

Best of Our Valley 2012: Shopping

Written by Written by Ashley Pearlstein

Take a look at where Valley fashionistas like to flex their card-swiping and bag-toting muscles when they're in the mood for some serious head-to-toe (or sunglasses-to-shoes) shopping...



Best Local Jewelry Designer: Female

Jacqueline Nerguizian Fine Jewelry

Born and raised in California, Jacqueline Nerguizian is a third-generation jeweler who brings classic Hollywood glam to the Valley. (Speaking of Hollywood, the likes of Sandra Bullock, Jennifer Lopez and AFM cover model Bret Michaels have donned her designs.) Designing jewelry since age 9, Nerguizian knows the ins and outs of the process and can design a killer piece that'll make jaws drop. www.jacqdesigns.com.

Best Local Jewelry Designer

Claudia Kretchmer

As co-owner of OPUS Art of Fine Jewelry and heir to Steven Kretchmer Designs, Claudia Kretchmer knows jewelry. With exquisite, hand-made designs and quality craftsmanship, it's no wonder why voters love her works of art and have ranked this fourth-generation jeweler as the top local jewelry designer. www.opusjewelry.com; www.stevenkretchmer.com.



Best Local Jewelry Designer: Male

Randy Coffin, Coffin & Trout Fine Jewelers

Randy Coffin, co-founder of Coffin & Trout Fine Jewelers and avid community serviceman, welcomes guests into his store as if they were family. With a friendly attitude, deep commitment to his practice and the ability to create beauty, Coffin's business and sparkling creations are unlike any other. www.coffinandtrout.com.

Best National Jeweler

Tiffany & Co.

Featuring groundbreaking designs and rare diamonds, Tiffany & Co. has been providing customers with fine jewelry since 1837. Committed to customer satisfaction, rarity and environmental responsibility, Tiffany jewelry is as sustainable as it is beautiful. www.tiffany.com.



Best Engagement Ring Store-2011 Winner

Best Local Watch Selection-2011 Winner

Best Local Jeweler

Coffin & Trout Fine Jewelers

As one of the Valley's top spots for bridal jewelry, luxury watches, men's jewelry and more, it's no surprise that Coffin & Trout is a favorite among voters. Along with a great selection of jewelry and dependable jewelry repair, Coffin & Trout also offers custom designs to meet any client's unique needs. www.coffinandtrout.com.

Best Local Fashion Designer-2011 Winner

Angela Johnson, Angela Johnson Designs

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"Turning T-shirts into couture," Angela Johnson creates eco-friendly gowns and other designs from thrifted T-shirts. As an award-winning designer with a cutting-edge style, Johnson's designs are sold nationwide and at her fashion and trunk shows.

www.angelajohnsondesigns.com.



Best Cosmetics and Skincare
Best Department Store
Best Fragrance Selection
Best HandBags and Accessories
Best Shoe Shopping
Saks Fifth Avenue

With a wide variety of men's and women's quality fashions, Saks Fifth Avenue at Phoenix's Biltmore Fashion Park is a favorite one-stop shop for customers who crave high-end variety in a sumptuous yet welcoming atmosphere. Handbags, clothing, jewelry, fragrances and accessories only scratch the surface of the designer fashions and beauty supplies featured at Saks. www.saksfifthavenue.com.

Best Stylist

Shannon Campbell

Former model and actress Shannon Campbell knows style. Just take a look at the Valley resident's résumé: behind-the-scenes work at the Mercedes-Benz New York Fashion Week and Phoenix and Scottsdale Fashion Weeks; styling for VH-1; and published works in Italian Vogue, to name a few of Campbell's impressive endeavors. www.shannoncampbellstylist.com.

Best Boutique: Local

jam

Located in the heart of Old Town Scottsdale, jam is an artisan's boutique that also offers a range of classes taught by the Valley's top experts. From calligraphy to pie baking, jam teaches it all and is a favorite place for locals to get crafty. www.jam-az.com.



Best Boutique: National or International

Kate Spade

Combining playful sophistication and simple elegance, Kate Spade at Scottsdale Fashion Square has become a favorite boutique among Valley voters. Handbags, jewelry, clothing, shoes and more can be found at this international hot spot along with a warm and inviting environment.

www.katespade.com.

Best Pet Shop

Oh My Dog! Boutique + Spa

Looking for a cute little place to pamper your pet? Oh My Dog! Boutique + Spa offers services like a pawdicure, dog yoga, a canine massage and custom pet birthday parties to spoil your pup. Don't forget to check out the organic treats and couture puppy outfits on your way out. www.ohmydogboutique.com.

Best Wedding Dress Shop

Mariée

Mariée is more than a bridal store; it is a bridal gallery. Mariée sees the artistic side of bridal gowns and displays them as if they were in a high-end art gallery. With hand-picked designs and an array of gowns from traditional to flamboyant to contemporary, the selection at the Scottsdale store makes brides swoon. www.marieegallery.com.

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Best Shopping Center: Indoors

Scottsdale Fashion Square

More than 250 breathtaking stores await shoppers at Scottsdale Fashion Square. With names like Tiffany & Co., Barneys New York, Victoria's Secret, Louis Vuitton and Prada, a style overload greets each customer. No fashion-forward mall is complete without delicious restaurants like The Yardhouse, Kona Grill and Modern Steak, all featured at Fashion Square. www.fashionsquare.com.

Best Swimwear Shopping

Aqua Beachwear-2011 Winner

Featuring brand names like Betsey Johnson, DKNY, Juicy Couture and Ralph Lauren Blue Label, Aqua Beachwear has a beach-ready getup for everyone. Whether you are looking for a swimsuit fit for a honeymoon getaway or a conservative one-piece, Aqua Beachwear has the hookup. Check out the shop's supply of designer cover-ups to complete your beach look. www.aquabeachwear.com.

Best Gift Shop

Do Me a Favor-2011 Winner

With upscale, quality home gifts for the kitchen, powder room, baby room and more, Do Me a Favor adds style and functionality to home decorations. With hand-wrapped gifts featuring unique papers and ribbons, the presentation is just as important as the quality of the gift. www.favorfinegifts.com.

Best Vintage or Secondhand Store

Vintage by Misty

Shoppers can recapture classic looks through the array of designer clothing and accessories offered at Vintage by Misty. One-of-a-kind ensembles can be formed with a one-stop shopping trip to a store that will take you back in time. www.vintagebymisty.com.

Best Fashion Week

Phoenix Fashion Week

As the leading fashion industry event of the Southwest, Phoenix Fashion Week strives to unite national and international designers and retailers. With a focus on fashion, education and humanity, Phoenix Fashion Week involves the community in all its endeavors. www.phoenixfashionweek.com.

Best Athletic Gear

lululemon athletica

For yoga, dance and running fanatics, lululemon athletica provides comfortable yet stylish clothing for all athletic endeavors. Along with a unique clothing line, lululemon also excels in community outreach, offering yoga classes, bootcamp classes and other community events. www.lululemon.com.



Best Shopping Center: Outdoors

Desert Ridge Marketplace

A relaxed outdoor setting, 31 restaurants and 75 stores make Desert Ridge Marketplace a favorite Phoenix shopping destination. Catch a movie at AMC Desert Ridge, indulge in a late-night Pizookie at BJ's Restaurant and Brewhouse, then finish the night strolling through stores like Ulta and Barnes & Noble. www.shopdesertridge.com.

Best Year-Round Resortwear

Calypso St. Barth

This global luxury lifestyle brand has transformed the way people think of resortwear. The luxurious pieces offered through Calypso St. Barth are glamorous and casually elegant while also relaxing and comfortable. With everything from clothing to accessories to fragrances, Calypso St. Barth has all you need for any vacation. www.calypsostbarth.com.

Best Denim

Industrie Denim

The latest update to Scottsdale Quarter, Industrie Denim is a haven for jean lovers. Originally started in San Francisco, the shop has continued to spread the denim devotion with brands like Levi's, J Brand and more. www.industriedenim.com.

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Best Glasses

LensCrafters

LensCrafters features popular brands like DKNY, Dolce & Gabbana, Ralph Lauren and Ray-Ban to add style and flair to eyeglass fashions. With a wide variety of eyeglasses and sunglasses and a friendly staff to help out, LensCrafters is the choice location for all eyewear needs. www.lenscrafters.com.

Best Discount Store

Nordstrom Rack

Discounted prices on designer brands—what more could a person want? Nordstrom Rack features clothing, shoes and accessories for men, women and children in brands like True Religion, Michael Kors, Lucky, BCBG and more, all at 30 to 70 percent off original prices. shop.nordstrom.com.

Best Outlets or Discount Shopping Center

The Outlets at Anthem

Featuring dozens of outlet stores with discounted prices, The Outlets at Anthem, located just outside of Phoenix, is Arizona's best outlet shopping haven. Check out Tommy Hilfiger, Izod, Coach's Factory Store, BCBG, the Ann Taylor Factory Store and more. www.outletsanthem.com.

Best Place to Hoard Fashion & Accessories for Cheap

Charming Charlie

This "charming" accessory boutique is color-coordinated, making it easy to find what you need and fun to browse. Priced between \$5 and \$50, Charming Charlie's accessories are affordable and beautiful—and there is a bauble for customers of any age. A friendly staff and a sociable atmosphere are the cherries on top of a fabulous boutique. www.charmingcharlie.com.

Best Technology & Gadgets

Microsoft Store-2011 Winner

The Microsoft Store at Scottsdale Fashion Square can provide hours of entertainment for the whole family. Kids can check out the latest Xbox games while parents can peruse the abundant selection of laptops, tablets, desktops and accessories—all under the same roof. www.microsoftstore.com/scottsdale.

Best Web Site for Clothing Shopping

Saks.com

Shopping designer has never been so easy. Skip the lines, parking garages and overcrowded food court and shop online at Saks.com. Designer names like Diane von Furstenberg, Juicy Couture, Splendid and Oscar de la Renta can be purchased with the click of a button. www.saks.com.

Best Deal Web Site

Groupon.com

Featuring deals that are specifically catered to the location of each user, Groupon.com has savings for everyone. With 50 to 90 percent discounts, the Web site is a necessary visit for anyone in need of savings. Find great local deals on food, spa days, shopping excursions and much more. www.groupon.com.
