Palm Springs Art Museum (pg. 114).

The highlight of this magazine for me was meeting our cover star and pro athlete, Christen Press of the US Women's National Soccer Team (pg. 40), who not only taught herself how to stay grounded during life's highs and lows but also how to kick the expectations away. Our conversation still resonates with me, and to all the beautiful and strong women reading, I'm sure it'll do the same for you.

Los Angeles is not only rich in fame and luxury but also diverse in lifestyles and cultures. Whether bright or hidden, we are all gems, and there is no better place to polish ourselves than the City of Angels. As the woman behind the iconic *smize* will always say: "Never dull your shine for somebody else." ■



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