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Social Butterflies

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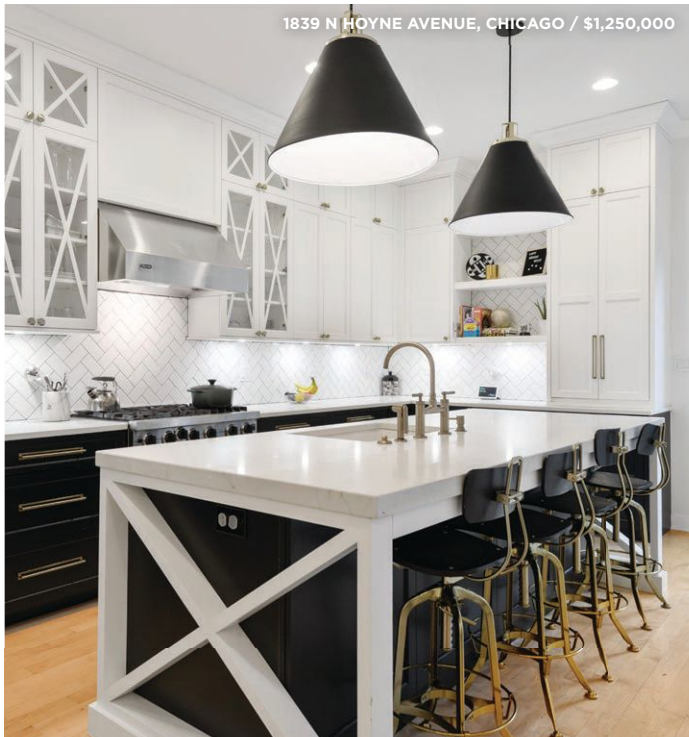
401 N WABASH AVENUE #38A, CHICAGO / \$2,895,000



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CHICAGO

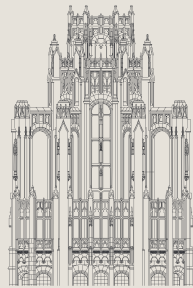
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EMILY SACHS WONG
LUXURY LIVING

AskEmily

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1857 N ORCHARD ST

8 Beds | 6.3 Baths • \$6,995,000
1857NOrchardSt.info

Custom, one-of-a-kind home built by LG on an outstanding block. 9000 square feet on a 44' wide lot and the most sensational outdoor space. The main level offers beautifully-appointed living and dining spaces with huge west-facing picture windows for amazing light. The kitchen is a chef's dream with two islands. The adjacent great room is the perfect place to gather informally - especially in the warmer months where a Nanawall opens completely onto the back deck and yard - allowing for true indoor-outdoor living.



2228 N BURLING ST

6 Beds | 5.3 Baths • \$2,885,000
2228NBurlingSt.info

Wonderful opportunity for a spectacular home on a quiet one-way street, seconds to Oz Park. Behind the beautiful limestone facade sits a huge house with generous ceiling heights, gracious room sizes, and fabulous outdoor spaces. The front living room features a gorgeous fireplace and big east-facing windows with space for a sitting area and piano. The adjacent dining room can accommodate a large table and features direct kitchen access.



2239 N DAYTON ST

5 Beds | 4.1 Baths • \$3,600,000
2239NDaytonSt.info

Outstanding total reconstruction of this classic Chicago residence! Using only the original exterior, this home was completely reimagined. An effortlessly floating staircase is an engineering feat showcasing how special this home is, or, just take the elevator! The entrance level is comprised of Terrazzo flooring and a logically placed office which has views of the beautifully landscaped front yard. Outstanding light flows through all levels from the domed skylight and spreads throughout the levels.



1300 N STATE PKWY, 1202

5 Beds | 5.1 Baths • \$4,995,000
1300NStatePkwY1202.info

Outstanding 2-level penthouse at the famed Ambassador! Custom designed finishes throughout including a curved Venetian plaster-wrapped stairway, custom Rimadesio 9' glass & industrial iron doors! Southern and west exposure provides superior light and enhances the white classic finishes. The second level features the penthouse rec room with glass walls to a fabulous south-facing city view huge, landscaped deck! 3 parking spaces & near the best of the city!





EMILY SACHS WONG
LUXURY LIVING

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1316 N ASTOR ST



Architecturally significant Potter Palmer mansion in a prestigious Gold Coast locale.

6 Beds | 6.3 Baths
\$4,995,000
1316NAstorSt.info

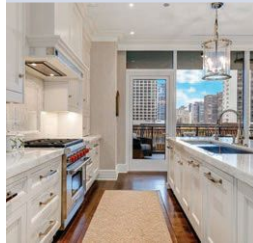
1520 N DEARBORN PKWY



Fabulous Gold Coast row house offering a modern floorplan and quality finishes.

5 Beds | 4.1 Baths
\$4,200,000
1520NDearbornPkwY.info

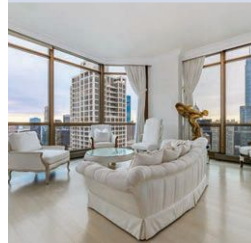
9 W WALTON ST, 704



Custom condominium with neighborhood and city views from every window!

3 Beds | 3.1 Baths
\$4,200,000
9WWaltonSt704.info

21 E HURON ST, 4701



Fantastic opportunity for a full floor residence at the Pinnacle! Offering over 5500 square feet.

4 Beds | 4.1 Baths
\$4,100,000
21EHuronSt4701.info

75 E ELM ST



Spectacular historical Gold Coast home transformed with gracious ceiling heights & interiors.

7 Beds | 6.1 Baths
\$3,500,000
75EElmSt.info

1324 W WEBSTER AVE



Prime corner lot in an ideal Lincoln Park location with timeless finishes throughout!

5 Beds | 5.2 Baths
\$2,595,000
1324WWebster.info

229 E LAKE SHORE DR, 4W



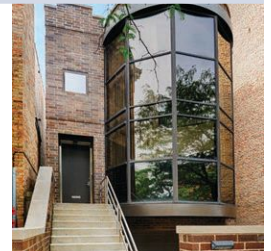
Total renovation of an expansive home at a prestigious address! New interior offers gracious room sizes and modern amenities, while maintaining the integrity of this historic building. The beautiful formal living space offers unbelievable lake and treetop views. The primary suite offers a spectacular closet/dressing room and a thoughtful vintage-like bath with heated flooring and an oversized steam shower. Turn-key home in a premier location!

3 Beds | 2.1 Baths
\$2,500,000
229ELakeShoreDr4W.info



1622 N LA SALLE DR

A truly one-of-a-kind home in the perfect Old Town/Lincoln Park location. This home overlooks the Chicago History Museum and is also near the heart of the Gold Coast and lake. Sunlight pours in through the two-story east-facing windows of this architecturally significant home. The main level offers gracious living and dining spaces and a bright eat-in kitchen with granite countertops and a huge pantry.



3 Beds | 3.1 Baths
\$1,395,000
1622NLaSalleDr.info

180 E PEARSON ST, 3801



Exceptionally renovated 38th floor corner unit with Lake Michigan, city and sunset views!

3 Beds | 3 Baths
\$2,495,000
180EPearsonSt3801.info

1126 W LILL AVE



Completely redesigned Lincoln Park home with truly unbeatable outdoor space.

5 Beds | 5.2 Baths
\$1,950,000
1126WLill.info

1738 N SEDGWICK ST



Impeccable home offering a spacious rooftop deck with phenomenal city views.

5 Beds | 4.1 Baths
\$1,790,000
1738NSedgwickSt.info

2238 N GENEVA TER



Rare Lincoln Park row home on a full-sized lot with high ceilings throughout!

5 Beds | 3.1 Baths
\$1,750,000
2238NGenevaTer.info

1245 W LILL AVE



Superb Lincoln Park location offering an extremely wide and modern floor plan!

4 Beds | 3.1 Baths
\$1,475,000
1245WLillAve.info

2132 N SHEFFIELD AVE, 3



Fabulous opportunity for a like-new construction in a happening Lincoln Park location.

2 Beds | 2 Baths
\$789,000
2132NSheffieldAve3.info

LETTER FROM THE PUBLISHER



The reinvention of Navy Pier as a luxury destination continues with the opening of new hotel Sable at Navy Pier, a chic hospitality destination designed by starchitect Jackie Koo and boasting 223 guest rooms and suites.

THE POWER OF CONNECTION

It's been 14 months since the world went sideways, but doesn't it feel like a lifetime ago? So much has changed, from the work-from-home revolution to the complete transformation of how we do business, socialize and live in our homes. Throughout it all, I've learned that, more than ever, communication and connection are key. Whether it's through Zoom calls with family or business associates, picking up the phone to chat with one of our valued partners instead of sending another email, or telling the stories of the city as it evolves and adapts to the circumstances—as we do every month here at CS—it's crucial that during challenging times we strive to make those connections every day.

In 2021, some of the most successful connectors are in the realm of social media,

and we're excited to present a nationwide look at 100 of the most influential and charismatic personalities in the field—as well as 10 Chicago creatives who are expressing their art while also making those valuable connections. Some other truly impressive connectors spotlighted in this issue? The members of our annual Power Players special section, featuring the city's most influential movers and shakers across all industries, who have each proved themselves expert at turning a challenging year into an opportunity for personal and professional triumph. Bravo to them, and to valued partners like A and N Mortgage, Broadleaf Hardwoods Co. and River North Collision Repair, whose support helps us keep connecting to our readership every day. Enjoy the issue!



Tom Conradi
Group Publisher - Chicago
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MEMBER SPOTLIGHT A and N Mortgage President Neena Vlamis and her veteran team lead this award-winning mortgage services company, which has recently partnered with Habitat Chicago to help provide more safe and affordable housing for Chicagoans in 2021. anmtg.com

Broadleaf Hardwoods Co. From hardwood flooring installation and refinishing to custom design, this Des Plaines-based company should be your go-to for all your luxury flooring needs. [facebook.com/broadleafhardwoods](https://www.facebook.com/broadleafhardwoods) **River North Collision Repair** First-rate collision repair—from glass and paint to bumper damage and dents—combined with reliable and personable service have made this a trusted destination for downtown Chicago and beyond. rivernorthcollisionrepair.com

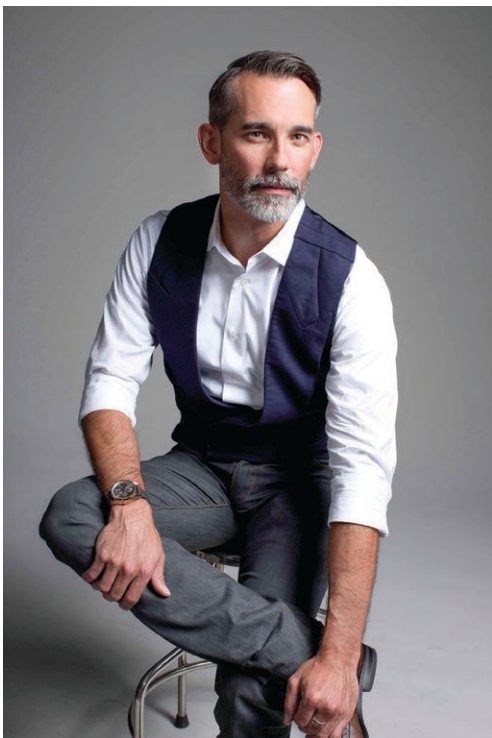
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COVEATLANTIS.COM

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

One of my must-sees for spring? *Frida Kahlo: Timeless*, a stunning retrospective exhibition of the iconic Mexican artist's work opening June 5 at the Cleve Carney Museum of Art and the McAninch Arts Center at the College of DuPage.



THE AGE OF INFLUENCE

When I was little, the idea of being an astronaut or fireman when you grew up was every kid's dream. These days, your child is more likely to aim for social media star status as a YouTube sensation or a TikTok queen. You can hardly blame them: For those with the skills and the good fortune to build an audience, it's a path to fame, money and millions of fans hanging on your every post, and that's an incredibly powerful thing. One thing is certain: The age of the influencer is here to stay.

In this, our dedicated Power Issue, we take a look at the social media icons across the nation and around the world who have viewers of the various platforms—whether Snapchat or YouTube or TikTok—eating out of the palm of their hands. At the same time, we discover 10 Chicago creatives who are brilliantly using social media to draw attention to their work. Whether it's music by @kingmarie, graphic design by @struggle_inc, stories by @aimytien or smashingly

creative cuisine with a conscience by Tzucó's @chefcarlosgaytan, these influencers are building up an impressive body of work, expressing their art and developing a powerful brand, all while building their audiences thousands of followers at a time. And in this day and age, that may be the ultimate dream.

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Instagram: @cschicagosocial; @jpanders

FROM LEFT, PHOTOS BY: MARIA PONCE BERRE; HULTON ARCHIVE/GETTY IMAGES

Elegance is an attitude

Simon Baker
Simon Baker

LONGINES



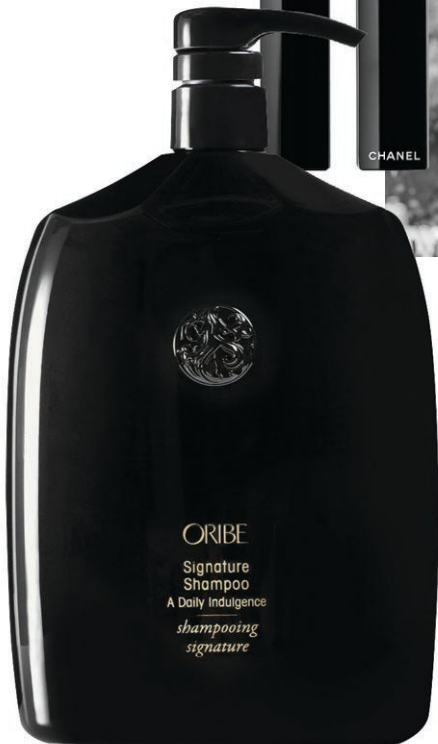
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Products, clockwise from left: Prada hat, prada.com; Chanel Longwear Intense cream eyeliner, orchardmile.com; Skims Fits Everybody triangle bralette, net-a-porter.com; La Perla shorts, orchardmile.com; ring light, amazon.com; Alexander McQueen ring, alexandermcqueen.com; Oribe Hair Care signature shampoo, sephora.com; Chanel liquid eyeliner, orchardmile.com.



Dixie D'Amelio wearing Prada



SHOP THE LOOK

“Say goodbye to bright florals and hello to midriff-baring, unapologetically dark hues this season.”

—FAYE POWER VANDE VREDE, FASHION DIRECTOR OF CUSTOM PUBLISHING AND BRANDED CONTENT, @MODERNLUXURY; @FAYEVANDEVREDE

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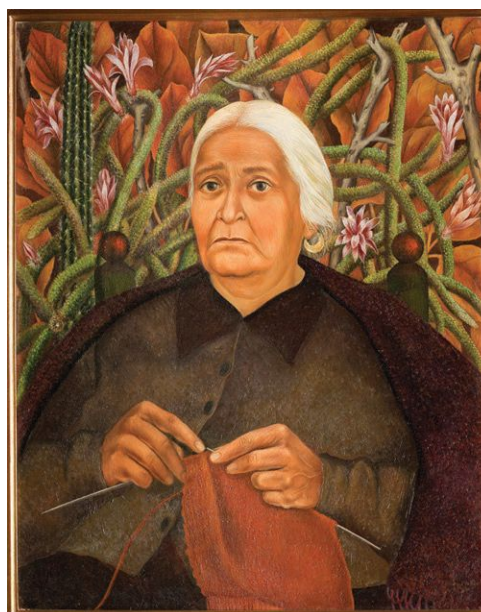


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CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: PHOTOS: COURTESY OF CADILLAC; COURTESY OF LETTUCE ENTERTAIN YOU ENTERPRISES; FRIDA KAHLO, PORTRAIT OF DOÑA ROSITA MORILLO, 1944, OIL ON MASONITE, COLLECTION MUSEO DOLORES OLMEDO, XOCHIMILCO, MEXICO © 2020 BANCO DE MEXICO DIEGO RIVERA FRIDA KAHLO MUSEUMS TRUST, MEXICO, D.F. / ARTISTS RIGHTS SOCIETY (ARS), NEW YORK

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INTRA-MATIC CHRONOGRAPH H
MECHANICAL SWISS MADE

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The 2.5 million-square-foot Post Office superstructure still keeps its history in mind, but now has a completely different purpose thanks to an \$800 million project.



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Parisian interior designer and architect Pierre Yovanovitch has created many custom pieces over the years but hasn't launched a full-on collection—until now.

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5 QUESTIONS WITH...

This North Shore native and influencer extraordinaire is on the heels of a Netflix movie release and album debut.



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Social Butterflies

Dubbed “the first family of TikTok” as their collective social media profiles reach record-busting heights, the D’Amelio clan has their feet somewhat surprisingly planted on the ground. The enigmatic secret to their explosive success just might be what helps them survive the perils of sudden fame.

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The Social Matrix

From TikTok to YouTube, these social media influencers are trending and informing our cultural zeitgeist IRL. Here are Modern Luxury’s Top 100 Content Creators of 2021.

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Like Minded

Chicago’s power players are taking over your feed—and here to lift up and lead their community one positive post at a time.



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for The Only Agency

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Opposite page: The Jet Linx fleet includes more than 100 jets across the country. This page. Top left: Inside the private terminal at Jet Linx Chicago. Top right: The terminal's private meeting room. Above: Jet Linx Chicago Base President Brian Goodman.

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Clockwise from top:
Gucci Beloved GG
Marmont small chain
shoulder bag, Beloved
1955 Horsebit shoulder
bag and Beloved Dionysus
shoulder bag, gucci.com.

BELOVED BEAUTIES

With the flood of fashion news coming from Gucci and the house's milestone 100th anniversary, it makes perfect sense the luxury brand would revisit the archives for inspiration. Designer Alessandro Michele traveled through decades and eras to reinvent Gucci's adored classics for the Beloved collection. A quick stop in 2015 for the Dionysus bag (the first from his debut women's collection), a dabble with the infamous Horsebit of 1955 and a reimagining of the Jackie from 1961 are all done in colors evocative of the most enviable of precious gems. The result is a veritable style feast for the eyes and, of course, your look. Dig in.

BY JAMES AGUIAR // PHOTOGRAPHED BY HELENA PALAZZI

JUNE JUBILEE

Here's what should be on your to-do list this month.

BY ANTONIA DEPACE

Raise a glass at Tree House, River North's latest new dining hot spot.

The exterior of the Chicago Architecture Center



▲ SEE

The Chicago Architecture Center has fully reopened, and we couldn't be more excited. The nonprofit, which focuses on tours, exhibits, programs and events, kicked off its season with COVID-19 safety policies in mind—starting with walking tours of Chinatown, Hyde Park and more. This month, go see new exhibits in The Drake Family Skyscraper Gallery and the Chicago Gallery, featuring seven new scale models of towers from Bangkok, Chicago, New York, Taipei and Tianjin, as well as 30 new models of anticipated buildings in the area. Also not to miss, the virtual *Architect Talk: Lawrence Scarpa in Conversation With Planning Commissioner Maurice Cox* June 3. 111 E. Wacker Drive, architecture.org

WATCH

Take it back to the Roaring '20s. What do you think of? Flapper dresses, prosperity and speakeasies. Now, locals can experience that celebratory atmosphere at The Press Room as it transforms into a new speakeasy concept, open for candlelit dinner and cocktails every Wednesday through Saturday. Think twists on the classics like French 75, Negronis and black Manhattans sipped over oysters, burrata, steak tartare and charcuterie boards. Not to miss this month: two cabaret shows June 13 and 20. 1134 W. Washington Blvd., pressroomchicago.com

▲ EAT

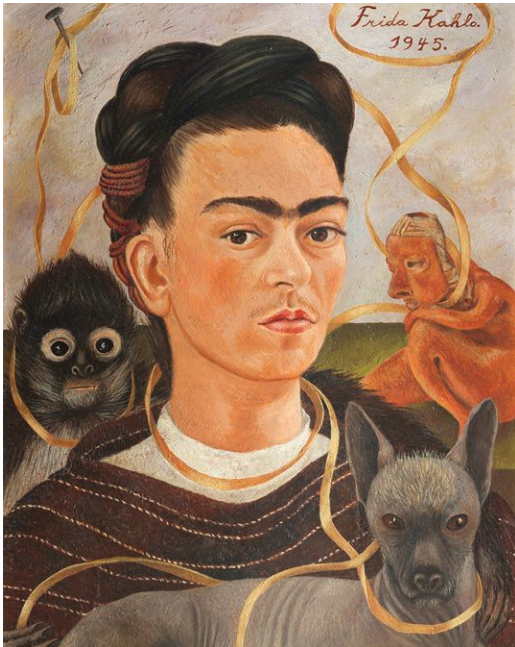
Escape to another world at Tree House, Third Coast Hospitality Group's newest concept. The restaurant, which recently opened in River North, acts as a nature-inspired experience that beckons young professionals and families with dishes steeped in modern Italian and comfort concepts. Order Detroit-style pizza for a crispy pie with a cheesy center, or opt for a pasta dish like rigatoni in a house vodka sauce with crispy prosciutto and sprinkled with Parmigiano-Reggiano. Wash it down with the Mango Mezcal or Pink Pigeon Paloma. 149 W. Kinzie St., treehousechicago.com



FROM LEFT, PHOTOS BY RACHEL BIRRES; COURTESY OF CAC

V VIEW

“They thought I was a surrealist, but I wasn’t. I never painted dreams. I painted my own reality,” Frida Kahlo once said. Explore the iconic Mexican painter’s work at the Cleve Carney Museum of Art and the McAninch Arts Center at the College of DuPage this month with new exhibit *Frida Kahlo: Timeless*. Opening June 5, the exhibition is a one-of-a-kind retrospective including 26 pieces on loan from the Museo Dolores Olmedo, and features an array of oil paintings and paper works from Kahlo’s career. 425 Fawell Blvd., Glen Ellyn, frida2021.org



Frida Kahlo, “Self-Portrait with Small Monkey” (1945, oil on Masonite), Collection Museo Dolores Olmedo, Xochimilco, Mexico

> INDULGE

The ultimate form of self-care: a magnesium body wrap followed by lymphatic drainage massage—and it’s exclusively available in the area at Freeze & Float Spa. What exactly is the treatment? A two-hour total-body detoxification that includes a magnesium scrub, charcoal wrap application, 30 minutes in the infrared sauna and lymphatic massage. Oh—and did we mention that it’s celebrity approved with the likes of Gwyneth Paltrow, Victoria Beckham, Sofía Vergara and Miranda Kerr as fans? Count us in. 371 W. Ontario St., freezefloatspa.com

Some benefits of using an infrared sauna include clearer and tighter skin, improved circulation and relaxation.

> STAY

Sweeping views of Lake Michigan and the Chicago skyline await at Sable at Navy Pier—Curio Collection by Hilton’s 100th-property milestone. Located atop Navy Pier, this is the first hotel to break ground on the historic landmark and was developed by Maverick Hotels. Check into one of its 223 guest rooms and suites, which boast brass finishes, ship building materials and neutral colors to hone in on a nautical theme, before heading to the world’s largest rooftop bar, Offshore, next door for cocktails and bites. hilton.com; sablehotel.com

Pristine views of Lake Michigan make any suite at Sable at Navy Pier lustworthy.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: PHOTOS: COURTESY OF 2020 BANCO DE MEXICO DIEGO RIVERA & FRIDA KAHLO MUSEUMS TRUST, MEXICO; DE/ARTISTS RIGHTS SOCIETY (ARS), NEW YORK; COURTESY OF MIKESCHWARTZ/PHOTOGRAPHY; BY NIKKO SALGADO



From top: Fendi white FF Vertigo shirt, white FF Vertigo knit, blue bathing suit, blue FF Vertigo bucket hat, blue FF Vertigo socks, blue FF Vertigo Fendi Flow sneaker and FF Vertigo Fendi Flow tote bag, fendi.com; artist Sarah Coleman amid a kaleidoscope of Fendi FF logos.

GOLD STANDARD

Prada continues to take the lead in sustainability with its latest launch of organic denim. The organic washed denim is fully Global Organic Textile Standard certified, farmed with low environmental impact, and free of pesticides and fertilizer. Setting the gold standard in environmentally friendly fashion, Prada's organic denim is dyed using the Acquisave system, a process that significantly reduces water consumption. This line of denim allows Prada loyalists to further their commitment to putting the environment first while stepping out in style and confidence. —FV

Prada romper, prada.com



RETRO REVIVAL

As summer approaches, all eyes are going psychedelic with the launch of the Fendi FF Vertigo collection. Partnering with New York-based visual artist Sarah Coleman, the house once again transforms the ordinary into the extraordinary through her fanciful artistic lens. This second collaboration between Coleman and Silvia Venturini Fendi, accessories and menswear artistic director, features the iconic FF logo pattern in a bold, new, mind-altering shape inspired by the visually dynamic culture of the 1970s. The collection offers all the delight of a past era reshaped for the present—just in time for summer fun to begin. —Faye Power Vande Vrede



Loro Piana Sesia Kummel Lp dyed bag, loropiana.com



THE ITALIAN WAY

The search for the perfect handbag has ended. Soft, effortlessly chic and uniquely feminine, Loro Piana's new Sesia bag is destined to be your go-to. Known for supple, lush fabrics and timeless Italian style, the brand expands its luxury accessories line with an artfully designed handbag that takes high-quality craftsmanship and artistry to a new level of elegance and sophistication. Shaped in harmoniously curved lines and available in an array of sumptuously rich earth tones, the Sesia bag is aptly named for the breathtaking valley that's home to Loro Piana's headquarters. With the touch and temperament of the Italian countryside, the Sesia bag is the very definition of grace and beauty. —FV

PHOTOS COURTESY OF BRANDS



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DINING DYNASTY

Lettuce Entertain You Enterprises titan Rich Melman and family reflect on 50 years of growing the company into one of the nation's largest privately owned restaurant groups.

BY ANTONIA DEPACE

While much has changed in the restaurant industry since Rich Melman opened the doors to R.J. Grunts in 1971, the Lettuce Entertain You Enterprises (leye.com) founder and chairman says that one thing remains the same: the importance of great food. "I always start with



From top: Dine at RPM Steak for a succulent tomahawk cut; a view of RPM Seafood from the river.

FROM TOP, PHOTOS BY: JOHN STOFFER, ALICIA FIERRO/ESTHETICA PHOTOGRAPHY



the food. I know if we serve great food, provide wonderful service and make our guests happy, we will always be successful," he says. June 10, he celebrates 50 years since starting his famed restaurant group, which includes legendary spots like Mon Ami Gabi, Shaw's Crab House and Cafe Ba-Ba-Reeba, with over 120 other restaurants in the Greater Chicago area, along with Las Vegas, D.C. and more. Melman credits his success to the culture of the restaurants. "We have a culture of caring and hospitality at Lettuce," he says. "So beyond the food and the service, it's that we care about our guests and we care about each other, and it starts at the top." Since opening, more familiar faces have joined the team, including Melman's three children, R.J. as president and Jerrod and Molly as executive partners. "[Growing up,] Lettuce was very much like the sixth member of



our family," Jerrod says. "I remember at a very young age just appreciating that we had a dad who did something that he really got a lot of joy out of." Now, Jerrod and his siblings get to experience that joy as well. When asked about their favorite memory over the past few years, one stands out for all of them: the opening of Hub 51. "It was the first restaurant that the three of us really worked on and opened together," Jerrod says. Molly, who was fresh out of college at the time, remembers the opening as the

first time she realized working with the family company was the career for her (she was working as a kindergarten teacher in New York). Looking to the future, expansion outside of Chicago to even more markets like Florida is on the horizon. "We say something internally: 'If you want to understand the future, you have to look at the past,'" R.J. concludes. "Lettuce has been an outlet for creativity in restaurants for 50 years, and our future will look the same as we continue to grow in new spaces and new places." ○



PHOTOS COURTESY OF LETTUCE ENTERTAIN YOU ENTERPRISES

URBAN LEGEND

Steal a peek at what's to come for street style this season.

BY FAYE POWER VANDE VREDE

Products, clockwise from far left: Givenchy crossbody bag, givenchy.com; Chantecaille anti-fatigue corrector pen, chantecaille.com; Breitling Emergency Night Mission watch, breitling.com; Escentric Molecules Escentric 03 vetiveryl acetate, Mexican lime and ginger perfume, net-a-porter.com; Louis Vuitton printed pouch, louisvuitton.com; Stella McCartney Cuoio and black boots, orchardmile.com; Versace camouflage buckle backpack, versace.com.



Burberry pre-fall 2021



Balenciaga winter 2021

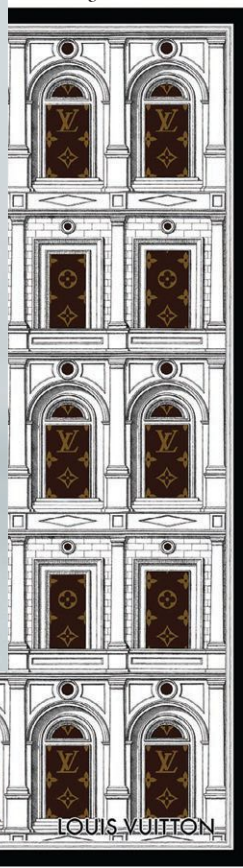


PHOTOS COURTESY OF BRANDS



Sacai pre-fall 2021

Products, clockwise from above: Versace camouflage crossbody buckle bag, versace.com; Louis Vuitton printed scarf, louisvuitton.com; Nike Zoom double stack nubuck-trimmed mesh and leather sneaker, net-a-porter.com; Dolce & Gabbana leather tote bag, dolcegabbana.com; Glossier Skywash liquid-to-powder eye shadow, glossier.com; Reese Cooper camouflage brushed cotton canvas jacket, saks.com; Alexander McQueen skull tag necklace, alexandermcqueen.com; MM6 knitted embroidered logo hat, maisonmargiela.com.



LOUIS VUITTON



Clockwise from far left: Dior bottle holder and bottle in aluminium Dior Oblique motif; three looks from the capsule collection have you covered head to toe; Dior Oblique blue lenses with neoprene strap and Christian Dior inscription; Dior Paradise espadrilles in beige and white Dior Oblique motif.



ENDLESS SUMMER

Dior releases a capsule collection worthy of sun-fueled days at the beach.

BY JAMES AGUIAR



Kim Jones' collaboration with American artist Kenny Scharf for Dior's (dior.com) pre-fall 2021 collection was so successful, why not expand on it? Meet the beachwear capsule collection that just might change the way you dress while you soak up the sun. With a mix of vintage, sportswear and fashion references, the pieces lean into the '60s and '70s, updating the infamous eras with new materials and graphic prints that scream summer. With everything from towels and water bottles to tracksuits, T-shirts and bathrobes—and even the iconic Saddle bag—you'll have everything you need to chill in style. Although this collection looks to the gents, we recommend the ladies take a dip as well.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF BRAND



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VISIT [DLXCHAIRS.COM](https://www.dlxchairs.com) AND DISCOVER THE CHAIR THAT MOVES YOU.



From left: Ree Projects' Helene mini fringe bag in crisp white; Chicago style queen Ikram Goldman; the Helene mini bag in black.



DUTCH TREAT

The season's must-have bags? Delightfully chic creations from Amsterdam-based label Ree Projects. *BY J.P. ANDERSON*

When it comes to choosing a luxury handbag, the possibilities are endless—but it takes something truly special to catch the eye of Chicago style queen Ikram Goldman. This season, that handbag is from Dutch designer Desiree Kleinen and her upstart fashion label, Ree Projects. “In a world filled with so many options, the simplicity and the quality and the workmanship of Ree Projects stand on their own,” notes Goldman. “The shape and the style of every bag are so new and feel unlike any designer working today. They thought about every

detail; the shoulder strap is long enough that you could wear the bag like a shoulder bag, even though it's meant to be a little handle bag. It's not a bag that you can only use for evening, but it can be your daytime work bag too.” Goldman is particularly smitten with Kleinen's chic use of fringe. “It feels new and fresh, more modern than typical fringe, and very subtle.” Her final verdict? “I see someone collecting these bags—they're timeless and can be worn anytime or anyplace. I'm signed up for these bags.” 15 E. Huron St., ikram.com; reeprojects.com

IKRAM PHOTO BY MARIJA PONCE BERRÉ; MODEL PHOTOS BY ANDRÉE MARTIS; PRODUCT PHOTO COURTESY OF REE PROJECTS



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RISTORANTE E PASTIFICIO



Before he was ThankYouX, he was simply Ryan Wilson, a kid living in a California suburb who'd sneak out and tag walls with graffiti.

"My mom would see what I was drawing [at home]," he says, "and immediately know it was me."

Known for his geometric cube paintings and large-scale abstract work, ThankYouX (thankyoux.com) has risen to the top of the buzzy NFT space with a style that blends the physical realm of paint with digital construction—but before he was disrupting the status quo, he was a part of it.

Wilson started his artistic career in the corporate world,

HOW THANKYOUX REIMAGINED FINE ART FOR THE DIGITAL AGE

Artist ThankYouX challenges our divisions of art in his use of NFTs, blending the physical and the digital.

BY MARIA GRACIA SANTILLANA

working as a graphic artist and art director by day while gaining fame for his Andy Warhol tribute graffiti by night.

"Instead of copying his style, I just started copying almost, like, his brain," Wilson says. Repeating Warhol's face across the city, he would go out in the middle of the night and paint colorful tags of the '60s pop artist. Leaning on Warhol's bright colors, he meshed them with the "New York graffiti vibe." He'd sign each piece with an anonymous "Thank You, X."

"I was obsessed! It got to the point where I was going out every night," he says. "You couldn't be in

L.A. without seeing my art.”

Local art blogs covered his work, and with no proper tag, Instagram or website, he was referred to as “ThankYouX.”

“The best nicknames are the ones you don’t come up with yourself,” he says.

The artist thrived in relative anonymity, still working his corporate job. As the ThankYouX moniker became more recognizable across the art world, he shifted from street art to large-scale murals. It was then that he started his signature cubes. Painted in bright colors, the geometric patterns played with negative space and took over walls across L.A. Still, he wanted more.

“I didn’t want to be pigeonholed as one artist who just makes stencils,” he says, “or be caught into a fad of street art.”

Transitioning into more abstract paintings, ThankYouX entered the world of fine art. He counts music headliners like Paul McCartney and Zedd as collectors. With showings in galleries across New York and L.A., he quickly became an established name.

Technology was another passion, and the artist was constantly trying to incorporate the art and tech world together. To him, the intersection was an opportunity for collaboration.

“I’m always pushing myself to never be comfortable,” he says. “I always consider [people in the tech industry] to be artists as well because they are creating something from nothing.”

With limited knowledge of code, his incorporation of the two remained in the VR space.

“The closest I came to that was virtual reality, working in and designing 360-degree spaces,” he says, “but it never went the distance I wanted it to.”

By September 2020, the NFT community was still relatively

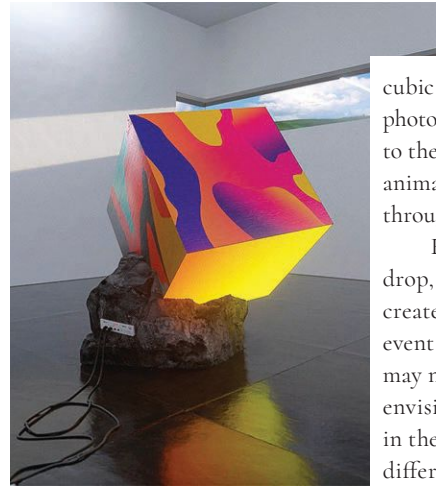
small. ThankYouX’s friends started sending him works by some of the earliest NFT pioneers, most notably DJ-producer 3LAU. NFTs, or nonfungible tokens, allow artists to mint works through blockchain technology, which can certify digital ownership.

The aha! moment came when he met “the godfather himself.” After connecting on Instagram, 3LAU contacted ThankYouX looking to buy one of his artworks. More than flattered, ThankYouX wanted to talk about NFTs.

“You could tell he was excited because not a lot of people were doing it around him,” he says, noting the lack of musicians in the NFT space. “We were both talking about a new shiny object.”

His passion only grew, but as with his previous medium shifts, succeeding in the NFT space was not a given.

Partnering with photographer J.N. Silva, ThankYouX saw an opportunity to bring a new perspective to the NFT world, incorporating the chaos of street



art and street photography. With the rise of the digital economy and work-for-hire contracts for digital artists, ThankYouX wanted to challenge the line between physical and digital, to explore the fine art and street art divide.

“I’ve always been an advocate for the term ‘art,’” he says. “What if we, as two people who don’t belong in this space according to what’s in the market right now, come together to make something?”

The result was “Thank You Miami” and “Thank You New York,” pieces that blended ThankYouX’s

cubic pattern with Silva’s photography. Each is an homage to their respective cities featuring animated cubes that bounce through each city’s iconography.

For his latest and first solo drop, *Convergence*, ThankYouX created a virtual museum and event space. While the technology may not quite be there yet, he envisions the space being used in the future as a gallery, where different artists can display their works, allowing collectors to move freely in the space.

ThankYouX took this collection to fully explore the integration of physical and digital art. The five auction pieces in his newest drop featured both canvases with integrated NFTs. Embedded at the bottom left corner of each canvas, an Infinity Objects screen displays a rotating cube painted with designs made in physical paintings. The result is both digital and physical art, a marriage of ThankYouX’s limitless passions.

The open edition collection takes this marriage more literally. It features a rock with a plug that powers a rotating cube inside the *Convergence* museum. Each panel of the cube was painted physically before being rendered into the digital cube.

From the art itself to the structure of the release, *Convergence* aims to redefine what fine art can be in the digital world. Pieces don’t have to be one or the other. They can be both.

His favorite piece to date, *Convergence* represents his future.

“I can push the needle forward,” he says. “It’s the first time I’ve gotten to marry my art to technology in a way that truly just explains who I am.”

While his solo drop showed what his aesthetic “was going to be,” he still considers all his artworks to be collaborations with his collectors, because in his own words, “paintings aren’t complete until they’re hung in their final destination.” ◊





SkinCeuticals physical matte UV Defense SPF 50, skinceuticals.com



BLOCK PARTY

After a long, hard winter, we have all earned our moment in the sun this summer. Armed with this arsenal of sun protection warriors in a full-spectrum range of textures and finishes, you can comfortably catch some rays—and still keep sun damage at bay. *BY PHEBE WAHL*



MODEL PHOTO BY BEN SCOTT/UNSPLASH; PRODUCT PHOTOS COURTESY OF BRANDS

Kate Somerville Daily Deflector
mineral sunscreen, katesomerville.com



Hampton Sun mineral
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Tatcha Silken Pore
Perfecting sunscreen,
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30, odacite.com



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ritahazan.com



WAVES PHOTO BY SHIRAZ SHAMOON/UNSPLASH; PRODUCT PHOTOS COURTESY OF BRANDS

The fifth-generation Cadillac Escalade packs serious visual impact.



AN ICON EVOLVES

With high-tech touches and its signature luxurious style, the 2021 Cadillac Escalade cements its status as one of the most exciting SUVs on the market.

BY J.P. ANDERSON

PHOTOS COURTESY OF CADILLAC

Clockwise from top: Custom seat perforation and quilting patterns are among the Escalade's luxe interior options; a 38-inch curved OLED screen puts comprehensive trip info at your fingertips; enhanced Super Cruise allows for truly hands-free driving; the roomy interior.

Cadillac was admittedly late to the SUV game—its 1999 debut of the Escalade was widely seen as the brand's competitive response to the success of larger vehicles by Lincoln, Land Rover and others. But in the past 20-plus years, the Escalade has evolved from its origins as a dressed-up GMC Yukon Denali into an icon of the vertical with a DNA all its own. Now, with the unveiling of the 2021 Escalade (from \$76,195, cadillac.com), the vehicle's fifth generation, Cadillac marries its own embrace of technology with luxuriously comfortable finishes. That means techy touches like a 38-inch curved OLED screen (an industry first); an unsurpassed 19-speaker AKG audio system; and, in the premium luxury, sport and both platinum trim levels, the debut of the brand's enhanced Super Cruise, complete with lane change on demand. All of it is wrapped up in the most lavish of interiors, from handstitched leather



and bespoke wood panels to eight color and trim choices, including seat designs with custom perforation and quilting patterns. “The Cadillac Escalade has defined the full-size luxury segment SUV market since its introduction over 20 years ago,” notes Crystal Windham, the brand’s director of design for interiors, “and continues to embody the spirit of Cadillac: seamless integration of technology and craftsmanship and bold, powerful style and groundbreaking innovation.” The result? One of the year’s must-have SUVs, and a peerlessly luxurious vehicle that could only come from Cadillac. ◦

A new face on the national food scene, Jake Cohen got his start cooking at fabled New York restaurants like Daniel and ABC Kitchen.



STEAK OUT

Jake Cohen, author of the new cookbook *Jew-ish: Reinvented Recipes from a Modern Mensch*, shares his Shabbat-worthy take on grilled flank steak.

BY KRISTIN DETTERLINE

“I love working on vacation. Well, not working, per se, but still chained to the kitchen. Every year in August, we try to get away from the disgustingly sweaty city as often as we can, and spend as much time as possible with my husband Alex’s family in northern Connecticut, where his brother and sister-in-law rent a house. And while you’d think I’d want to just relax by the pool and eat hot dogs with abandon (don’t worry, plenty of that is done), I find myself spending most of my days cooking and baking. I kid you not, I even pack up half my pantry to bring with me to ensure I have all my favorite essentials in this foreign kitchen.”

“One fateful summer Friday, my heart was set on a grill-out Shabbat. The challah dough was proofing poolside while I ventured to the local farm stand for a bounty of flowering squash, plump eggplant, almost-fluorescent vibrant peppers and a giant flank steak. Naturally, I raided my traveling pantry to get these

PHOTO BY MATT TAYLOR-GROSS

HARISSA-MARINATED GRILLED FLANK STEAK AND SUMMER VEGETABLES

Serves 4 to 6

Prep time: 20 minutes, plus 4 hours
marinating time

Cook time: 25 minutes

INGREDIENTS

¼ cup harissa

¼ cup extra-virgin olive oil

¼ cup packed light brown sugar

Grated zest and juice of 1 orange

1 Tbsp. kosher salt

1 (2-lb.) flank steak

3 small zucchini, halved lengthwise

2 red bell peppers, quartered

1 medium eggplant, cut into 1-inch-thick slices

1 medium red onion, cut into wedges

Flaky sea salt, for garnish

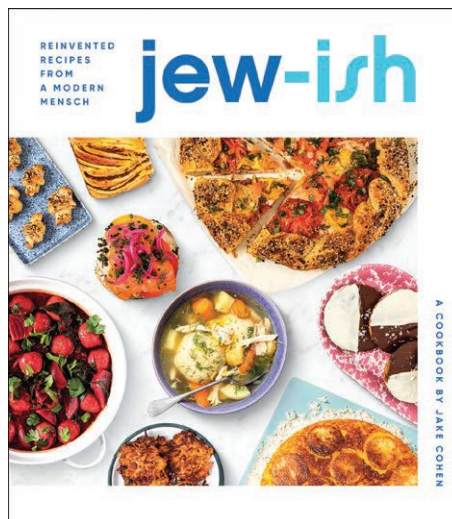
DIRECTIONS

1. In a large bowl, whisk together the harissa, olive oil, brown sugar, orange zest, orange juice and kosher salt until smooth.
2. Add the steak, zucchini, bell peppers, eggplant and onion, and toss to coat. Cover and refrigerate for at least 4 hours or preferably overnight to marinate.
3. When the steak and vegetables have marinated, heat a grill to medium-high.
4. Remove the steak and vegetables from the marinade and pat dry with paper towels. Grill the vegetables, concentrating them to two-thirds of the grill's surface and turning them as needed, until lightly charred and tender, 8 to 10 minutes. As the vegetables are finished, transfer them to a platter and tent with aluminum foil to keep warm.
5. Meanwhile, grill the steak on the empty portion of the grill, flipping it once, until golden brown and a thermometer inserted into the center reads 125 F (for medium-rare), 5 to 6 minutes per side. Transfer the steak to a cutting board and let rest for 10 minutes, then slice it across the grain (perpendicular to the fibers you'll see running through the steak) and place it over the grilled vegetables. Garnish with flaky sea salt, then serve.

Jew-ish: A Cookbook: Reinvented Recipes from a Modern Mensch, *Houghton Mifflin Harcourt*, wakeandjake.com



beauties all dressed for the Sabbath grill. Equal parts smoky North African harissa, olive oil and brown sugar are met with a heavy dash of salt and the zest and juice of an orange for a simple marinade that gives a little sugar and spice to anything it touches. Think of this recipe as a blueprint for the marinade, so let me answer some hypothetical FAQs. Yes, you can swap in your favorite cut of steak and mix and match the vegetables! Yes, it will work with chicken! No, you should not use less than 1 tablespoon salt! Yes, you should double the marinade if you're cooking 4 pounds of steak! Yes, you can even use this marinade if you're skipping the grill entirely to roast the vegetables in the oven and cook the steak on the stove instead!" ◊



MOON DANCE

Hendrick's Gin unveils
the limited-edition
release of Lunar from
legendary master
distiller Lesley Gracie.

BY MICHAEL MCCARTHY



When ideas come in a moonlit garden, it's best to act on them. Such was the case for the birth of Hendrick's Lunar (hendricksgin.com), originating in the mind of the brand's renowned master distiller, Lesley Gracie. "It was one of those calm, peaceful nights," begins Gracie, a petite genius who's a chemist by trade. "I'm very lucky where I live—near the Hendrick's Gin Palace in Girvan, [Scotland]—as my garden backs onto fields and hills. We're in a dark-sky park, so there's no light pollution."

Gracie says she sat among her flower beds, a gin and tonic in hand, enjoying the night fall and watching the moon climb the sky. "As I was sitting there, the priority of my senses changed," she says. "As my sense of sight started to fade with the light, my sense of smell started to heighten. I was sitting next to these flowers thinking, 'Wow, the aroma from them is suddenly very strong.' The aromas seemed different [from] how they smell during the day. At night, they seemed to

have a really warm aroma with a subtle spice. That set me thinking about what we could do with night-scented flowers. I'm a bit of a geek when it comes to flowers anyway, but I was really trying to capture that sensorial change when you transition from day to night."

The foundation of the new release is based on Hendrick's light and complex house style, which includes 11 botanicals and its signature rose and cucumber finish. Gracie created this taste for the brand's launch more than 20 years ago, after a challenge from Charlie Gordon, the late CEO of Scotland's William Grant & Sons. He wanted something extraordinarily different, and Gracie delivered. The gin enjoys a rabid cult following. The genius behind Lunar is Gracie's ability to maintain what fans of the brand adore while adding her new twists: She top-layered the new release with deeper floral notes and a subtle, earthy tone. There are "night-scented flowers and some deep, warm spice elements," says Gracie. "But it's not about any one botanical sticking out; it's how they round together in harmony and

balance to create the sensation of sitting in the garden as the moon comes up and the sky darkens."

I ask Gracie if, during her time in the brand's so-called Gin Palace in Scotland, she ever considers how and where her creations get consumed. "I tend to think about how I'd enjoy it and what occasion it would suit me," she says. "As long as you're sitting somewhere nice and comfy with a glass in your hand surrounded by some people you love—be that friends or family—you're fine." The full moon will occur on the 24th day this month. It's the strawberry moon, so named by Algonquin tribes due to the relatively short season for harvesting the summer fruit in North America. Nature swoons during these fecund days of early summer, and our gardens become showy cabarets. One late night, venture outside. Find a quiet place to rest—and sip. "If you've ever sat in the garden at night, the scent of this gin will kick-start those memories and take you back there in an instant," says Gracie. "Scent is powerful like that; it transports you to a different time and place." ◊

Lesley Gracie, the master distiller for Hendrick's Gin, created the taste for the new release, Lunar, by employing deep floral notes and warm spice elements.



ART INTO INDUSTRY

German watchmaking icon NOMOS Glashütte builds on its Bauhaus-inspired past while looking toward the future.

BY SAM MACKINNON

Nestled in the small German town of Glashütte lies the headquarters of watchmaker NOMOS Glashütte (nomos-glashuette.com), a brand that is rooted in the history of its town as well as the Bauhaus architectural movement. One may expect a brand like NOMOS, with such a storied history, to be a multinational conglomerate with factories that mass-produce its products, but the opposite remains true: It handcrafts all of its designs in-house, and has done so for the past 175 years in the Glashütte tradition of watchmaking. This dedication to its craft is embodied by its long-standing involvement in the Deutscher Werkbund, a creative collective founded in 1907 that worked to harness the powers of mass production while incorporating that same spirit into the simple designs of the Bauhaus movement. The aesthetics of the movement are simple, functional designs that fit into the fabric of the lives of working citizens.

NOMOS remains part of the collective to this day, and its most popular watches follow the aesthetics to a T. Take, for example, its Tangente wristwatch. One of the most famed mechanical wristwatches in all of Germany, the timepiece has simple, clean lines that emphasize its function rather than extravagance. While many brands today represent the conspicuous consumption of luxury with over-the-top features and rare materials, NOMOS has continued to make clean, practical updates to its line in keeping with its streamlined Bauhaus aesthetic.

Its latest design, the Tangente Update, looks strikingly similar to the first design of the timepiece, but features a plethora of new functions and a gorgeous midnight blue colorway.

The brand's devotion to its past does not hold it back from making strides into the contemporary world of watchmaking—in fact, its devotion to the Bauhaus movement thrusts its concepts toward the future.

As Bauhaus school founder Walter Gropius said, “Our guiding principle was that design is neither an intellectual nor a material affair, but simply an integral part of the stuff of life, necessary for everyone in a civilized society.”

NOMOS Glashütte continues to make an impact on the watchmaking industry in a way that is more essential than ever.

From top: NOMOS Glashütte headquarters in Saxony, Germany; the NOMOS Tangente Update features the NOMOS patented ring date with two neon green markers that frame the current date—in the dark too; the NOMOS in-house caliber DUW 6101 is lavishly polished and decorated.





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Centerfold





The Art Institute of Chicago was the site of the first date between President Barack Obama and first lady Michelle Obama; now, it's the first stop of *The Obama Portraits*, a five-city showing of the pair's official portraits organized by the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery. *On view June 18-Aug. 15, artia.edu*

KEHINDE WILEY, "BARACK OBAMA" (2018, OIL ON CANVAS). NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY, SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION. THE NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY IS GRATEFUL TO THE FOLLOWING LEAD DONORS FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF THE OBAMA PORTRAITS: KATE CAPSHAW AND STEVEN SPIELBERG; JUDITH KERN AND KENT WHEALY; TOMMIE L. PEGUES AND DONALD A. CAPOCCIA. © 2018 KEHINDE WILEY. COURTESY OF THE SMITHSONIAN'S NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY

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BUGGING OUT

Leave it to sophisticated and stylish French fragrance house Diptyque (diptyqueparis.com) to elevate summer's signature scent of citronella. The buzzy brand launched on the insect-repelling scent in both interior and exterior versions in vessels decorated with illustrations courtesy of Luke Edward Hall as part of its new Summer Essential Collection. Perfect to keep pesky pests away when dining alfresco, we think this is just the thing to make sure your evenings are lit all season long.

BY PHEBE WAHL



A NOD TO THE PAST

The Old Chicago Post Office has been an iconic building for 100 years. Originally expanded in 1932 to meet the Windy City's postal needs, the behemoth riverside building was known for distributing an outstanding 19 million pieces of mail per day—but has sat vacant since closing in 1996. Today, the 2.5 million-square-foot superstructure still keeps its history in mind, but now has a completely different purpose as multiuse office and event space for both tenants and the public thanks to an \$800 million project. Interior design firm Gensler was behind the aesthetic of the final product. Here, we take a peek inside with one of the firm's designers, Jeff Lawrence. *post433.com* BY ANTONIA DEPACE

The Old Post Office consists of three interconnected buildings and boasts details such as 18-foot ceilings and bank vaults. The original East building was constructed in 1921, while the North and South edifices weren't completed until 1934. "The building is not a typical scale," says Lawrence. "Approaching the style of this space was an interesting challenge that required taking a variety of variables into account, like ceiling heights and amount of shelving."

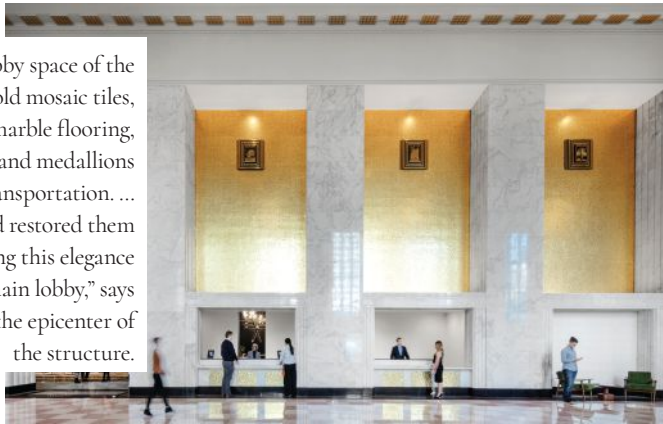
The goal was to make the space evoke a luxurious atmosphere with twists of contemporary elements. "Elegance with a twist of technology," Lawrence describes, "because you do have modern-age technology that had to take place." With this said, he opted for a 1920s to '30s feel, adding in textures like Indian and wool rugs and a variety of found goods.



Named after the numerous bank vaults found throughout the building, The Vault is perfect for smaller events hosted by tenants.

PHOTOS BY ERIC LAIGNEL

“The entire lobby space of the building had gold mosaic tiles, Tennessee marble flooring, original pendants and medallions that relate to transportation. ... We took these and restored them completely to bring this elegance back to the main lobby,” says Lawrence on the epicenter of the structure.



The concierge area has original 30-foot shelving that Lawrence decorated himself. Now, the shelves brim with various antiques like typewriters from the 1920s, photos and timeless finishes. Fun fact: Lawrence had to use a hydraulic lift to place them all. This is another favorite room of the designer’s, and the first thing you see upon entering the building.



Clockwise from top: The lobby, which is the epicenter of The Old Post Office; the concierge area is the first room guests see when walking in; shelving in the Telegram Lounge includes vintage sporting equipment, children’s toys and books; pool tables add playfulness to the space.



The Telegram Lounge, one of Lawrence’s favorite rooms, is located on the second floor and attracts visitors with a full-size bocce court, pool tables and a 35-person bar. A new fireplace with art deco flair provides an intimate space to relax, while old law books and brass-plated telescopes bring you into the past. Eight 40-inch-by-40-inch columns add grandeur to the space, which the designer chose to plate in brass. “The Telegram Lounge is a little more members-only club sort of thing,” Lawrence notes.



Bunsen burners (along with other relics) that were found on the 12th floor of the building can now be spotted in various spaces throughout. Lawrence used them for various purposes, like as bookends. Other antiques—original and repurposed—can be found throughout the multiuse building, including painted mail chutes, conveyer belts and old books. ◦

FRENCH CONNECTION

BY LAURA ECKSTEIN JONES

Clockwise from left: The Clifford armchair and ottoman are upholstered in sheepskin, while the Topsy side table—made to look like a bottle—is made from tinted acrylic resin; the oiled oak Oopsy chair and Lovebirds table, made from varnished solid oak with a glazed ceramic insert; the Flare floor lamp.



For two decades, Parisian interior designer and architect Pierre Yovanovitch (pierreyovanovitch.com) has been making heads turn with his fashion-forward interiors, all of which embody pristine, organic elegance with a touch of whimsy. He's created many custom pieces over the years but hasn't launched

a full-on collection—until now. Enter Pierre Yovanovitch Mobilier, his 45-piece furniture and lighting brand—consisting of seating, tables and accessories artisanally made from solid wood, patinated metal, specialty blown glass and more—launching in tandem with a special installation in the Académie d'Architecture building in Paris'

Place des Vosges and his first brick-and-mortar showroom, also in Paris, this spring. The designer looked to his native Provence for design cues. "Having grown up in the region, and with my current home there, I find inspiration in the surrounding nature daily," he explains. "The sunlight, with the region's epic sunsets, the seasonal variation in

nature's textures, from the deep colors and dense materiality of the forest to the fragrant, bright, sensory explosion of the lavender bloom of Plateau de Valensole. There is this dichotomy of beauty and fortitude—which sometimes can even border on hostility—with the nature of Provence that I find inspiring. It's all in my DNA."

PHOTOS BY GIULIO GHIRARDI

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On Heidi: Chanel ensemble and her own earrings. On Marc: Dsquaredz suit and Theory shirt. On Dixie: Chanel ensemble. On Charli: Amna Alsaalem dress, Chanel necklace and earrings, and Jimmy Choo shoes.



Dubbed “the first family of TikTok” as their collective social media profiles reach record-busting heights, the **D’Amelio** clan has their feet somewhat surprisingly planted on the ground. The enigmatic secret to their explosive success just might be what helps them survive the perils of sudden fame.

By Phebe Wahl
Photographed by Mark Squires
Styled by Maeve Reilly for
The Only Agency

Social Butterflies

On Dixie: Saint
Laurent ensemble.
Opposite page,
on Charli: Cong
Tri ensemble and
Bvlgari ring.

**“I always say the haters
need more love than
anyone. They hate because
they are probably sad or
alone—and I honestly just
feel for them. I just want
everyone to be happy.”**

—Dixie



““
I

genuinely think I said that to my parents so I didn't have to clean my room,” deadpans Charli D'Amelio when I ask about her oft-quoted theory that her TikToks perform best when her room is messy. This typical teen snapshot captures the very essence and “lightning in a bottle” appeal of the entire D'Amelio clan. They are so remarkably relatable.

At a mere 17 years old, Charli currently clocks in around 112.6 million followers on TikTok—making her the most followed content creator on the short-form video app *worldwide*. Her older sister, Dixie, has 50.9 million followers. Add in parents Heidi and Marc (and their family handle of @dameliofamilyofficial), and the family teeters somewhere around 200 million followers collectively. To wrap your brain around those numbers, that means about two-thirds of America is following what a family from Norwalk, Conn., is doing.

Throughout my chats with the family, I am continually struck by just how normal they all seem. The D'Amelios are the next generation's clap back to the overfiltered, Facetuned distortions and pressures of the Instagram age. The sisters' free flow of finishing each other's sentences comes with all the sarcasm and sweetness you'd expect of close siblings. “We're just normal siblings who got into this position where people see our whole lives—and I feel like being able to show we do have a normal relationship no matter what is super important,” says Dixie.

Charli in particular comes across as beautifully unfiltered. She is spontaneous and authentic—which seems to be a big part of the appeal. “I think it's the fact I don't have to worry about being 100%. ... Like my room doesn't have to be perfectly clean every second of the day... because that's not a normal teenager's life,” she says. “That's not how life is—and people understand that. So when they watch me, that's not what they're looking for. They're not going to be like, ‘Hey, your room is really

messy, you should figure that out.’ They're going to be like, ‘Oh, that's a cool new dance,’ or ‘I like what you did with your hair today,’ something like that.”

“I wasn't sure if they were just trying to get out of cleaning their room,” says mom Heidi, laughing, “but fast-forward—it is a thing. And I love that. Especially during quarantine, everybody just got to be themselves. People everywhere around the world were going through the same thing and everybody just got to be,” she says. “I think that felt good for a lot of people to feel like nobody's dressing up and getting glammed up for their day or the weekend. And everyone kind of got it.”

Heidi and Marc didn't realize at first the impact the platform would have on their lives. “Even though [Charli] had a lot of followers, it was still just fun and kind of crazy that she was gaining so many followers so quickly... but it was still something fun that she was doing,” shares Heidi. “But, when people started reaching out a lot to book her for different jobs, I think that's when we were like, OK, this is definitely turning into something.”

Their parenting pivot was to take a decidedly chill approach. “The girls have people coming at them from all different directions, and a lot is positive, but a lot is negative—so we try to keep the house a positive environment,” explains Marc. “So we still parent—but I do think we try to make sure that we're not adding an extra layer of unneeded pressure on the kids. Not that we look the other way on things, but I like that, especially with what's going on now. ... Back in the day, I might've nagged about the rooms and things like that. I'm a little bit more lenient now.”

Despite being the youngest of the clan, Charli led the charge in understanding the appeal of TikTok. “For a very long time the people who were in the media were these unattainable people you could never live up to as just a normal person,” Charli says. “I feel like that's what's so awesome about TikTok—these normal people and these attainable spots... it's like the people that everyone gets to see.” If you picture some team plotting Charli's next viral post, you are dead wrong. “It's honestly just whatever I feel like doing at that time,” she says, admitting there is no secret formula or magical cracking of an algorithm.

Dixie was slower to engage, but now is enjoying the exponential success like her sibling. “Doing anything as a teenager you were always worried about judgment, and I feel like I didn't want Charli to be judged,” says Dixie of why she was at first not sure about her little sister publicly posting on the platform. “It's kind of funny because of the position we are in now, but I was just worried about how she would take it—but she just didn't care and kept doing what she loved and didn't stop. I was a little skeptical at first, but it ended up being fun for all of us.” Now, Dixie clearly gets the appeal.

On Dixie: Prada
ensemble and
Jennifer Fisher rings
and earrings. On
Charli: Saint Laurent
ensemble.

“People just love it because it’s so relatable and no one’s trying to be a model or anything—there is a space for everyone,” says Dixie. “There’s a space where people show art or talk about mental health or do music; there’s literally a group of people for everyone and everyone comes together.”

The success has been sweet, indeed, but were they prepared for all the hate? “Absolutely not,” says Charli. “There is no way to prepare yourself for how certain words that people say will affect you. You can obviously grow thicker skin—but at the end of the day, it hurts. There’s nothing you can really do about that besides just try to better yourself and be the most confident in yourself you can be. ... But it breaks my heart that I don’t have an answer because I wish I knew how to make everyone feel better—but it’s just really not that easy.” The family has advocated against cyberbullying and often rallies in support of each other. “Every day is different for us because some days we can get a comment and just laugh it off—and other days it’s the same exact comment and it’s the worst thing in the world,” says Dixie.

“I always say the haters need more love than anyone,” Dixie adds. “They hate because they are probably sad or alone—and I honestly just feel for them. I just want everyone to be happy. I think those are the people you need to respect the most and just be like, ‘I’m sorry you’re going through this and I hope one day you can have full love in your heart and share that with other people.’ Obviously some days it’s upsetting, but I’m not going to go after someone in a vicious way if they’re going to go after me. I’d rather just have fun and joke around with someone even if they hate me.”

This summer, myriad projects range from a clothing collection from the girls called Social Tourist with Hollister, Dixie’s two new songs, podcasts from both the parents and the girls, and a new family docuseries with Hulu. As for Charli?





“For a very long time the people who were in the media were these unattainable people you could never live up to as just a normal person. I feel like that’s what’s so awesome about TikTok—these normal people and these attainable spots.” –Charli

On Charli: Christian Dior ensemble

She mostly wants to focus on just being a teen. “Definitely,” she says when asked if she regrets how her success has made her grow up fast. “I think that’s just how it is when you’re thrown into this and everyone’s saying you have to be a role model, you have to be this person. You’re like, ‘Oh, well, I still kind of need one of those myself.’ I feel like when I am 20 years old maybe I will be a great role model, but right now I’m learning with everyone else.”

As to where the girls see themselves in 10 years? “Each day is like a lesson and we’re constantly learning and having these opportunities,” says Dixie. “We’re going to take what comes at us. Music is a thing that I’ve always loved but never thought would become a career. Now that I have this opportunity, I’m going to take it and run with it because I’m just very grateful.” But mostly, they see themselves together as a family and as sisters. “We’ve been there for each other before social media and we’re going to be there for each other after social media, and that’s all that matters,” says Charli. “We trust each other more than anyone else and we know exactly what the other is going through, which is super helpful,” says Dixie.

“I have no idea where I’d like to take what I’ve been given because if you had asked me two years ago, what I would have said would be extremely different—and I feel like that’s the beauty in the internet,” Charli says. “My entire life turned into something very different, so what I am doing in five years could be something completely different from what I’m doing right now. It may not even have to do with social media—but I think that’s the most exciting part.” ◦



Want to see more? Scan this code for a behind-the-scenes look at Modern Luxury’s photo shoot with the D’Amelio family.

On Charli: Saint Laurent ensemble and her own earrings.

Hair for Charli and Heidi by Laura Polko using Aquage

Makeup for Charli and Heidi by Kate Synnott at The Wall Group using Dior Backstage Face & Body foundation

Hair for Dixie and Marc by Ruslan Nureev at The Wall Group using R+Co

Makeup for Dixie and Marc by Kira Nasrat at The Wall Group using Dior

Shot on location at 2341 Gloaming Way, Beverly Hills

Agent: Guy Hector, 310.729.3737, guy@carswellandassociates.com




STYLING ASSISTANT: RACHEL BODE | SECOND STYLING ASSISTANT: KATE LI



“We’ve been there for each other before social media and we’re going to be there for each other after social media, and that’s all that matters.” –Charli





The Social Matrix

From TikTok to YouTube, these social media influencers are trending and informing our cultural zeitgeist IRL. Here, Modern Luxury's Top 100 Content Creators of 2021.

By The Editors

CHARLI D'AMELIO

@charlidamelio

If you haven't seen Charli D'Amelio's "Renegade" dance yet, it's time to look it up. In 2019, the now 17-year-old became famous after performing the dance choreographed by Jalaiah Harmon on TikTok—streamlining her to almost 111 million followers on the social platform. What is she up to now? Aside from her usual dance content, the Connecticut native is focusing on her new Pura Vida Bracelets partnership featuring neon colors, smiley face charms and more.

BILLIE EILISH

@billieeilish

The world got a whole new look at Billie Eilish in the recent debut of her Apple TV+ documentary, *Billie Eilish: The World's a Little Blurry*. The film, which follows the singer on the road, gives fans a front-row seat to her family life, tours and emotional state as she battles with anxiety and depression. In combination with her songs—21 of which have marked spots on Billboard's Hot 100 charts—Eilish is a hit sensation thanks to her dark rasp, daring lyrics and constantly changing hair color.

PHOTO BY MARK SQUIRES



KIM KARDASHIAN WEST

@kimkardashian

Even though her family's hit sensation reality TV show, *Keeping Up With the Kardashians*, is canceled, this Kardashian certainly isn't. If you're not already following her on Instagram (is that even possible?), check out her feed for a compilation of sexy fashion, tropical vacations, family and more. Plus, keep an eye out for new announcements about her shapewear company, Skims.

KENDALL JENNER

@kendalljenner

Arguably one of the more down-to-earth siblings in the Kardashian-Jenner family, Kendall Jenner began her modeling career at the young age of 14. Now 25, she's rumored to be one of the highest-paid models in the world, with big fashion house names like Chanel and Givenchy at her grasp. If you haven't already, take a whiff of her new scent launched with KKW Fragrance—apparently, it will make you smell like a nature fairy princess.



ADDISON RAE

Instagram: @addisonrae, TikTok: @addisonre

Another TikTok original, Addison Rae climbed to fame after gaining a following in 2019. As of note, Rae is the second-most-followed personality on TikTok (just under Charli D'Amelio) with 78.5 million followers, and was named the highest-paid influencer on the platform in 2020 by *Forbes*. Just out: her debut single, "Obsessed," which focuses on loving herself amid breakup rumors with Bryce Hall.

BELLA HADID
@bellahadid

Follow for behind-the-scenes takes at campaign shoots for the likes of Marc Jacobs eyewear, Versace and Dior Beauty. In more recent news, the 24-year-old just landed Matthew Williams' first global ad campaign for Givenchy, along with star-studded Kendall Jenner, Playboi Carti, Anok Yai and Liam Carter.

KYLIE JENNER
@kyliejenner

It's no secret that Kylie Jenner has "glowed up" since her beginning years on E!'s *Keeping Up With the Kardashians*; she's become such a sensation that she's influenced some of the most heavily followed trends over the past few years (voluptuous lips, '90s fashion and bubblegum pink hair, to name a few). Only in her early 20s, the young star has a reported net worth of \$900 million, and was the highest-paid celebrity in 2020 according to *Forbes*.



KHLOÉ KARDASHIAN
@khloekardashian



While Khloé Kardashian has been at the forefront of *Keeping Up With the Kardashians*, her "influencer" status hit a whole new high in 2013 when she stepped into the limelight looking stronger and fitter than ever. Ever since, fans have been following the soon-to-be 37-year-old for fun workouts, healthy eats and refreshingly good advice when it comes to dodging negativity. Within the past year, Kardashian has been focusing more on daily exercise, noting in an interview with sister Kourtney's website, Poosh, that this even included running her daughter, True, in a wagon up a nearby hill for cardio.

FROM TOP: PHOTOS BY: OWEN KOLASINSKI/BEFA.COM; CARL TIMPONE/BEFA.COM

BRENT RIVERA
@brentrivera

If you're looking for a laugh, head over to Brent Rivera's YouTube channel. The Danny Zuko look-alike started to go viral in 2012 thanks to his videos filled with pranks, challenges and interviews, which propelled him into acting (he was in Hulu's TV series *Light as a Feather* and movie *Alexander IRL*). Currently, he has over 15 million subscribers on YouTube, just under 30 million followers on Instagram and about 37 million on TikTok.



JASON DERULO
@jasonderulo

From the Teen Choice Awards to iHeartRadio Music Awards and beyond, the name Jason Derulo is ubiquitous. The singer-songwriter has been topping charts since his debut single, "Whatcha Say," in 2009—which hit No. 1 on the Billboard Hot 100 and is certified triple platinum by the Recording Industry Association of America—with songs "Trumpets," "Talk Dirty" and "Savage." On a softer note, he was recently spotted on TikTok with beekeeper Erika Thompson saving honeybees from his backyard. The video hit over 200,000 views.

BELLA
POARCH
@bellapoarch

Bella Poarch joined TikTok just one month into the pandemic, and within eight months her life was changed forever. Now, the Filipina U.S. Navy vet hones in over 59 million followers on the platform, where she posts a variety of top trends, lip-syncing, dancing videos and more.



KOURTNEY KARDASHIAN
@kourtneykardash

Like all of the Kardashian sisters, Kourtney is fluent in what her fans want: new trends in fashion, fitness and beauty. In 2019, she launched website Poosh, where plush slippers, gua sha and collagen tea are in surplus—in addition to articles on health and wellness (Kourtney’s favorite afternoon snack, anyone?), home design, entertaining, lifestyle and fashion. Follow the oldest Kardashian sister on any social platform for her most recent lustworthy excursions, family photos and fashion shoots.

FROM LEFT, PHOTOS BY: CARL TIMPONE/BEA.COM, RAY TAMARRA/GETTY IMAGES

PEWDIEPIE
@pewdiepie

We’ve hit 11 years of PewDiePie, and Swedish YouTuber Felix Arvid Ulf Kjellberg isn’t done yet. Growing with the times thanks to comedic reactions to popular and trending videos, he’s reached over 100 million subscribers on the social platform. For a more personal look into his life, head to Instagram (where he has over 20 million followers) for his self-made gaming closet, adorable photos with wife Marzia and traveling adventures.



**DIXIE
D'AMELIO**
@dixiedamelio

As the older sister to Charli D'Amelio, it comes as no surprise that Dixie is just as popular. The sisters, who are often seen together in videos, are two counterparts. Dixie, who debuted her first song, "Be Happy," in summer 2020, is the singer of the two and has since released six more (including "One Whole Day" featuring Wiz Khalifa).



PHOTO BY RICH FURY/KC.AZOEI/GETTY IMAGES FOR NICKELODEON



PHOTO BY EMMA MCINTYRE/GETTY IMAGES FOR SPOTIFY

KIMBERLY LOAIZA
@kimberly.loaiza

It only took one week for this Mexican YouTuber to gain 100,000 subscribers on her channel. Today, Kimberly Loaiza has just under 30 million—plus 26.7 million on Instagram and 39 million on TikTok. Holding place as the 16th-most-followed influencer on TikTok, Loaiza is well known for her colorful and high-energy pop songs like “Do It!” and “No Seas Celoso.”

ZACH KING
@zachking

Gravity remote controls, magic mirrors, invisible chairs—oh my! Optical illusions and magic tricks are Zach King’s bread and butter. The best part? He always reveals how he does it, and his methods never disappoint. Think split-screen connect rooms, rotating rooms, black-and-white filters and more. This creator ranks with 10.7 million subscribers on YouTube, 24.1 on Instagram and 58.1 on TikTok. His mantra? “Stories can make people smile.”



LELE PONS
@lelepons

Born as Eleonora Pons Maronese, this Venezuelan internet celebrity turned heads early this year with the release of her song “Bubble Gum.” Her

Katy Perry-esque music video comes complete with pastel-colored hair, lollipops and a guest appearance from Puerto Rican singer Yandel. Lele Pons, who began her career on Vine, now racks up over 17 million followers on her social platforms at only 24 years old.

EMILY SKYE
emilyskyefit.com, @emilyskyefit

If you’re looking to switch up your boring workout routine, take a chance on this full-body sculpt HIIT program by Emily Skye. The Australian model focuses on positive mindsets with easy-to-follow routines, nourishing recipes and 24/7 support for her fans. Currently, she’s making waves with her FIT Post-Pregnancy program, which is helping moms gain back strength and confidence at their own pace.

JIMMY DONALDSON
@mrbeast

Scrolling down MrBeast’s channel, popular uploads like “I Spent 50 Hours in Solitary Confinement” and “Anything You Can Fit in the Circle I’ll Pay For” stand out with close to 100 million views. In addition to his stunt-themed videos, the 23-year-old YouTuber also leads his own food pantry, which delivered over 60,000 meals last holiday season. Currently, he holds four food drives a week in North Carolina.

DUDE PERFECT
@dudeperfect

What happens when five college roommates start a comedy and sports channel? Let twins Cory and Coby Cotton, Garrett Hilbert, Cody Jones and Tyler “TT” Toney show you with hit YouTube channel Dude Perfect, with a whopping 55.7 million subscribers. Watch as the guys—also known as Twins, The Purple Hoser, Tall Guy and Beard—attempt the largest basketball dunk ever, play hide-and-seek in a giant bounce house and more.



LOREN GRAY
Instagram: @loren,
TikTok: @lorengray

Lip-syncer no more. What started as a hobby on Musical.ly (now known as TikTok), turned into a real-life soundtrack for this Pottstown, Penn., native. Just this year, the 19-year-old signed to Virgin Records (also home to the likes of Taylor Swift and Niall Horan), debuting hits like “Nobody to Love,” “Alone” and “Cake.” Oh—and in case any fans were wondering, she’s been unblocked by Justin Bieber.

ANASTASIA
RADZINSKAYA
@likenastya

Join Nastya and her family as she learns shapes, colors and animals across a multitude of channels run by her parents. With the help of her mother, Elena, the little girl makes videos that both entertain and educate through picking vegetables on a farm, playing make-believe, learning to ride a bike and more. The 7-year-old Russian YouTuber recently moved to Florida, and has over 71.3 million followers across all of her social platforms.



GIGI HADID
@gigihadid

Like many moms around the world, Gigi Hadid gave birth during the pandemic, to a beautiful baby girl, Khai. Since then, she's filled her feed with little sneak peeks of her baby, along with sharing post-pregnancy skincare routines, high fashion and beauty secrets. Of course, the now 26-year-old is back to full-time modeling, with the opening of the Versace fashion show already in the books for this year.

VLAD AND NIKI
vladandniki.world,
YouTube: Vlad and
Niki, Instagram:
@vlad.super.vlad and
@nikitoys_official

Have a play date with brothers Vlad and Niki as they go on parent-approved, crazy adventures. Their mother, Victoria, also makes appearances on the family-friendly videos. Together—along with their father, Sergey—the family has an average of 5 billion monthly views on their 16 channels, which are translated into 13 languages. Not bad for having only started in 2018.



LIZA KOSHY

YouTube and TikTok: Liza Koshy, Instagram: @lizakoshy

This young comedian started her social media journey on Vine in 2013 as Lizza, but it wasn't until she joined YouTube that things really kicked off. Known as one of the fastest YouTube personalities to reach 10 million subscribers, Liza Koshy posts short comedic videos. And whether it's her *Driving With Liza* series or web TV series *Liza on Demand*, you're sure to giggle. Of note, the star has just under 18 million subscribers on YouTube, 26.7 million on TikTok and 18.6 million on Instagram.

PHOTO BY CARL TIMPONE/BEA.COM

DAVID DOBRIK

YouTube and TikTok: David Dobrik, Instagram: @daviddobrik

Want a Tesla? Talk to Slovak YouTuber David Dobrik—he was on *Good Morning America* for giving them away, after all. Outside of giving away cars for fun, Dobrik is one of the most well-known YouTube stars, with 18.5 million subscribers. Popular for short comedic videos filled with pranks, he's been taking a more philanthropic route during the pandemic by giving away a multitude of items (anyone want an Xbox One or PS4?) to help bring cheer to families during this hard time.

NINJA

teamninja.com, @ninja

Known as his online alias, Ninja, Tyler Blevins is a professional gamer for teams like Cloud9, Renegades, Team Liquid and Luminosity Gaming. The neon blue-haired Michigan native streams his momentous winnings (catch his most recent No. 1 victory royale on Fortnite), and even released a gamer-specific tie-dye hoodie that's designed to enhance the audio experience.

JEN SELTER

jenselter.com, @jenselter

What started as a job as a front desk attendant at her local gym blossomed into a full-time fitness career. Jen Selter, who grew up in New York City, attracts over 12 million followers on Instagram thanks to her high-intensity fitness routines and healthy smoothie recipes—not to mention her cute pup, Gram. Plus, she launched company BlendJet, allowing health fanatics to blend smoothies on the go. Follow along for her favorite recipes—think strawberry milk, green protein smoothies and more.

RIYAZ

@riyaz.14

This Bhutanese Indian TikTok personality reaches over 40 million followers from his home in India. Scroll through his feed for a multitude of duets, smoky modeling clips, lip-syncing and fun dances. The 18-year-old heartthrob is so popular that he's been featured in a number of popular Hindi and Punjabi music videos, and is a known fashion icon for young men's fashion worldwide. Check out one of his most famous collaborations with Bollywood star Avneet Kaur—fans have dubbed them “Rineet” after rumors that they are together.

HUDA KATTAN
hudabeauty.com,
Instagram: @huda and
@hudabeauty,
TikTok: @hudabeauty

It only took leaving a career in finance, a passion and five years for Iraqi American makeup artist Huda Kattan to change her life. Since launching in 2013, her makeup line Huda Beauty has become one of the most popular and fastest-growing brands in the industry with a multitude of products from lashes and brow pencils to lipsticks and beyond. In more recent news, Kattan released a video encouraging influencers to embrace natural beauty with no filters, and transparency for when editing is in place.

JOJO SIWA
itsjojosiwa.com,
@itsjojosiwa

When America first met JoJo Siwa, she was starring on Lifetime series *Dance Moms* and rocking gigantic hair bows in a plethora of colors. Six years since her debut on the show, the spunky, Nebraska-born pop star has stayed relevant through a bow business and D.R.E.A.M tour on Nickelodeon, as well as active social media accounts giving a true insight into the star's life. In more recent news, she used her social platforms to come out to fans as a member of the LGBTQ community, introducing her girlfriend, Kylie Rock, to the world.

LUCAS AND MARCUS
YouTube: Lucas and Marcus, TikTok and Instagram: @dobretwins

Double trouble: Watch as twins Lucas and Marcus dance, joke, compete and entertain across channels. The twins, better known as The Dobbies, have millions of followers on each social account, and post every Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday. What have they been up to recently? Drawing for prizes, pranking their family and friends, and so much more.

LOGAN AND JAKE PAUL
YouTube: Logan Paul, Jake Paul, TikTok and Instagram: @loganpaul, @jakepaul

2020 was certainly a year to remember, and Logan Paul knows it. If you haven't already, be sure to watch his music video for song "2020," featuring everything we went through last year, from face shields and masks to Zoom calls and *Tiger King*. Jake, on the other hand, has expanded his horizons to acting, where he starred on Disney Channel sitcom series *Bizaardvark* for two seasons.

BABY ARIEL
@babyariel

Ariel Martin may have taken a break after releasing two albums and a handful of songs, but 2021 has fans whispering about what might be next as the singer starts to become more active on social media. For a more relatable look at the star, head to her TikTok for goofy lip-syncs, photo-ops of her white Ragdoll kitty, dancing and more.



PHOTO BY JOHN SALANGANG/BEA.COM



HANNAH STOCKING
@hannahstocking

“How girls react vs. how boys react”: the name of the video posted on Vine that made Hannah Stocking famous back in 2013. This single concept went viral, leading to her fame. Today, the personality has branched off into a plethora of fun skits like real-life Mario Kart, auditioning for *Baywatch* and workouts—many of which include friend Lele Pons—that have gained her over 50 million followers across channels.

JUANPA ZURITA
@juanpazurita

No—Lele Pons and the Mexican YouTube star are still not dating. If you’re new to the fan base, it’s been rumored that the two internet stars have been dating for years, and they raised more eyebrows in 2017 when they kissed at the MTV Millennial Awards. Juanpa Zurita, who came to fame in 2013 on Vine with over 1 million followers, focuses on Spanish and English comedy sketches and challenge videos on YouTube. He is also immensely popular on Instagram, where he gives a further look into his daily life, with 25.5 million followers.



ARISHFA KHAN

*YouTube: Arishfa Khan, TikTok: @_arishfakhan_,
Instagram: @arishfakhan138*

Many fans will recognize the Indian actress from her childhood appearances in shows *Veera*, *Jeannie Aur Juju* and *Papa by Chance*—but now she’s all grown up. At 19 years old, Arishfa Khan continues to communicate with fans through her social platforms, but especially on TikTok, where she ranks 28.6 million followers. Head to her YouTube channel for tips on hair growth hacks, eyelashes, skincare routines and more.

THE LABRANT FAMILY

*YouTube: The LaBrant Fam, TikTok and Instagram:
@sav.labrant*

Meet the LaBrants—Savannah and Cole—as they document their family’s life. The family of five produces their videos from their home in Santa Clara, Calif., and posts a number of series like *A Day in the Life with Savannah LaBrant*, along with heartwarming videos and photos with their children, Everleigh, Posie and Zealand.

CAMERON DALLAS

@camerondallas

You might recognize this chiseled, brown-haired wonder from his roles in films *Expelled*, *The Outfield* and *Neighbors 2: Sorority Rising*. Cameron Dallas helms from California and came to fame on Vine. More recently, the 26-year-old is focusing on his music career with the debuts of songs “Secrets,” “Erase the Pain” and “Stay the Night.”



KING BACH

@kingbach

Many will remember King Bach—otherwise known as Andrew Byron Bachelor—as the most-followed user on Vine before its shutdown, with 11.3 million followers. Now, he’s hopped on the TikTok train with over 20 million—and his videos are worth a watch. From girlfriend interrogations to reading books to children, his channel is sure to make you laugh and smile.



SHAY MITCHELL
@shaymitchell

Pretty little liar, no more. Since her debut on the ABC Family hit series as Emily, Shay Mitchell has starred in numerous well-known hits like *The Possession of Hannah Grace*, *You* and Hulu's comedy series *Dollface*. She's been nominated for several Teen Choice Awards, and even launched her own travel gear company, Beis.

CHASE HUDSON
@lilhuddy

Two words: eboy fashion. What does it mean? An edgy, alternative style of fashion that is popular among many young gents from the younger generations. Look to Chase Hudson for examples—he is the one who popularized it, after all. The 19-year-old singer, better known as Lil Huddy, debuted his first song, “21st Century Vampire,” in the new year, and has since released another alternative heartthrob hit, “The Eulogy of You and Me.”





HAILEY BIEBER

YouTube: Hailey Rhode Bieber, TikTok and Instagram: @haileybieber

To keep updated on Justin Bieber's wife, head to her newly launched YouTube channel, where fans can expect content on skincare routines, fashion fails, debunked rumors and more—plus an abundance of appearances from celeb friends like Kendall Jenner. Having only launched in March, it already ranks over 900 million subscribers who want to know all about Hailey.



MACKENZIE ZIEGLER

mackenziezieglermusic.com, YouTube: Kenzie, TikTok: @mackenzieziegler

For anyone who watched Lifetime's hit series *Dance Moms*, Mackenzie Ziegler is all grown up. In fact, she turns 17 this month. Since starring on the show, the Pittsburgh native debuted in the music industry with album *Mack Z* in 2014, where her song "It's a Girl Party" reached No. 1 in the U.S., U.K. and Australia. Since then, the little entrepreneur published a book, *Kenzie's Rules for Life*, and released a number of songs—including album *Phases* in 2018.

AWEZ DARBAR
@awez_darbar

This Mumbai-based dancer came to fame on TikTok thanks to upbeat dance moves. For longer videos of his choreography, head to his YouTube channel, where he shakes it with other notable dancers from the city.

QPARK
@qpark

Youtuber QPark (Joyce Tanner) knows how to put himself out there and make life fun. Originally famous on Vine, the exuberant Korean American personality is now publishing his content across YouTube, Instagram and TikTok, where he has over 30 million followers. One of his most popular series? A social experiment of reactions derived from QPark confidently performing dance moves and lyrics from popular music videos and songs like “Taki Taki.”



DJ KHALED
djkhaledofficial.com,
@djkhaled

RODRIGO
CONTRERAS
@elrodrigocontreras

A forward for Argentina’s Aldosivi soccer team, Contreras has moves both on and off the field. Better known as Tucu, he’s spent the off-season dancing away on TikTok—and it’s been quite the hit with just under 30 million followers. The 25-year-old soccer player even started his own trend on the platform with lots of body rolls, hip sways and all the sass.

AMANDA CERNY
amandacerny.com,
@amandacerny

Scroll down Amanda Cerny’s Instagram feed and you’ll find loads of sexy shots, fashion and wellness—plus photobombs with her dalmatian, Falco. Self-dubbed as “your daily dose of happiness,” she first gained popularity from her YouTube channel, where she posted health and wellness videos. Expect sweaty workouts, legging hauls, booty challenges and more.

DJ Khaled has become quite the family man since releasing some of his most popular hits like “I’m the One,” “POPSTAR” and “All I Do Is Win.” Now, he has two adorable sons who often make appearances on social media, and has even teamed up with Cybex for a stroller collection inspired by his family. Think lots of tropical palms, colorful parrots and “We the Best” stamped across.



KSI
@ksi

Keep an eye out for KSI's return to the ring. After taking a step back from the sport to focus on his music career, it's rumored that he'll be coming back sometime in 2021. With 9.2 million followers on Instagram alone, the jack-of-all-trades is known for his feud with fellow YouTubers Logan and Jake Paul, as well as his newest hit with Yungblud and Polo G, "Patience."

SOMMER RAY
sommerraysshop.com,
@sommerray

One million views for wearing a bikini? It's possible—at least for this fitness model. More than 10.4 million followers on TikTok and over 26 million on Instagram look to Sommer Ray for fitness inspo and new athletic gear—especially when it comes from her own collection (think crossover sports bras; crazy, printed leggings; resistance bands; and plush cropped hoodies).

JACOB SARTORIUS
jacobsartorius.com,
@jacobsartorius

YouTube, barbecue chips, Reese's, Sour Patch Kids, SweetTarts Ropes and blue raspberry Sour Punch Bites line this singer's list of favorite things—so much so that he debuted the song "YouTube & BBQ Chips" just this year. Expected to become one of the next pop superstars, the 18-year-old is one of the most popular users on TikTok with over 24 million followers.

GIL CROES
YouTube: Gilmher
Croes, @gilmhercroes

Who has voluminous brown hair, perfect skin and a great personality? Gil Croes. The Aruba native is popular for his lip-syncing and dance videos on TikTok, as well as his athletic build and comedic personality. If you've ever wondered what the life of the social media star looks like, check out his new series, *Social Star*, on TikTok.

JEFFREE STAR
jeffreestarcosmetics.com,
@jeffreestar

Is your makeup Jeffree Star approved? Head to his YouTube channel to find out. You'll find lots of brands to buy or ditch, and we won't spoil anything, but to name a few: KVD Beauty Good Apple foundation, E.L.F. Cosmetics Mint Melt collection, Gucci foundation and more. The hot pink-haired makeup maven also has his own cosmetics line, where you'll find a rainbow of shimmering shadows, lime green eyeliner and frosty highlighters.



EMMA CHAMBERLAIN
shopemmachamberlain.com,
@emmachamberlain

A deal with Louis Vuitton, a coffee company, a book and a merch e-commerce site? At only 20 years old, this YouTuber is setting the bar high. The California native posts a variety of videos on her channel, including taste tests from major fast food chains like Chipotle, outfit ideas and makeovers.

PHOTO BY BENJAMIN LOZOVSKY/BEA.COM



NIKKIE TUTORIALS
nikkietutorials.com, @nikkietutorials

The Dutch makeup artist first came to fame with a full-on glam video called “The Power of Makeup,” uploaded in 2015. The inspiration behind the video? That it’s OK to wear makeup for you. She takes the time to explain her makeup as she only applies to one side of her face. This video alone gained her millions of fans. Since then, she’s posted tons of makeup tutorials and has even collaborated with the likes of Lady Gaga and Marc Jacobs.

BELLA THORNE
@bellathorne

The Florida-born actress gained recognition for her roles in ABC’s drama *Dirty Sexy Money* and NBC’s *My Own Worst Enemy*. Since then, she’s starred in films like *The Duff* and Adam Sandler’s *Blended*. More recently, Bella Thorne announced her engagement to Italian singer Benjamin Mascolo.

RYAN KAJI
ryans.world,
@ryansworld

Learn with the 9-year-old as he plays, does science experiments, makes music videos and more. His parents, Loann and Shion Kaji, along with twin sisters Emma and Kate, also make appearances on the channel, which uploads a video every day. The family-run platform has garnered just under 30 million subscribers.

DARIAN ROJAS
YouTube: Darian Rojas,
@darianrojasc

Platinum blond hair, pops of neon colors and a futuristic sense of fashion are only some of Darian Rojas’ mainstays. The Mexican influencer reflects a whole new sense of edgy fashion with zebra print jackets, chunky rainbow sneakers and skintight rompers.

EMILY RATAJKOWSKI
emrata.com, @emrata

This brown-haired maven might look familiar—she’s appeared in a variety of music videos and campaigns, after all. In 2013, she was in Robin Thicke’s “Blurred Lines” music video along with Pharrell and T.I. That same year, she was found in Maroon 5’s “Love Somebody” music video. Emily Ratajkowski also dabbles in acting, noting Nickelodeon’s *iCarly* and movie *Gone Girl* as major hits on her résumé. Adding on to her already impressive career in the spotlight, she’s also been on the covers of *Allure*, *Marie Claire*, *Vogue* and *InStyle*.



FROM TOP, PHOTOS BY: DAVID X PRUTTING & MIKE VITELLI/BEA.COM; HAGOP KALADJIAN/BEA.COM



CHIARA FERRAGNI
chiaraferragnicollection.com,
theblondesalad.com,
@chiaraferragni

What started as a blog in 2009 branched off into a full-time career for Italian entrepreneur Chiara Ferragni. Her original blog, *The Blonde Salad*, is still up and running, and focuses on lifestyle, beauty, fashion and celebrities. In addition to running this website, she also launched a merchandise site where fans can find sparkly chrome water bottles, mini chain-link purses and a newborn collection. In 2015, her career really took off into stardom, leading to a variety of opportunities and accolades. Harvard Business School, for example, dedicated an entire case study to her career. She also made it onto *Forbes’* 30 Under 30 list in the art and style category, and was even named the most powerful fashion influencer by the publication.

LILLY SINGH
@lilly

In 2019, Lilly Singh became the first openly bisexual woman of color to sit in the host’s chair of NBC late-night show *A Little Late*. The Canadian comedian, who debuted her YouTube channel under the username Superwoman in 2010, has gained 15 million subscribers thanks to a variety of sarcastic skits (see “Being Cousins with Kamala Harris”) and interviews with big names like Michelle Obama. Her influence has reached so far that she published *New York Times* bestselling book *How to Be a Bawse: A Guide to Conquering Life* in 2017, which teaches readers how to be confident and reach goals.



ANWAR JIBAWI
YouTube: Anwar Jibawi, TikTok and Instagram: @anwar

With Jamie Foxx and Jessica Alba as fans, it comes as no surprise that Anwar Jibawi has over 20 million followers across platforms. He also counts fellow influencers Lele Pons and Hannah Stocking as friends—he played Luigi in Stocking’s *Mario Kart in Real Life* series. On his own channel, expect creative skits and collaborations with big names like Mattel and WWE.



RUDY MANCUSO
@rudymancuso

Most famous for his comedic skits on YouTube, Rudy Mancuso has over 7 million subscribers on his channel. For a deeper look into his passions, look to the YouTuber’s music—a mixture of vocals and instrumentals—as he’s debuted a number of beats over the past year.

SOFIE DOSSI
shopsofiedossi.com, @sofiedossi

America was first introduced to Sofie Dossi during her time on season 11 of *America’s Got Talent*, where she wowed judges with back-breaking contortionist routines. She finished in the bottom five that season, and returned for the first season of *America’s Got Talent: The Champions* in 2019. Since her final appearance on the show, she’s used her stardom and bendy body to start a YouTube channel, which gives fans a further look into her life.



FROM TOP, PHOTOS BY: BILLY FARRELL/BEA.COM; JOHN SALANGSANG/BEA.COM

THE BEE FAMILY

YouTube: The Bee Family, TikTok and Instagram:

@chbeefamily

Get to know the Bee family, a quartet household based in Ontario. Watch as Andrés, Rossana, Roberto and Gabriela Burgos have fun with challenges from Fortnite, test viral trends and more. Plus, they even share recipes for families looking to mix up their weeknight meals.

GARY VAYNERCHUK

garyvaynerchuk.com, @garyvee

Solely calling Gary Vaynerchuk an entrepreneur doesn't cover the half of it. Since 2006—when he launched a 20-minute daily talk show—he's exploded into stardom, becoming an inspirational speaker, author and investor.

Currently, he's the chairman of VaynerX, CEO of VaynerMedia and an active partner in his agency VaynerSports.

CASEY NEISTAT

@caseyneistat

If you've seen Netflix's *Project Power*, then you'll likely recognize Casey Neistat's face from his character, Moto. Outside of the show, the YouTuber has also been behind film *Nerve* and the Casey Neistat vlog, and is known as one of the most successful filmmakers who started from YouTube.

ROSANNA PANSINO

rosannapansino.com, @rosannapansino

Rosanna Pansino's most recent news comes in the form of a TV series with HBO Max, *Baketopia*, a new baking show that challenges bakers to re-create current trends and make new ones. The YouTuber, known for cooking and baking videos on her channel, is the host. She's also the voice behind cookbooks *The Nerdy Nummies Cookbook* and *Baking All Year Round*.

DEMI BAGBY

demibagbyapp.com, @demibagby

A severe back injury and the possibility of paralysis after a freak cheer accident in 2014 didn't stop this athlete from attaining her fitness goals. Instead of facing fate in a wheelchair, the now 20-year-old became a CrossFit athlete. Today, she continues to inspire over 15 million fans across her social platforms, and even started her own chalk-alternative company, Rep Wax. Those looking to step up their workouts can keep an eye out for her new training app.

MICHELLE LEWIN

TikTok: @michellelewin, Instagram: @michelle_lewin

Train with this Venezuelan model for the ultimate summer bod. From fat-burning workouts to muscle-burning moves, Michelle Lewin shows fans how to work out no matter where they are or what they have—and, yes, that means even during the pandemic.

NELK BOYS

YouTube and Instagram:
@nelkboys, TikTok:
@nelk_filmz

From bowling in other people's lanes to pretending to be an Amazon driver, no prank is untouched by the Nelk Boys. The faces behind the brand? Canadian YouTubers Jesse Sebastiani, Kyle Forgeard and Steve Deleonardis. Watch snippets of their top-rated videos on TikTok, or head to YouTube for the full-length versions.

KAYLA ITSINES

kaylaitsines.com,
@kayla_itsines

The face behind the popular Bikini Body Guides (BBG), Kayla Itsines trains millions of clients worldwide from her app, Sweat. Her training routines consist of 28-minute workouts that are meant to increase strength and fitness. Another plus? They don't require any equipment to complete. Check out the fitness fanatic's latest additions to her program, including a post-pregnancy program and more advanced options.



TYLER OAKLEY

thetrevorproject.org, @tyleroakley

Every week, Tyler Oakley posts a number of new videos to engage fans. Each vary in content from LGBTQ+ and social issues to challenges, celebrity interviews and collaborations. The YouTuber is especially known for his focus on the issue of suicide among LGBTQ+ youths, and has teamed up with big names behind the initiative like The Trevor Project. For a lighter take on Oakley's life, flip through the pages of his *New York Times* bestselling book, *Binge*, a compilation of witty personal essays.

CAMILA COELHO

*camilacoelho.com,
@camilacoelho*

Camila Coelho has grown far beyond the Dior makeup counter (her job outside of high school). Since launching her platform in 2010—she started out with beauty looks and step-by-step tutorials—the Brazilian American has launched multiple businesses to add to her portfolio. Not only does she have an expansive collection with major luxury retailer Revolve, but she founded a vegan, cruelty-free makeup line called Elaluz as well. Head to her YouTube channel for hair tricks, red-carpet makeup and interviews with Jessica Alba.

PATRICK STARRR

*onesizebeauty.com,
@patrickstarr*

This Filipino American beauty expert slays the game with flawless brows, sharp eyeliner and frosty highlighter. Shop Patrick Starr's personal collection filled with compact powders and under-eye patches to perfect your vanity. Outside of beauty, the artist also dabbles in music, with song "Go Off" having debuted almost a year ago.





MANNY MUA

*lunarbeauty.com, YouTube:
Manny Mua, TikTok and
Instagram: @mannymua733*

Canceled? No way. After a tiff with fellow influencer friends, Manny MUA isn't ready to leave his multimillion-follower platform just yet. Self-described as having a "daddy body with a mommy face," the makeup artist posts a variety of videos on his platform all around the topic. Scroll through to see for yourself. On our watch list? "Roasting Makeup I Used to Love" and "Testing Viral Makeup."

MONTANA TUCKER

*montanatucker.com,
@montanatucker*

Montana Tucker has been in the limelight since she was 8 years old, with national commercial appearances with companies like Ovaltine, Skechers, BMW and Wendy's. Since then, the Florida native has grown a platform for herself with millions of followers, and debuted new album *Hola* last year.





PHOTO BY KELLY TAUB/BEA.COM

JAY ALVARREZ
@jayalcarrez

In need of a little wanderlust after the year we've had? Head to Jay Alvarez's Instagram feed for stunning shots of the world from all of his travels. Born in Hawaii, he's known for traveling and documenting from some of the most lustworthy and luxurious travel destinations. Think skydiving in Oahu, riding giant squids in French Polynesia and making music videos in Ibiza.



MARIANO DI VAIO

marianodivaio.com, @marianodivaio

Big names like Hugo Boss, Dolce & Gabbana and Calvin Klein dot Mariano Di Vaio's portfolio of brand ambassadorships. The suave, dark-haired gent has taken numerous steps to reach his followers, including publishing book *My Dream Job* and launching big-ticket brands MDV Jewels, MDV Shoes and MDV eyewear. When he's not working, the Italian blogger spends time with his family, who can be seen on his Instagram.

JOE WICKS

thebodycoach.com, YouTube: The Body Coach TV, TikTok and Instagram: @thebodycoach

When Joe Wicks says he's on a mission to make the world fitter, healthier and happier, he means it. Not only does he have a new workout app featuring routines and meal options, but he even launched #PEwithJoe during the pandemic. The purpose? To help families and children get active. It was so successful that over 800,000 people joined in.



AIMEE SONG

songofstyle.com, @aimeesong

Listed as a *Forbes* 30 Under 30 in two categories, as well as one of its top influencers, Aimee Song's original passion lies within interior architecture. Since starting her blog, Song of Style, in 2008, she's gained millions of page views every month, along with a collection for Revolve and two *New York Times* bestselling books.

FROM LEFT, PHOTOS BY: MATTEO PRANDONI/BEA.COM; SAMANTHA NANDEZ/BEA.COM

OLIVIA CULPO

oliviaculpo.com,

YouTube and

Instagram:

@oliviaculpo,

TikTok:

@oliviadangerculpo

Since being crowned Miss Universe in 2012 (she was the first winning contestant to represent the United States in 15 years), Olivia Culpo has continued to inspire and influence fans across the country and beyond. With the launch of her blog, followers can read up on fashion, beauty, lifestyle and more—all with OC lifestyle in mind. The Rhode Island native is also co-owner of American comfort food restaurant Back 40 and natural spiked seltzer VIDE.





JENN IM

YouTube: Jenn Im, TikTok and Instagram: @imjennim

You might know Korean American YouTuber Jenn Im from her previously named channel, ClothesEncounters. But she's revamped her platform branding since, and not just with the name. Expanding to more than fashion, Im just announced her pregnancy in early April with husband Ben Jolliffe, and is focusing content on life updates and building new healthy habits.

TAI LOPEZ

tailopez.com, @tailopez

RadioShack, Pier 1, DressBarn, Modell's, Stein Mart and more—what doesn't Tai Lopez own? At 45 years old, he is behind over 20 million-dollar businesses; produces podcasts; leads book clubs; and inspires people around the world to achieve wealth, love and happiness. He's so well known, in fact, that he's interviewed the likes of Hillary Clinton, Rihanna, Steven Spielberg and the late Kobe Bryant.

THE BUCKET LIST FAMILY

thebucketlistfamily.com, @thebucketlistfamily

In August 2015, Garrett Gee sold an iPhone app to Snapchat—changing his family's world forever. So, they decided to travel the world, and, luckily, documented it as well. Known as a family of travel journalists, Garrett, Dorothy and their three children have traveled to over 85 countries. In 2019 alone they took adventures to Russia, the Philippines, Abu Dhabi, Egypt, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Israel, Mexico, Tonga, Alaska, Haiti, the Maldives, Zanzibar, Rwanda, Uganda and more.

ANTHONY FANTANO

theneedledrop.com, YouTube: theneedledrop, TikTok: @theneedletok

If you're a melophile, run, don't walk, to Anthony Fantano's music-centered brand. With over 2 million subscribers, he's known for his album roundups (Nick Cave and Warren Ellis' *Carnage* made his list for March 2021), Grammy Award picks and weekly track roundups that cover a variety of music genres. Fantano also holds interviews with well-known artists—think Brockhampton, Lil Nas X, Genesis Owusu and Moor Mother.

JACK MORRIS

@doyoutravel

Have you ever heard of the Siwa Oasis? Located in Egypt, it's about a 12-hour drive from Cairo and dates back to the 26th dynasty around 525 B.C. And Jack Morris, the face behind this travel platform, has been there. According to the traveler, it's not a place often found on a visitor's list. Learn more about off-the-road adventures like this by following along with Morris, and travel to magical places like Uluwatu, Bali, and Dubai through his lens.



D-NICE

d-nice.com, @dnice

Two words: Club Quarantine. What is it? D-Nice's virtual dance party that was launched during the pandemic. Every night, he uses Instagram Live to DJ music, from classic hip-hop and soul to R&B. Even A-list celebs like Rihanna, P. Diddy, Oprah, President Joe Biden, Halle Berry and Drake have logged on. The veteran beatboxer started his career in the 1980s with hip-hop group Boogie Down Productions, and also landed a deal with Jive Records after discovering Kid Rock in 1988.



DANIELLE BERNSTEIN

weworewhat.com, @weworewhat

One of the OG Insta influencers, the founder and face behind fashion blog WeWoreWhat counts over 2 million followers and growing. Danielle Bernstein started her brand as a sophomore in college and hit the *Forbes* 30 Under 30 before she was 25. Today, the native New Yorker continues to set the pace with her own brand, WeWoreWhat, and giveback efforts through WeGaveWhat (a charitable arm of her brand).



CREATIVE
IN
FLU
ENCE

THESE CHI-TOWN TALENTS ARE
TAKING OVER YOUR FEED—AND
DEMONSTRATING THEIR INCREDIBLE
ARTISTRY—WITH EVERY POST.

BY J.P. ANDERSON

PHOTO BY AMANDA HOW | HAIR AND MAKEUP BY EMILY WOLF

CODY HUDSON /
@struggle_inc



Artist and graphic designer extraordinaire Cody Hudson—aka Struggle Inc.—has left his mark across Chicago and around the world, with work having shown throughout the U.S., Europe and Japan. “I would be painting and designing and making things whether it was my ‘job’ or not,” notes Hudson of his passion for creating. “It’s just something I feel I need to do every day. It brings enjoyment to my life. It also helps keep me busy, which probably keeps me out of trouble as well.” With an audience of nearly 50K on Instagram, Hudson is a force on social media—but not a slave to it. “I’m not so concerned with it that it affects what work I actually make,” he says. “I’m still going to make whatever is in my head that needs to get out, but it’s a bonus if other people react positively to it.” For Hudson (who uses the phrase “Shapes and Colors Dept.” to describe his multifaceted works), his greatest inspirations are an impressively diverse lot. “I think it’s a mix of artists and designers from the past including Bruno Munari, Anni Albers, Alexander Girard, Vera Neumann and Karel Appel, to name a few, mixed in with a heavy dose of PMA, nature, psychoactive plants and fungi, ambient and shoegaze music, and hot dogs.”

KING MARIE / @kingmarie

Whether it’s as an opening act for Major Lazer and Kehlani or a panel speaker for brands as varied as Apple, Adidas and VICE, musical artist, DJ, model and creative director King Marie’s mission is clear: to create a platform that encourages empowerment and opens doors for womxn, children and Filipinx culture. “I create because it’s my divine purpose,” says the creative, whose debut EP, *The Prelude*, was released in 2019, adding, “My favorite part is being able to

use my different creative media to bring ideas to fruition.” Social media is just another tool in her creative skill set. “It has given me the ability to share my work with people all over the world. Honestly, it’s its own creative process in itself. It ties in strategy, marketing, branding all in one and gives me my own personal space on the internet to share myself and my work.” Coming up next for King Marie? “New music. I’m so excited for the world to hear what I’ve been working on.”

EVAN SHEEHAN /
@evantsheehan

With his playful, color-saturated aesthetic, Ukrainian Village-based photographer and art director Evan Sheehan is making a major impact in the city's creative scene, with a prolific output that ranges from fashion editorials to stylized commercial product photography. "A lot of my work revolves around nostalgia or relationships," explains Sheehan, who left Columbia College in 2015 and has been working full time as a creative ever since. "It feels good to showcase objects, locations and people that I hold near and dear." Sheehan's big news? Founding boutique agency Breakfast for Dinner with his partner, Alex Wallbaum, and Jonathon Spagat of Rit Dye. "BFD is more cheeky than the work I usually do. Our sets are bright and bold, and almost everything has a punchline. We also lean in on the name and include a lot of retro breakfast themes like diners and cereal commercials." When it comes to social media, Sheehan's perspective has evolved. "I used to create things solely for the purpose of being viewed online for a brief moment. [Now] it can inform what I create or be used as a tool to showcase it, but it isn't the end-all."



CARLOS GAYTÁN / @chefcarlosgaytan

When Carlos Gaytán became the first Mexican-born chef to earn a Michelin star with his Mexican-French mashup Mexique, it was an epic accomplishment. That was just the start for this culinary creative, whose River North destination Tzucó has been wowing foodies since its opening in late 2019, and who has become a social media star with more than 180K followers on Instagram thanks to appearances on cooking shows like *Top Chef* and his activism during the pandemic in helping keep industry workers fed. Of the power of his social media presence, Gaytán says, "I think the impact lies in how others engage with what you're doing. If your content inspires people to ask questions, to want to learn more or to create something of their own, it can be very powerful. I feel fortunate to have such engaged followers. Whether I'm sharing what I'm doing in the kitchen, during my travels or in the community, I'm encouraged by their responses. It motivates me to continue sharing the creative and inspiring moments in my life."



CODY MADSEN /
@codymadsen_

Having spent six seasons as an award-winning producer for the Chicago Bulls and with campaigns for major brands like Nike, Reebok, Infiniti and more under his belt, cinematographer and producer Cody Madsen is on his way to industry veteran status—but he's still passionate to learn. "What I honestly enjoy the most is it gives me the ability to try new things, learn and grow. There is always somebody better than you in your craft. I'm definitely by no means the best, and it's important to understand and openly embrace that. So I enjoy learning from those people when given the chance to create beside them." For Madsen, social media has been game changing. "It completely changed my creative process because it's how we consume the majority of the content we see. Attention spans and decisions on whether we like or don't like something are now made in literally one to two seconds, so creatively we need to instantly grab them to stop from scrolling on to the next post." What's next for Madsen? "I've always had this vision of creating a Traveling Wilburys type of creative collective with the people I often work with and who are some of the best in their respected fields. ... We can combine forces to morph together like that robot in *Power Rangers* and take out some of these old agencies who put out underwhelming content for the biggest brands."

FROM TOP, PHOTOS BY: DIEGO PADILLA; CODY MADSEN; ALEX WALLBAUM

BIANCA PASTEL / @biancapastel

“Creating is an outlet for me to express my emotions,” says Chicago-based artist Bianca Pastel, whose vivid, vibrant work—from animation and graphic design to album covers and children’s book illustration—pops with influences spanning from ’90s movies and cartoons to art deco, photography and music. She already has friends in high places in the art world—including renowned artist Hebru Brantley, who has been a mentor to Pastel since her days studying art and design at Columbia College. “Social media makes it easier to understand my audience,” says Pastel. “I get to see

what things people like and dislike, which affects the direction I choose to go with a piece.” Coming up next? She hints at work on a cartoon with some of her favorite Black creatives, and looking five years down the road she’s thinking big: “I want my business to expand to the point where I can hire other creatives of color to work alongside me. I want to be able to express my art in every medium, whether that’s animation, fashion, fine art or graphic design. I have experience in just about everything and want to be able to have mastered the art of balancing these mediums and finding even better ways to express myself.”



AIMY TIEN / @aimytien

“I’ve been telling stories since I can remember, but that’s really true of everyone,” says award-winning multidisciplinary artist Aimey Tien.

“It’s what we do as people. We tell stories to make sense of our memories, to shape our present, to dream of new worlds. We are made of story. Why not be part of the telling?” Tien’s passion has garnered the Chicagoan a creative writing fellowship from the Luminarts Cultural Foundation, among other laurels; the hyperbusy creative is also a company member of Chicago storytelling collective 2nd Story, a board member of Women of The Now, the founder of tinheart productions and a producer of *Go to the Body*, a feature film focused on the stories of survivors and secondary survivors. For Tien, social media has allowed them to expand their audience. “For me, that’s meant reaching international audiences. It also is fun to decide when I want to engage with people from a personal or artistic level, and how that should be best consumed. Writing or creating for social means acknowledging the norms of the medium—as an artist you get to decide what you push against, and what parts of your aesthetic take precedence.”



FROM TOP: PHOTOS: COURTESY OF AIMY TIEN; BY BIANCA GARCIA

MODERN LUXURY

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4 BELLISSIMA PROSECCO,
PREMIUM WELLNESS WINES

Bellissima Prosecco creates boutique-winery quality wines that pair well with a health & wellness lifestyle. All Bellissima wines are certified vegan and 100% organically grown. Bellissima's winemaking signature are their Zero Sugar, Zero Carb wines. Bellissima's unique selection of wines is naturally produced, with no compromises on taste. The wine's profile is up to the wine connoisseur's expectations; captivating and revealing the story of its terroir. Naturally unique, naturally delicious. bellissimaprosecco.com

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Ocean Rx is a company born out of the love of research, preserving our earth, and maximizing health. It's the Prebiotic Nutraceutical that goes beyond the ordinary. This exclusive formulation of Blue Spirulina Extract was developed to maintain its purity without any fillers. The body receives what it deserves - pure ingredients that can lead to better results. oceanrx.us



3 YOUR BEST DECISION
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You may meet people by accident, but we want you to make a deliberate choice to have your car towed here. Or drive it here when you can no longer stand putting up with a pushed in bumper, or scratches that detract from the value of your car and your personal image too. You will find we're the best decision after a collision and if that's not true, we'll make good on the warranty we provide with every job we do for you. 312.403.6000

5 VODKA FOR THE
CREATIVE SPIRIT

The Crystal Head bottle was designed with the creative spirit in mind by creative people. Together, Dan Aykroyd and John Alexander designed the iconic skull-shaped bottle as a symbol of life, reflecting power and enlightenment. Only the best to hold their multi-award-winning spirit. Crystal Head Vodka uses only the highest-quality ingredients and pristine water from Newfoundland, Canada, to create unique ultra-premium vodka expressions that are entirely additive-free. crystalheadvodka.com



MODERN LUXURY SPOTLIGHT

POWER PLAYERS

WRITTEN BY TESS DONELON

PHOTOGRAPHY BY GERBER+SCARPELLI PHOTOGRAPHY

YACHT PROVIDED BY SPRING BROOK MARINA & YACHT SALES

SHOT ON LOCATION AT CHICAGO YACHT CLUB

POWER PLAYERS

U.S. BANK HOME MORTGAGE

Jennifer Brown

MORTGAGE LOAN ORIGINATOR
NMLS 222936

contact

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JENNIFER-BROWN-CHICAGO-IL
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Thanks to her father, who was both a business owner and a realtor, Jenny began her journey with real estate at a young age. “It was an instant hit with me. I love the excitement of helping families purchase their home and the challenge of finding the best solution for them,” she says. Today, as a mother of two with over 20 years of mortgage experience under her belt, she has made her way into the top 1% of loan officers in the country. She equates her success to her care for each individual client and the relationship she strives to build with them. “Anyone can hang their sign and offer the “lowest rate”, however, many competitors miss the relationship aspect of lending, which I find is critical for building a long-lasting client base.” With her impact, Jenny created an annual fundraising event for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, aptly titled “Jenny’s Game”, that raised over \$50,000 in 2020 alone.



PHOTOGRAPHY BY GERBER+SCARPELLI PHOTOGRAPHY
SHOT ON LOCATION AT CHICAGO YACHT CLUB

POWER PLAYERS

AT PROPERTIES

Connie Dornan

BROKER

contact

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 847.208.1397
 CONNIEDORNAN.COM
 IG: @CONNIEDORNAN

After working for a real estate management company and discovering an unexpected fascination for the industry, Connie Dornan knew she was in the right place. As a determined and driven leader across her field, her undeniable sense of humor and honest approach is evident in her relationships with clients. “Purchasing a home is one of the single most important financial and personal investments one makes in their lifetime. It’s an honor and privilege being a part of the process”.

Connie is a top North Shore broker based out of the @properties Glenview office, consistently ranking in the Top 1% by the Chicago Association of Realtors. Many of Connie’s clients come from the city, hoping to find a home in the suburbs. For those big moves into areas with low inventory, buyers and sellers need an expert. Connie has the connections, knowledge, and experience to make her clients dreams come true in this unbelievably competitive market.

Connie equates her business’s stand-out nature to her success in balancing tech-based advertising and marketing with “good old fashioned networking.”

POWER PLAYERS

WINTRUST MORTGAGE

Adam McLain

SENIOR MORTGAGE CONSULTANT

contact

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WINTRUSTMORTGAGE.COM

Over the past 20 years, Adam McLain, Senior Mortgage Consultant at Wintrust Mortgage, has never shied away from taking on difficult, complex deals. His drive, dedication, and focus on fostering a personal and accessible relationship with clients has skyrocketed him into becoming the go-to Mortgage Consultant for those who are self-employed. “There’s nothing quite like helping people realize their dreams of home ownership and financial goals, especially with having the flexibility of working from anywhere.” Since the wave of 2020 has moved people to locations they’d never expected, Adam notes that his clientele has become more nomadic, but that it has proved not to be a problem for his approach to business, which is mobile, stress-free, and entirely individual.



PHOTOGRAPHY BY GREG SCARFELLI PHOTOGRAPHY
SHOT ON LOCATION AT CHICAGO YACHT CLUB
YACHT PROVIDED BY SPRING BROOK MARINA & YACHT SALES

POWER PLAYERS

DANNY GLICK GROUP

Danny Glick

PRESIDENT

contact

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After having worked at a Fortune 500 corporation for years, Danny Glick realized he wanted a career that resulted in his work having a more meaningful and lasting impact on people's lives. As one of Chicago's top residential realtors, he's found just that. Endlessly patient and obsessively methodical, Danny notes that the best part of his job is in finding solutions to problems where seemingly no solutions exist. "We ask every one of our clients what the perfect transaction looks like to them, and then we create it." Moving forward, the Danny Glick Group will continue heightening their clients' experiences by marrying keen listening skills with the industry's latest technology to deliver on their role as advisor and consultant. Danny uses his power to give exposure to – and raise money for – local non-profit organizations, all while providing undisputed exemplary service and upholding his obligation as a fiduciary to his clients. "We are grateful that people continue to place their trust and confidence in us and are honored and humbled to be considered a Power Player."

POWER PLAYERS



PHOTOGRAPHY BY: GERBER+SCARPELLI PHOTOGRAPHY
 SHOT ON LOCATION AT CHICAGO YACHT CLUB
 YACHT PROVIDED BY SPRINGBROOK MARINA & YACHT SALES

LIFTEDMADE

Nick Warrender

CEO & FOUNDER OF LIFTED LIQUID

Kevin Rocio

BOARD MEMBER OF ACQUIRED SALES CORP
 (PARENT COMPANY OF LIFTEDMADE)

contact

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 @NICKLIFTED, @ROCADVISORYGROUP

From starting his company with zero employees and only \$900 and turning it into a wildly successful business venture, CEO Nick Warrender has kept Lifted Made’s mission the same - creating a brand with purpose. “With the current state of our world and our country, we believe that one of the greatest assets we can be to our community is a vessel for opportunity.” Nick does exactly this through building a culture of diversity and true acceptance, both within his company and the consumers themselves. “The best part of my job is driving creativity forward, innovating, and getting ahead of an evolving industry,” he says,

“There’s nothing like bringing a new concept to life and watching a market accept it.” Looking down the pipeline, Lifted Made will be incorporating first-of-their-kind exotic cannabinoid products into their store, and teaming up with fellow industry-leading company, Savage Enterprises, to develop a brand new line of disposable devices. Nick proves he is a Power Player to many, but especially entrepreneurs looking to create something from the ground up. “I think a Power Player is someone who can make something from nothing and have a positive impact along the way.”

POWER PLAYERS

BARTESIAN

Ryan Close

FOUNDER AND
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

contact

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BARTESIAN.COM

Ryan Close, Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Bartesian, began his cocktail journey humbly bartending in college. After one too many encounters with self-proclaimed “bad cocktails”, Close turned an otherwise unexpected job into a wildly successful, award-winning career. “The first machines were hand manufactured in a garage,” he notes, “The best part was seeing the vision become a reality.” Now, Bartesian has built a talented team that continues to push the company forward with new partnerships and product offerings. Just this past April, Close closed a \$20M Series A and welcomed Actress Mila Kunis to the team. His mission remains focused on never losing sight of the customer experience and authenticity of the brand. “I think a Power Player is someone who realizes that there’s a lot they don’t know. As soon as you think you’re an expert, you’re closing your mind to new ways of thinking.”



POWER PLAYERS

CENTAUR INTERIORS

Michael Miller

PRESIDENT

contact

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CENTAURINTERIORS.COM
@CENTAURINTERIORS

From a young age, while other third-graders were busy drawing self-portraits or abstract images of their family dog, Michael Miller was sketching his dream home's interiors. Now, as President of Centaur Interiors, he continues to pursue his long-time passion for the craft, as well as the happiness it brings to others. "Working with clients to 'discover the possibilities' is always extremely exciting," Michael says, "Walking into a client's completed home, seeing their faces, and hearing them say how it exceeded their expectations is truly why I dedicate my life to this industry." Within Centaur Interiors, Michael notes that the company's DNA revolves around their meticulous attention-to-detail and amazing team. "Each and every person at CI is striving for the same goal - to deliver the highest quality product within a curated process. We collaborate with the best in the industry, through our in-house team and our external partners, to deliver our clients the best solution & results for their projects." This dedication to client-satisfaction has driven Centaur Interiors to new heights, most recently with three adventurous endeavors. One being their expansion into the Florida and Dallas markets, another being the introduction of an in-house art gallery, and lastly, the launch of Michael's latest passion project, Apollo - a digital art ecosystem made up of amazing artists, elevated display installation, and an online marketplace. "For those that are most successful, their work is both a passion and a lifestyle. Being around many of our successful clients provides me the motivation to work harder and continue to challenge myself and our firm."



PHOTOGRAPHY BY: GERBER+SCARPELLI PHOTOGRAPHY
SHOT ON LOCATION AT CHICAGO YACHT CLUB

POWER PLAYERS

COMPASS CHICAGO

Josh Lipton, Esq.

REAL ESTATE BROKER AND
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For Josh Lipton, Real Estate Broker and Developer at Compass Chicago, the limitless potential and opportunity to be his own boss sparked his interest in the industry. He began his journey in real estate with a legal background, coupled with finance and development experience which aided in his ability to share his vision with clients and appreciate a property's true potential. "This business allows my personality, authenticity, and creativity to shine, allowing me to think outside the box and make things happen rather than wait for them to happen. No two properties are the same, each with its own identity and story for me to tell" he says, "Every day is a new adventure with challenges, wins, and losses. When one door closes, another opens - literally!" Oftentimes, Josh mentions that the role of a Real Estate Broker is so much more than helping people buy and sell homes, but instead one that requires him to wear many hats. From general contractor and handyman to designer and stager, he welcomes the responsibility with open arms and adds that it's one of his favorite parts of the job, turning an otherwise stressful and unfamiliar process into an enjoyable and memorable experience. "In a business that epitomizes 'sales', clients appreciate the fact that I never try to 'sell' them, but instead genuinely look out for their best interest. It's easy to tell clients what they want to hear, but instead, I am brutally candid and tell them what they need to hear," he notes, "I always want to respect my client's time as well as my own." Moving forward, Josh has several exciting developments in the works highlighted by the construction of 16 new condos in the heart of Old Town and 5 condos in Lincoln Park paving the way for 2021. Most notably, though, Josh is excited to welcome his second baby girl into his family in August!

POWER PLAYERS

OFFICE OF DR. RICHARD A. BERGER, MIDWEST ORTHOPAEDICS AT RUSH

Richard A. Berger, M.D.
MIDWEST ORTHOPAEDICS

contact

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While pursuing his medical engineering degree at MIT, Richard A. Berger, M.D., discovered his lifelong passion - helping patients take back their lives by restoring their mobility and alleviating their pain. In this, he intensely studied human motion and the ways in which to make joint replacements perform more like natural joints. Today, he owns his own practice where he has utilized his MIT engineering degree to develop a minimally invasive surgery to replace hip and knee joints. Unlike traditional joint replacement surgery, his patients are able to recover and return to their daily lives quickly and seamlessly. In working in an industry that he loves, Richard notes that the best part of his job is specifically helping those who suffer from arthritis. "I am very fortunate to help over 1400 patients annually, and I have the pleasure of following patients after surgery and hearing their remarkable recovery stories," he adds. After personally going through the motions of lockdown and being sequestered in his own home, Richard realized that his efforts toward helping those with arthritis couldn't just stop at treatment. "Lockdown was a huge epiphany for me because I learned what it was like to live in the world of arthritis, where you can't move like you want or do the things you love," he says. Thus, as part of his concierge approach to orthopedic surgery, Richard gives his patients a choice between an in-person or telehealth appointment for pre- and post- surgical consultations.



POWER PLAYERS

SPRING BROOK MARINA

Kyle Stenzel

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Spring Brook Marina, a veteran company in the marine industry since 1961, has evolved under new management to meet the updated needs of the boating business today. “Our company culture has shifted so much over the last decade,” President and CEO, Kyle Stenzel, adds, “The majority of our employees are now millennials and have a new, fresh approach to the business.” Kyle began his journey in the boating business after a connection with the original founder turned into an invitation to work at a boat show. “I knew nothing about boats and was totally out of my element, but on the second day I sold a 59’ Marquis for \$1.5mm and was instantly hooked. I loved the lifestyle, the people, and the business of boating, instantly.” Now, with over a decade of experience, Kyle has incorporated an entirely new, detailed, and aggressive growth strategy into Spring Brook Marina - but his favorite part of the job, he notes, will always be delivery day. “Having new owners come down to the marina with their families to take possession of something they worked so hard for is so rewarding to witness.” Kyle and Spring Brook Marina’s dedication to and involvement in helping their community is undeniable. They donate boat rentals to local organizations, work with The Great Lakes Alliance and donate to their cause, and make the effort to be good stewards of boating in any way possible. After adding an impressive six new locations to their roster and future concepts for a Chicago flagship store, Kyle and Spring Brook Marina have no plans to slow down anytime soon. “We are laser focused on positive, organic growth and aligning ourselves with the right strategic partners without doubt.”

POWER PLAYERS

FRESHSKIN MEDICAL SPA & WELLNESS CENTER

Jenna Radivojevic

PRACTICE MANAGER

Ryan Lombardo

WELLNESS DIRECTOR

Dr. Josie L. Tenore

FOUNDER AND MEDICAL DIRECTOR

Natalia Koziol

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For Dr. Josie L. Tenore, Founder and Director of FreshSkin Medical Spa & Wellness Center, the most rewarding part of her job is witnessing the excitement and confidence of patients as they exit the treatment rooms. “A person’s entire demeanor changes when they are patiently listened to and offered help. It’s difficult for people to let their guard down and discuss their biggest insecurities, but it’s relieving for us to share solutions to an issue that may have felt very isolating,” she notes. With help from her decade-long experienced team, they place an emphasis on internal and external health collectively providing the best route to wellness by utilizing progressive and safe methods of care. “Our providers work together to design individualized plans of action for each specific patient,” says Jenna, Practice Manager. “We are invested in our patients’ progress, happiness and results. We work together to problem-solve each case.” Adding to their power-player attributes, FreshSkin is proud to be the first practice in the Chicagoland area to introduce three groundbreaking devices specializing in advanced plasma technology, body contouring, and laser hair removal. “We want to break the stigma surrounding cosmetic procedures, helping educate people on our minimally invasive and pain-free techniques. So much is changing in this industry, and we are proud to have been, and continue to be on the forefront.”



PHOTOGRAPHY BY GERBER+SCARPELLI PHOTOGRAPHY
SHOT ON LOCATION AT CHICAGO YACHT CLUB

POWER PLAYERS

GRANT & EISENHOFER P.A.

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Lisa Weinstein is the founding Director of the Birth Injury Litigation Group at Grant & Eisenhofer, representing children, mothers and families in birth injury litigation across the country. Becoming a mother initially sparked Lisa's interest in the niche practice of birth injury litigation. A top rated medical malpractice attorney in Chicago, previous co-chair of the American Association for Justice's Birth Trauma Litigation Group and a mother of three young children, Lisa has truly paved the way as a multi-faceted Power Player. After graduating from the University of Michigan and cum laude from DePaul University College of Law, she has gone on to successfully litigate personal injury, medical malpractice and birth injury matters, resulting in more than \$300 million in settlements and verdicts for children and their families. Nationally recognized as one of the leading trial medical malpractice attorneys in the country, she has been named by Law360 as a Rising Star in Personal Injury and Medical Malpractice. In 2020 and 2021, Lisa was selected for inclusion to the Illinois Super Lawyers list. For eight years prior, she was selected to Illinois Super Lawyers' list of Rising Stars, and has had her name added to the Top 40 Under 40 list by National Trial Lawyers. She also received the Lifetime Achievement Award from America's Top 100 Attorneys. However, despite her many incredible accolades and personal achievements, the best part of her job remains to be helping children injured at birth receive everything they need to live their best lives. One of her most notable cases in this area involved Lisa obtaining a settlement of \$12.5 million for the family of a child who suffered severe brain damage due to a lack of oxygen during labor and delivery and was diagnosed with cerebral palsy. "Accept new challenges," Lisa notes, "no matter how hard it may seem to accomplish. Never give up."

POWER PLAYERS

HAIRLAB CHICAGO

Debbie Ansay-Martinez

CO-OWNER AND HAIR LOSS
SPECIALIST

Chanel Kwak

CO-OWNER AND HAIR LOSS
SPECIALIST

contact

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Debbie Ansay-Martinez and Chanel Kwak, Owners and Hair Loss Specialists at Hairlab Chicago, have both experienced the devastating effects of hair loss through their battle with Alopecia. As they sought out help in their own lives, they realized the lack of quality options available. In response, they co-founded Hairlab Chicago, a place where they can exercise their passion for helping others while doing what they love. "Hair often defines who we are, and having the ability to give someone back their confidence and regain a piece of their life has been rewarding on many levels," they say, "It is truly an immeasurable honor to give one the freedom to live their life without boundaries." Debbie and Chanel also partner with Cesare Regazzi Laboratories, the world leader in hair replacement, to introduce their clients to the combination of Hairlab's artistry and Cesare's 3D hair and scalp prosthetic new technology. Hairlab Chicago will be one of the first centers in the US to have this launch in 2021. "We have the unique ability to customize both holistic and cosmetic solutions to meet the desires of each of our clients," they add, "Since hair loss has affected us as well, we found the most natural solutions and have established ourselves as people to trust in the industry." Within their community, Debbie and Chanel believe it is imperative to give back, thus their partnerships with the National Alopecia Areata Foundation, the TLC Foundation for BRF, the Chicago Alopecia Support Group, and other local hair loss groups. In Summer of 2021, not only will the Cesare Ragazzi technology launch in their clinic, but also an in-clinic hair follicle analysis which will provide a holistic snapshot for future hair loss concerns.



PHOTOGRAPHY BY GERBER+SCARPELLI PHOTOGRAPHY
SHOT ON LOCATION AT CHICAGO YACHT CLUB

POWER PLAYERS

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From a young age, Otto Phan discovered a love for food through numerous restaurant visits with his parents. “I loved food and looked forward to that,” he says. When it came time to dive into a career, one working within that industry was the obvious choice - thus, the creation of Hinoki Sushiko, his latest restaurant. “I love working with food and the relationships I’ve built for special high-quality ingredients,” he adds, “I love being able to make sushi that is really good and balanced.” At Hinoki Sushiko, Otto puts his mark on the food he creates and the atmosphere he fosters, which is one of unbridled authenticity. “We serve true Edomae inspired omakase in a large format, that no one else is doing, with special rice vinegars that aren’t available anywhere else.” Balance, harmony, and purity are the ethos behind the business for Otto. In those ways, he works to bring the ethos from the inside of Hinoki Sushiko to the outside, into his community. “I have a strong social media following and use it to raise awareness for #stopasianhate.” Otto invites guests of all kinds to experience a new and true large-format omakase at Hinoki Sushiko.

POWER PLAYERS

JAMESON SOTHEBY'S INTERNATIONAL REALTY

Landon Heck

BROKER ASSOCIATE

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After a 22-year-long career in the hospitality industry, Landon Heck turned to real estate with the help of his now Team Lead, Jennifer Mills-Klatt of The Home Discovery Team, the #1 team at Jameson Sotheby's International Realty, selling over \$90 million in 2019. "She scouted me for eight and a half years to join her team," he says, "Now, I have the opportunity to meet new people from every walk of life and be a part of the biggest financial and personal decision of their lives."

Landon's approach to his craft is client first. He has the patience and ability to adapt and manage variables to achieve the best results for his clients, all while forming extensive professional and personal networks. These character traits are an integral part of his ability to go above and beyond the needs of his clients. Throughout his time in real estate, Landon notes that his personal, and work life, ethos revolves around being of service to others. His connection with the community around him and dedication to supporting his clients can be seen through his love for philanthropy. He utilizes his network and connections to help promote, fundraise, and bring awareness to organizations and their missions. "Philanthropy is a very important component of my life," he says, "I currently work with two organizations: Fight 2 Feed and Back 2 School Illinois. Next, I want to begin working with the LGBTQ youth community through mentorship, and hopefully shed some light and inspiration that anything is possible for the LGBTQ youth." Moving forward, Landon plans on continuing to support those around him and provide the best experience for his clientele. "As they say, 'It takes a village', and without the support of my family, friends, clients and colleagues my business and life wouldn't be where it is now and what it will grow to become."



POWER PLAYERS

KAREN GORDON HAIR LOSS SOLUTIONS & J. GORDON DESIGNS

Karen Gordon

OWNER AND PRESIDENT

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Karen Gordon, Owner and President of J. Gordon Designs & Karen Gordon Hair Loss Solutions, is celebrating 42 successful years in her Lincoln Park salon. Throughout the entirety of her career, Karen has worked to help others regain their confidence through hair treatments and hair loss education. “I have the gift of being able to change how people feel about themselves. Compassion and integrity are truly the foundations of my business,” she says. Her development of the “Gordon Method of Hair & Scalp Analysis”, which has already changed the hair loss industry entirely, provides an entirely new level of accuracy when diagnosing the complex causes of hair loss. This month, Karen plans on expanding into hair replacement and continuing to bring a renewed sense of self-love to her clients and community.

POWER PLAYERS

MARIANI LANDSCAPE

Frank Mariani

CEO

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Before Frank Mariani was the CEO of Mariani Landscape, he had been involved with all things green ever since he was 5 years old. After growing up on a nursery and watching his father and grandparents pave the way, he knew the landscaping business was for him. Now, 47.5 years of service later, he doesn't see an end in sight. The best part of his job? "All of the wonderful people I get to meet," he says. Mariani Landscape is the jack-of-all trades in their industry, tackling all things design, installation, and maintenance, and Frank has kept it that way no matter what. His motivation lies in providing the best final product for customers, which keeps improving as each project goes by. "I always think and say that our next project will be the best project we've ever done. This is what drives me everyday." This upcoming November will mark the 48th year since Frank's father's passing, and Frank notes that there are many exciting things coming along with that. For now, Mariani Landscape is focused on making sustainable improvements to their company, both for the environment and their communities.



POWER PLAYERS

PLATINUM SANITATION

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When the COVID-19 pandemic first hit, Justin Jacobson, President of Platinum Sanitation and Platinum Wellness Group, felt it was his obligation to keep businesses certified clean, healthy, and safe. “Knowing that we’re making a difference by helping offices and other places of business to reopen safely for their employees, customers, and families is the best part of my job,” Justin says. Platinum Sanitation goes above and beyond their industry by not only certifying their staff in BioRisk clean-up, but also by having a medical board on hand at all times, which allows them to administer rapid PCR testing for their clients. Justin notes that the ethos behind the company is in being the most knowledgeable about an array of subjects. Largely by studying all medical and scientific background to safely remove pathogens and test for clients whenever necessary. As a company, Platinum Sanitation has successfully assisted over 25 million square-feet of local businesses and has plans for further expansion down the road. The goal, Justin adds, is to be the one-stop-shop for blue collar industries in the future.

POWER PLAYERS

RIVER NORTH HAND CARWASH & DETAILING

RIVER NORTH COLLISION REPAIR

Mike DeMaio

OWNER

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After graduating college, Mike DeMaio turned to a Yacht detailing business to start his professional journey. Little did he know that the owner, who also owned a hand car wash, would later inspire his future passion - auto detailing and collision repair. Mike opened his first hand car wash in 1990 and, 5 years later, moved into the location he has held for the past 25 years. As a local, family-owned and operated business River North Collision Repair truly takes the time to get to know their customers and keep their best interest front of mind at all times. “We’ve been in the business now for close to 30 years, and there’s a reason for that - repeat customers and referrals. Those only happen when you take care of your customers and deliver a consistent product that they can always count on.” Not only a leader in their industry, River North Collision Repair also prides themselves on being a leader within their community, in being a part of the River North Residents Association, assisting with Back to School Events and “movies in the park”, and sending members of their own staff around the neighborhood to sweep and pick up trash on slow days. In the future, Mike mentions that there are several projects in the works, but most notably, a major expansion within the next 24 months.



POWER PLAYERS

THE FAKHOURI FIRM

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Robert S. Fakhouri had always had a strong personality, but it wasn't until he discovered law, and was licensed to practice at 23, that he realized he could use his natural talents for the benefit of others. "It fits my efforts in being a voice for the voiceless," he says, "whether through my philanthropic work or in my career." After working with a larger firm, Robert opted to open his own in 2016, which he aptly titled "The Fakhouri Firm". There, he notes that the best part of his job is being able to obtain justice and compensation to right the wrongs for individuals. Outside of his profession, Robert is a fierce philanthropist, being involved in multiple charitable organizations. He serves as the Co-Chair of the Community Outreach Committee for the Arab American Bar Organization, and is a strong advocate of women's and civil rights. "I will continue to use my influence in the community to shine a light on the voiceless and raise awareness of social justice issues." Robert is clearly a Power Player in his community and is highly revered as such. He was selected by Thomson Reuters as a Super Lawyers Rising Star for three consecutive years (2019, 2020, and 2021), a distinction awarded by peers to only 2.5% of Illinois attorneys, and was also ranked by the National Trial Lawyers as a Top 40 Under 40 for two years in a row (2020 and 2021).

POWER PLAYERS

SALONDJ HAIRTOGRAPHY

Daniel Janicek

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SalonDJ Hairtography, Owned by Daniel Janicek and Managed by Amy Geister, sits at the forefront of Chicago haircare and styling. “We strive to foster a positive, collaborative culture based on an exchange of ideas, perfection of our craft, and dedication to bringing out the best in each of our guests,” they say. Helping others to feel good about themselves, they add, is truly the most rewarding. Besides creating a welcoming community within their clients, Daniel and Amy are most proud of the team they work alongside every day. “One of our largest achievements thus far is the success in building the best team of not only incredible artists, but also the most humble and kind individuals.” They say, “Our power lies within not just one, but all of us.” With that team, Daniel and Amy were able to introduce the launch of their Hairtography concept, which presents a first-of-it’s-kind beauty experience of hair, makeup, and photography in a full-service salon setting. Moving forward, they hope to soon bridge the gap into becoming an entirely green salon, to aid in the betterment of their community and world.



PHOTOGRAPHY BY GERBER+SCARPELLI PHOTOGRAPHY
SHOT ON LOCATION AT CHICAGO YACHT CLUB
YACHT PROVIDED BY SPRING BROOK MARINA & YACHT SALES

POWER PLAYERS

GIOIA RISTORANTE E PASTIFICIO

Federico Comacchio

CHEF PARTNER

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Passion, passion, passion. That's what inspired Federico Comacchio, Chef Partner at Gioia Ristorante e Pastificio, when first entering the business. "From the time I was a young boy growing up in Lodi, I was fascinated by the food around me, both at home and through the many artisans throughout Italy," Federico says, "Italy has such a strong identity with their food culture and that feeling is deeply seeded within me." In the creation of Gioia, Federico notes that his goal was always to spread joy to his clientele - which is displayed through the name "Gioia" itself, translating directly to joy. "As people stop to peek in, it's such a thrill to see the excitement in their eyes as they first witness the interiors of Gioia." Inside, Federico has worked to foster a culture of community and authenticity in everything from the menu to the design. No matter if guests are stopping in for a cocktail and cicchetti or a full, leisurely meal, they will be welcomed with open arms. "One of my favorite things about being a chef is providing a place for people to come together, surrounded by delicious food and wine." Federico says. In the future, he plans to continue the upward trend of Gioia by providing the best service and meals to his guests, all while creating more meaningful and lasting experiences. "We are ready to fill the restaurant with the aromas of Italy, our talented team, and of course, our guests."

POWER PLAYERS

STEVE QUICK JEWELER

Steve Quick

FOUNDER

Melissa Quick

PRESIDENT

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Founder Steve Quick and President Melissa Quick of Steve Quick Jeweler are modern-day pioneers in the business, which is only partially aided by the waves of their personally curated playlist that ranges everywhere from Led Zeppelin to bossa nova covers of Bob Marley that play throughout their store. When selling jewelry, their selection process centers around whether or not they would buy the pieces for themselves, noting, “If we don’t love it, we don’t sell it. Each piece needs to speak to us.” They focus on award-winning artists and creators who aren’t seen anywhere else in Chicago, which follows suit with Steve’s passion for helping small businesses within their neighborhood. “We aim to support women - a huge minority in our industry - and are proud that over 50% of our collection is from female designers.” Steve Quick Jeweler features pieces that are responsibly and ethically made, along with their latest collection, Pendo. Named after the Swahili word for love, Pendo will be launching later this summer, with a portion of the proceeds going to Gem Legacy, a 501c3 that supports education and entrepreneurship in East African mining communities.



PHOTOGRAPHY BY GERBER+SCARPELLI PHOTOGRAPHY
SHOT ON LOCATION AT CHICAGO YACHT CLUB
YACHT PROVIDED BY SPRING BROOK MARINA & YACHT SALES

POWER PLAYERS

THE KROCHMAL CENTER FOR PLASTIC SURGERY

**Daniel J. Krochmal, MD,
FACS**

BOARD CERTIFIED PLASTIC SURGEON

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Daniel J. Krochmal, MD, FACS, and Board Certified Plastic Surgeon, has always been drawn to art, sciences, and the humanities. It was during medical school at the University of Michigan where he discovered that plastic surgery drew from each of those initial passions. His impressive training pedigree at the Mayo Clinic Arizona General Surgery Residency Program, Plastic Surgery Residency at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and the prestigious Hunstad Kortesis Aesthetic Fellowship in Charlotte further refined his skill set as a surgeon and clinician. Dr. Krochmal is Board Certified by both the American Board of Surgery and the American Board of Plastic Surgery, and is known for facial rejuvenation, body contouring, and advanced breast shaping techniques. At The Krochmal Center for Plastic Surgery, he combines his love for the craft with his practice philosophy. "Our team lives by our core principles of Results, Compassion, Excellence, and Safety. It's all about attention to detail, and pushing the envelope to make the results better for each patient." Dr. Krochmal's commitments to innovation, safety, and a concierge-level patient experience has earned him a loyal patient following both regionally and internationally, and assisting his patients is one of his favorite parts of the job. He notes, "It may sound cliché, but it's spot on -- the smile on my patient's face when I've exceeded their expectations and they're now living the life they envisioned is by far the most rewarding."

POWER PLAYERS

GERBER + SCARPELLI PHOTOGRAPHY

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For Kurt Gerber and Michael Scarpelli, Principals at Gerber + Scarpelli Photography, telling stories has always been the focus of their business. “Creating content to tell a story is an exciting and creative endeavor,” they say, “It is often the perfect embrace of art and commerce.” After coming together to bring these stories to life through photography, and creating a widely successful business in the process, Kurt and Michael discovered what they love most about their job - the people. “The best part has always been the people,” they add, “Caring and customer service above all else has been an attitude that resonates and separates our team from the rest of the industry.” When it comes down to it, though, Kurt and Michael make a conscious effort to bring out the best of their clients through their photography sessions. They mention that power is an inner resource, the gold within, and they as a team love to help companies and individuals alike to find that gold. In development for Gerber + Scarpelli Photography is a new TV show centered around bravery and stories of honor, specifically in the veteran community.



Health, Leisure, Travel, Wellness

Backed by majestic sandstone formations, Camp Sarika at Amangiri derives its name from the Sanskrit word for open space and sky.

Revive



COLLECTIVE HEALING

The illustrious Amangiri resort introduces a fresh perspective with the opening of the instantly iconic Camp Sarika, a collection of 10 luxury tented pavilions hidden among the canyons of the southern Utah desert. Blink and you might miss it—but that's the point. *BY ANNA DUNN*

PHOTO COURTESY OF AMANGIRI

CONTINUED...



Camp Sarika's pool and Jacuzzi, tucked among mesas and seamlessly connected to the surrounding desert landscape, offer a space for respite.

...CONTINUED

Healing takes many forms. At times it's an hourlong massage customized to your needs. Other times it's spontaneous, expertly tailored tequila pairings with dinner suggested by your server. Healing can be found in necessary safety protocols that artfully maintain a human element, the sound of a crackling fire and the ever-present signature scent of desert sage, or perhaps in stargazing in seclusion and the quiet introspection that follows. As I discovered on a recent visit, no matter how it manifests itself, healing is found at Amangiri—which fittingly means “peaceful mountain.” With the property's midpandemic opening of Camp

Sarika, healing takes shape as 10 luxury tented pavilions that seem to disappear into the canyons of the southern Utah desert, only a short drive or hike from the renowned main hotel. Isolated campsites are outfitted with rugged details that have been elevated to an ultraluxe level, and quiet attention to detail and impeccable “invisible service” stay true to the Aman brand DNA.

When Camp Sarika quietly welcomed its first guests in July 2020—11 years after Amangiri opened—it became the ultimate spot for healing (and social distancing) during a time of universal uncertainty. Occupying more than 55 of the property's 600 acres, it is the first year-round camp of its kind in North America. “The idea was

not just to add more rooms; it was to create a whole new experience,” general manager Julien Surget tells me over breakfast at Camp Sarika. “We needed more inventory, but at the same time we also wanted to tell a new story in the market.” That story unfolds in the form of five 1,100-square-foot, one-bedroom pavilions and five 1,800-square-foot, two-bedroom pavilions (all fully enclosed and spaced out for privacy and comfort), a bespoke creation of San Francisco- and Johannesburg-based design and development services firm Luxury Frontiers. Each boasts an expansive outdoor terrace with a heated plunge pool, cozy fire pit area and telescope; a roomy, light-filled common space with wet and dry bars, a dining area and a smartly

concealed TV; and a spalike en suite bathroom with a deep-soaking tub and indoor and outdoor showers. Canvas walls, custom-designed leather and walnut details, and matte black fixtures and finishes are inspired by the surrounding rolling plains and recall traditional camping elements. And, of course, epic views visible from telescoping sliding glass doors only add to the appeal. Seven of the pavilions (mine included) face commanding sandstone canyon and mesa formations, and three have west-facing views for catching stunning sunsets.

At the camp, a common building houses a restaurant that serves breakfast, lunch and dinner, in addition to a lounge with a focal-point fireplace

CONTINUED...

PHOTOS COURTESY OF AMAN



AMBASSADOR
CHICAGO



Experience the iconic Ambassador Chicago, a JDV by Hyatt hotel.

Nestled in the Gold Coast neighborhood, the Ambassador is the city's original boutique hotel and has played host to legends like Frank Sinatra, Marilyn Monroe, and David Bowie. Enjoy luxurious guest rooms, enhanced in-room technology, and contactless amenities. Be part of our history while creating new stories at the Ambassador Chicago.

Book now and save 15% off by using the QR code.



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flavors between dishes as we try to have both complementing and contrasting flavor profiles.” With all meals and nonalcoholic beverages included, guests can indulge in seconds of a favorite course, and preset menus for breakfast and lunch round out the offerings. While dining next to the open kitchen one evening, I witness that food preferences, restrictions and allergies are handled with the utmost care, and Currier receives frequent praise from guests impressed by his craft.

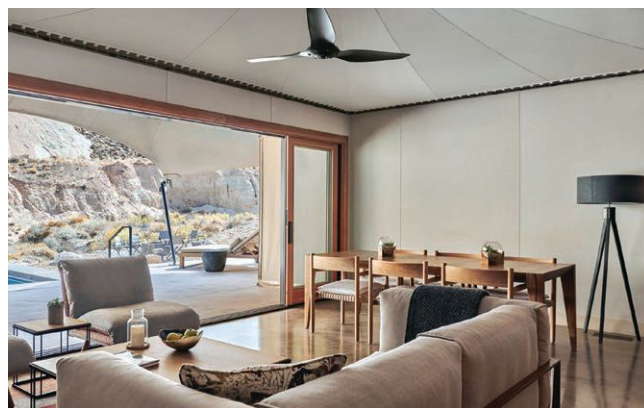
The brand’s focus on two main pillars—wellness and adventure—plays

...CONTINUED that keeps things cozy during chilly evenings, a sleek pool and two spa suites (an extension of the brilliant main Aman Spa), all of which can be accessed by guests of both Camp Sarika and Amangiri. As part of the camp experience, guests use golf carts to navigate the exclusive enclave and can travel to the main hotel and back by hiking or using private car service. Surget explains that guests especially enjoy moving between the two properties for meals as Sarika offers a second dining outlet and an entirely different experience.

“Part of luxury travel is seeking out the experiences you can’t buy at home no matter how much money you have,” he says. “We’re not trying to re-create a five-star restaurant experience you’d have in Paris, because you can get that in Paris. What you can’t get in Paris is the chef who has the contacts with native tribes to get special ingredients,” he continues. “It’s not just about cooking local; it’s cooking relevant.” Spearheading that effort at Camp Sarika is lauded chef de cuisine Oren Currier, who stays busy—and keeps me on my toes during my stay—creating and executing a new dinner menu every night, highlighting seasonal ingredients with a focus on regional Utah cuisine. “My creative process is a combination of several components,” shares Currier. “This includes seasonality of ingredients, the number of guests we are expecting, and the interaction of



From top: The main pavilion at Camp Sarika houses a restaurant and relaxation area; each pavilion has a heated plunge pool and highlights a “very thin separation between nature and construction,” says general manager Julien Surget; pavilion bathrooms are equipped with deep-soaking tubs; a spacious living area leads to a shaded deck, sun beds, a telescope and a fire pit with epic views.



out seamlessly at Camp Sarika. “We want to build guests a robust itinerary to complement restoring and healing,” says Surget. Those itineraries can touch on both pillars, including everything from challenging hikes and climbs—called via ferrata, Italian for “iron road”—on a network of on-property trails and routes to restorative spa treatments and special culinary experiences that honor Navajo traditions. (Mine includes a healthy balance of both.) Another Aman-specific touchstone is sustainability, which Surget says is manifested in three ways on-property: environmental protection, community outreach, and preservation of local heritage and culture. “Sustainability is not just about conservation, but it’s also about educating people and exposing them to new things,” he shares. Outreach takes shape as meal deliveries to local Navajo communities, self-defense lessons for employees, financial education courses and more. “If you condition [employees] right, they then carry that back home,” he says. “It’s meaningful to us.” In regard to environmental protection, the property has its own solar field and three natural wells, and uses geothermal heat pumps in lieu of standard HVAC systems for the camp pavilions. But due to local restrictions, what are considered standard practices in many U.S. regions are nearly impossible here, such as recycling. So, for Amangiri and Camp Sarika, the primary focus remains on outreach and cultural preservation, says Surget. “Sometimes it’s just a matter of being kind, being polite and helping people upscale.”

Surget is optimistic about what’s next for Camp Sarika as travelers seek new ways to experience solitude and healing. “There’s no doubt that there’s an excitement about the property,” he says. “I’m grateful for it; I’m humbled by it, honestly. We relentlessly work to honor that excitement.” *Pavilions from \$3,500 per night, amangiri.com* ◉



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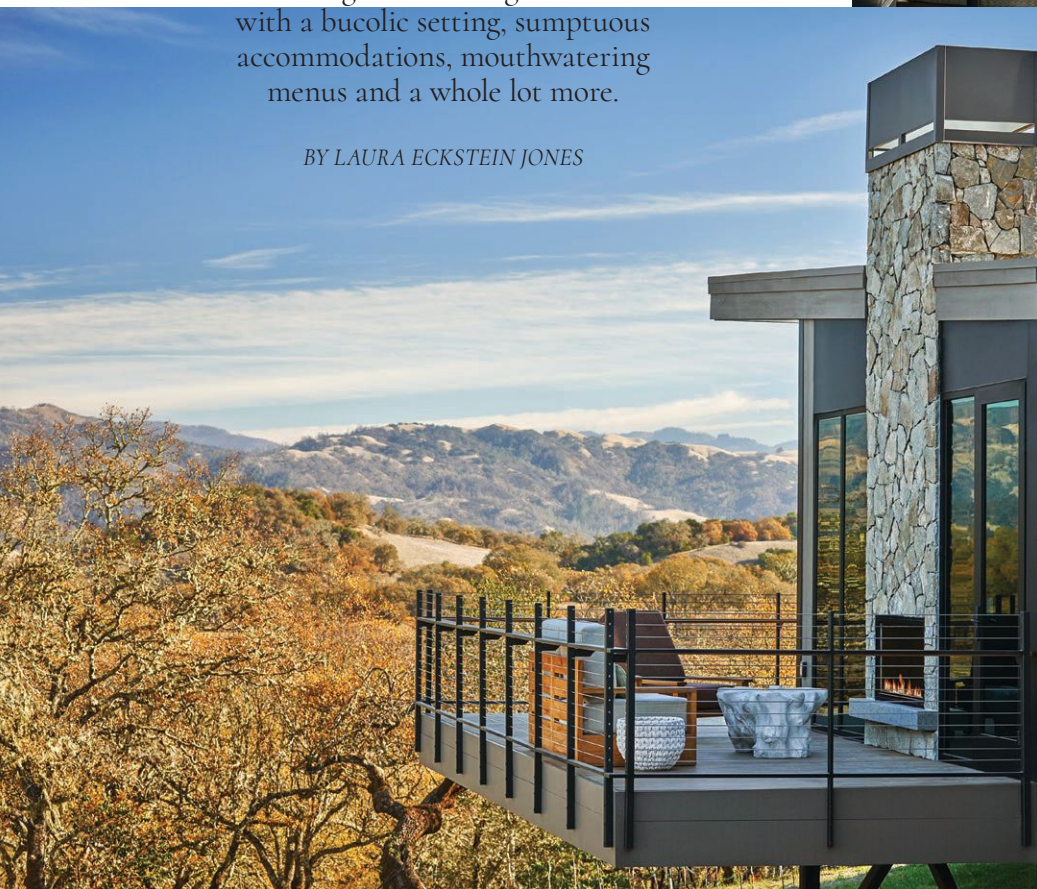


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NATURAL WONDER

Seamlessly nestled in Sonoma County's rolling hills, the new Montage Healdsburg beckons with a bucolic setting, sumptuous accommodations, mouthwatering menus and a whole lot more.

BY LAURA ECKSTEIN JONES



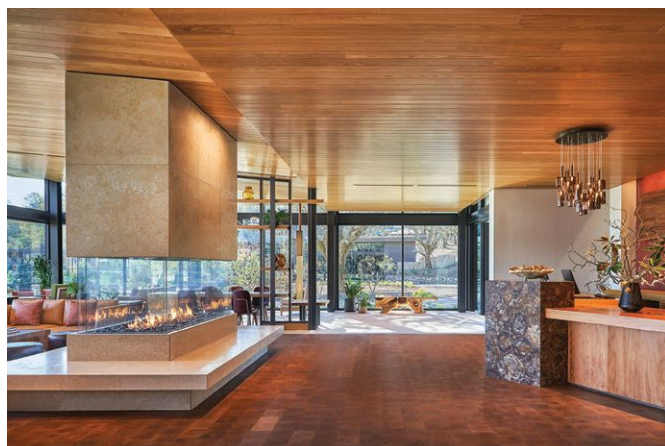
The moment our plane touches down at Sonoma County Airport, my stress level plummets. And when our car rolls up to the brand-new Montage Healdsburg resort—only a 15-minute drive away—any lingering anxiety from the week disappears completely.

Located in the heart of Sonoma's wine country, just minutes from Healdsburg's charming downtown area, the lush property is rife with eye candy—vine-covered hills, clear blue skies and historic groves—and although new, it looks like it has been there for generations. The subtle contemporary architecture by design partners Glazier Le Architects and Delawie Architects fits into the landscape so well, it's tough to locate the 130 bungalow-style guest rooms dotted across the 258-acre retreat.

After arriving to our stunning suite via golf cart, we take a moment to soak in the gorgeous design and seemingly endless views. The suite—designed masterfully with every detail considered by EDG Design—has a roomy living room and bedroom, two bathrooms, two showers (one outdoor, one indoor), a beckoning bathtub, two enormous flat-screen televisions, and last but certainly not least, a massive deck, complete with a fire pit and outdoor furniture. Because we arrived later in the day, we decide to take advantage of our cozy accommodations and order room service. We share the colorful Hazel Hill salad with perfectly prepared wagyu, a half chicken topped with black truffle jus, and the most delicious pommes frites. It is divine.

The next day, we walk down the hill to

From top: A fire pit-equipped outdoor patio at Montage Healdsburg; rooms come with stunning views of the Alexander Valley; the hotel's gorgeous open-plan lobby.



PHOTOS BY CHRISTIAN HOKAN

Hazel Hill restaurant for a hearty alfresco breakfast before heading to the on-property Compass Sports. The plan—to ride electric bikes throughout the area—is squashed by my lack of athletic prowess, so instead we drive into downtown Healdsburg for strolling and boutique-hopping. Post-shopping, we drive to the highly recommended Dry Creek General Store for delicious sandwiches, devoured on the porch while gazing out at vineyards. We then head back to the hotel for a private wine tasting experience at Hazel Hill with beverage manager and sommelier Petra Polakovicova. Sitting outside overlooking the fields and mountains, Polakovicova presents wines from labels led by female makers, including a delicate bubbly rosé by Poe. I won't soon forget how its sparkling pinot meunier electrified my palate.

Afterward, a quick dip in the pool is the perfect pick-me-up before getting ready for dinner back at Hazel Hill. The attentive and friendly service complements the food beautifully. We enjoy some gorgeous appetizers (oysters and bigeye tuna with blood orange, Sicilian pistachio and shiso) before digging into the delicately plated mains (Liberty Farms duck breast with rhubarb, turnips and pistachio, and Mishima filet mignon with duck fat potato puree, baby carrot, cipollini onion and sauce au poivre). The dessert—coconut tapioca pearls with tropical fruit salsa, black sesame and mango sorbet, and a chocolate crunch bar with hazelnut cookie, Valrhona chocolate and Frangelico ice cream—is divine. Post-meal, we enjoy some stargazing around the fire pit from our private patio—the perfect end to a perfect day.

Our last day is lazily spent enjoying meals at Hazel Hill and cocktails at Scout Field Bar before some downtime at the pool. I bring my Kindle, but find myself distracted by the dazzling view—all I see are trees, water and sky. I sneak away



to Spa Montage, which offers a wide variety of facial and body treatments. I opt for the 90-minute Harvest Honey Infusion Ritual, an indulgent exfoliating, nourishing and relaxing treatment that uses locally harvested honey and other delicious ingredients. The experience—luxurious, wellness-focused and locally minded—encapsulates the entire resort. Although I'm sad to say goodbye, I know we'll be back before long. *Standard rooms from \$995 per night, deluxe rooms from \$1,145 per night, guest house from \$12,000 per night, montagehotels.com/healdsburg* ◦

Clockwise from top left: Bathrooms at the resort include deep-soaking tubs and luxe products from California-based Gloss Moderne; interiors by EDG Design have a relaxed, elegant feel; the farm-to-table fare at Hazel Hill is perfectly in line with its setting; located next to Spa Montage, the resort's main pool has stunning views of the property.



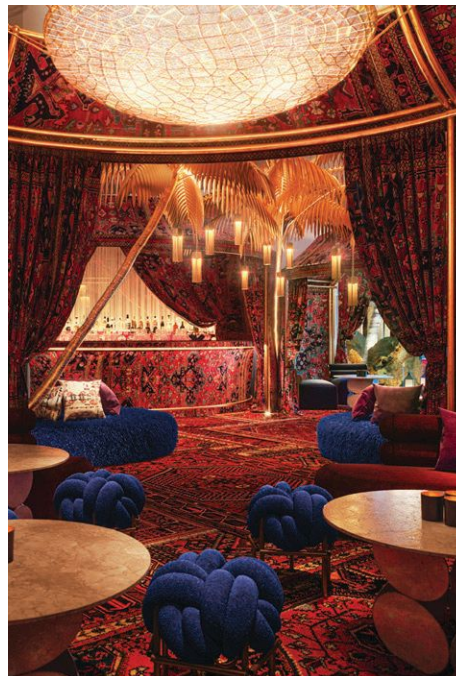


The gilded exterior of the new Virgin Hotels Las Vegas was designed by Rockwell Group.

VIRGIN TERRITORY

With a luxe lineup of exclusive restaurants and bars, a 5-acre poolside playground and 1,500 well-appointed suites and penthouses, the brand-new Virgin Hotels Las Vegas has arrived. Let the revelry begin.

BY ALLISON MITCHELL



Clockwise from top: A sneak peek of the forthcoming Richard Flat, named for Virgin Group founder Sir Richard Branson; The Shag Room is inspired by the famed Studio 54; Casa Calavera, an indoor-outdoor Día de los Muertos-inspired restaurant by Hakkasan Group, features cantina cuisine and plenty of tequila-driven cocktails.

poolside dining experiences at Todd English's Olives (the return of the acclaimed chef's Mediterranean hot spot that previously spent 20 years at Bellagio); Hakkasan Group's Casa Calavera (a Día de los Muertos-inspired cantina) and Kassi Beach Club (a fusion of European, coastal Italian and Greek flavors from restaurateur Nick Mathers); plus Money, Baby!, a midcentury modern sports, dining and entertainment venue by Clive Collective. The noshing continues inside the resort at sushi favorite Nobu; Night + Market, a Thai concept from award-winning L.A.-based chef Kris Yenbamroong; and One Steakhouse, a new iteration of brothers David and Michael Morton's beloved MB Steak. To wet your whistle, imbibers should head to The Bar at Commons Club or The Shag Room for an array of top-notch cocktail options.

When the party winds down, head to your luxe accommodations, ranging from the desert-chic Canyon Oasis chamber suite, which offers primo Strip views, to the top-of-the-line Richard Flat. Named for Virgin Group mogul Sir Richard Branson, and available for booking later this summer, the 4,276-square-foot, three-bedroom space features ultrachic stylings by Rockwell Group (which also handled the rest of the architecture and interior design throughout the hotel) and clocks in as the property's priciest digs at \$3,000 per night. Go ahead, live large. *Chambers from \$198 per night, suites from \$427 per night, virginhotels.com/las-vegas* ○

After 26 years of offering near-the-Strip accommodations to locals and visitors alike, the Hard Rock Hotel and Casino took its final bow in February 2020. And in its place has arrived the much-anticipated debut of Virgin Hotels Las Vegas, a glitzy property from the Curio Collection by Hilton featuring 1,500 chambers, grand chamber suites and penthouses spread across its Opal, Canyon and Ruby towers. “There are positive signs pointing to another great Las Vegas comeback. No city does it better than Las Vegas,” says the hotel’s owner, Richard “Boz” Bosworth, CEO and president of JC Hospitality. “We are so excited that we have our team members back to work and that our doors are open to welcome back locals and tourists to the city. In 1995, the Hard Rock Hotel was dubbed a Las Vegas resort for the next generation. Now, 26 years later, we believe that

Virgin Hotels Las Vegas is the new Las Vegas resort for the next generation.” With its 60,000-square-foot Mohegan Sun Casino; a 5-acre desert pool oasis; event venues ranging from the intimate 24 Oxford to the 4,500-seat Theater at Virgin Hotels Las Vegas; plus a portfolio of 12 exclusive food and drink venues, Virgin Las Vegas is certainly offering something new for travelers of all tastes.

Outdoors, revelers can indulge in a multilevel bar experience at the pool’s Mykonos-themed Élia Beach Club, opening June 10, where DJs will spin live tunes as beachside bites are served. If relaxing is more your speed, retreat to a sun-kissed VIP cabana. Nearby, The Promenade features indoor-outdoor

RAISING THE BAR

From Chicago to Southern California, New York and beyond, Pendry's unique blend of warm, personalized service, bold design and exciting culinary offerings is redefining luxury travel today.

BY LAURA ECKSTEIN JONES



From top: Expansive views and eye-catching design by Martin Brudnizki dominate the 149 rooms at Pendry West Hollywood; the just-opened Pendry Chicago beckons from the stunning Art Deco Carbide & Carbon building; hotel guests have access to on-site private club The Britely's chic bowling alley.



As soon as we step into Pendry West Hollywood's lobby—adorned with lacquered peacock blue walls and a hypnotic sculpture by L.A.-based artist Anthony James—my husband and I are transported to a more enlightened world. With our puppy in tow, we enjoy a refreshing welcome drink before arriving to our roomy suite. One of the first things I notice are the eye-popping views from every direction. From the well-equipped main bathroom and bedroom, the Sunset Strip is a piece of art in itself, while sweeping vistas of the city dominate the living room and balcony. The next things that catch my eye are a dog bed and bowl, a thoughtful touch that's just one of many throughout the entire weekend.

The new hotel is easy to fall in love with. Besides the bewitching interiors by Martin Brudnizki Design Studio (think laid-back contemporary glamour with a touch of art deco), it's the genuine warmth we feel from every employee, from the valet attendant to our waiters at the divine Wolfgang Puck-concepted restaurants Ospero and Merois. Little details—like arriving to our suite after dinner to find fresh macarons on the nightstands and Tom Petty playing softly through

the speakers, or extra-comfy robes and slippers at the beautiful spa—pepper the experience from start to finish. It's not surprising: Pendry, after all, is the new luxury brand from Montage International, one known for its impeccable service and astute attention to detail.

This is the third Pendry Hotels & Resorts property to open after San Diego and Baltimore; newly opened Chicago is the fourth; and more are on the horizon. Over the next few months, openings are planned for Chicago, New York City, New York state and Park City, Utah—with even more locations recently announced. And although each property is unique, certain attributes remain steadfast. "Our style of service—the gracious, humble approach to luxury; the warmth—that is really the underpinnings of all of Montage," says Alan Fuerstman, founder, chairman and CEO of Montage International. "Every one of our hotels has a great combination of strong design, great entertainment offerings, and a strong culinary and beverage program that's innovative and pushing the bar forward," adds Michael Fuerstman, co-founder and creative director of Pendry Hotels. "Art, light and space-based art, in particular, is also big." With that winning combination, we've found our new go-to. pendry.com ◊

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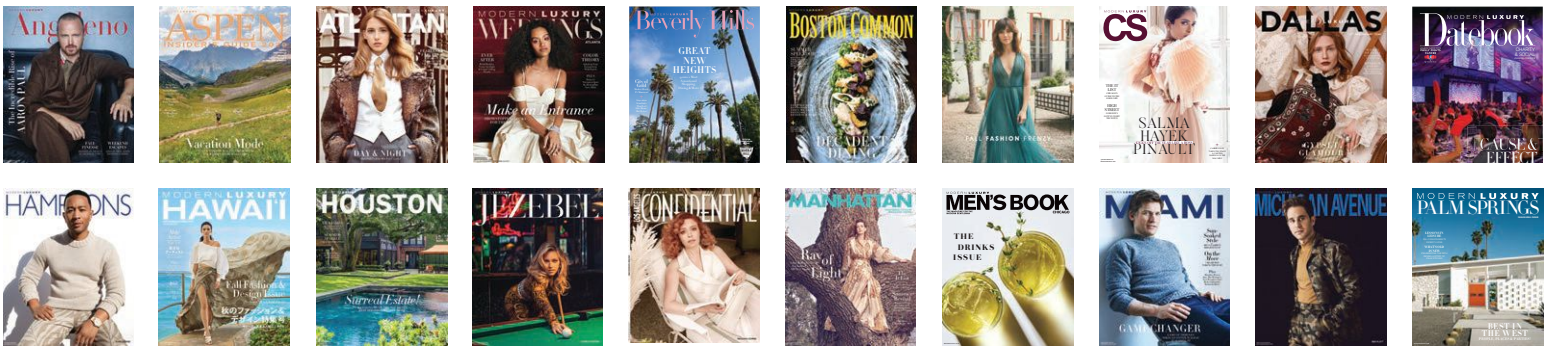
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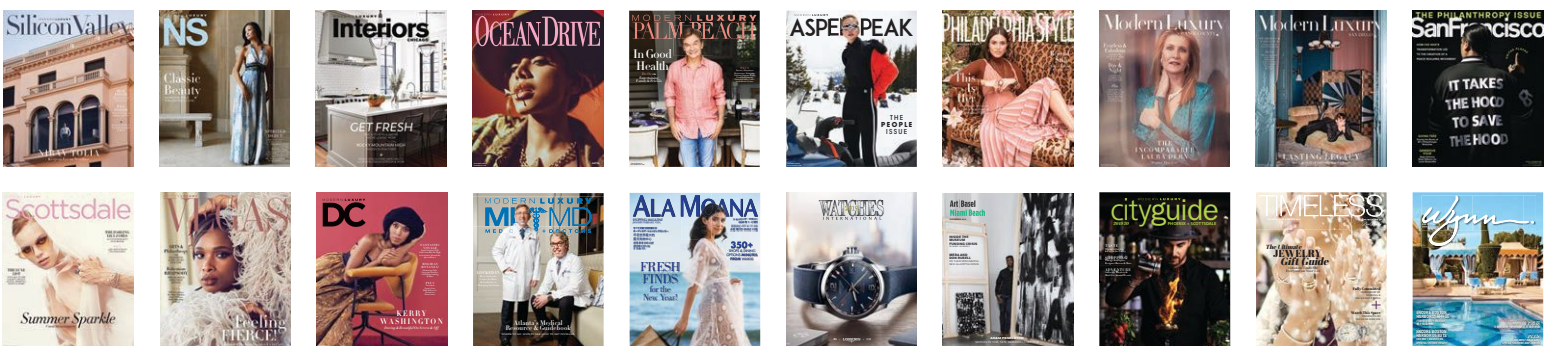


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1. Coco Pazzo

For more than 25 years, lofty-chic River North institution Coco Pazzo has been a staple for refined, Tuscan-inspired fare brought to life using local and organic ingredients. Insider tip: Whether with wild mushrooms or saffron, the ever-changing risotto of the day is always a crowd pleaser. 300 W. Hubbard St., cocopazzochicago.com

2. Formento's

Classic red-sauce Italian fare gets the sophisticated treatment at this Randolph Street favorite, where menu stars include Nonna's meatballs, octopus with white beans and fennel sausage, and orecchiette with squid ink and rock shrimp. Indoor and outdoor dining available. 925 W. Randolph St., formentos.com

3. Gibsons Italia

This sister to the long-standing Gibsons brings all the muscle of the flagship—think impeccable service and consistently excellent fare—but with a more sophisticated look. No Gibsons would be complete without steak, but look for tempting seafood and pasta as well. 233 N. Canal St., gibsonsitalia.com

4. Monteverde

One of the city's top toques, James Beard Award-winning chef Sarah Grueneberg, heads up the kitchen at buzzy, much-lauded hot spot Monteverde—and with a slate of fresh pastas, delectable sides and decadent desserts, the accolades are more than deserved. It is currently open Thursday through Sunday for pickup, delivery and dine-in. 1020 W. Madison St., monteverdechicago.com

5. Piccolo Sogno

One of the city's most respected chefs Tony Priolo along with partner and wine expert Ciro



From left: Lobster ravioli at RPM Italian; a selection of signature dishes at Formento's.



ESSENTIAL CHICAGO ITALIAN RESTAURANTS

BY J.P. ANDERSON

Longobardo helm beloved River West spot Piccolo Sogno, which boasts consistently excellent rustic Italian fare and, weather permitting, one of the best outdoor dining areas in the city. Insider tip: Check out casual sister restaurant Maillard Tavern across the street for one of the city's top burgers. 464 N. Halsted St., piccolosognorestaurant.com

6. RPM Italian

Celebrity-owned restaurants come and go, but this chic River North collab from star couple Bill and Giuliana Rancic and the Melmans (R.J., Jerrod and Molly) has demonstrated serious staying power since its 2012 debut. Among RPM Italian's modern Italian plates, don't miss dishes like truffle beef tartare

and Mama DePandi's bucatini. 52 W. Illinois St., rpmrestaurants.com

7. Siena Tavern

Eight years after opening, this DineAmic Hospitality collab with *Top Chef* fave Fabio Viviani is still going strong. The sleek 10,000-square-foot space is a people-watcher's delight, and there's just as much entertainment happening on Siena Tavern's plates with toothsome fare that ranges from grilled octopus with crispy fingerling potatoes to pizza with roasted wild mushrooms and truffle oil to brick chicken *diavolo*. 51 W. Kinzie St., sienatavern.com

8. Spiaggia

Iconic chef-partner Tony

Mantuano may have decamped to Nashville, but this legendary Mag Mile Italian spot hasn't skipped a beat under new executive chef Eric Lees. From foie gras with pawpaw butter cake and chestnut to ribbons of strangozzi with black truffle and airy rice fritter with cherries, chocolate and nutty almond gelato, each dish builds on the last and showcases Lees' facility with the finest ingredients. Simply put, it's some of the most exciting Italian fare we've had in years—and while the restaurant is currently closed due to the pandemic, it will be a must-stop for discerning foodies when it returns (keep your eyes on the website for reopening date). 980 N. Michigan Ave., spiaggiarestaurant.com



SOAK IT UP

Chicagoans take time spent outdoors seriously, and being that the city is located on beautiful Lake Michigan, several sandy beaches offer a place to get your vitamin D or enjoy a scenic stroll.

BY ANDREA MILLS

1. North Avenue Beach

Probably the busiest of the bunch, this beach has everything from lockers to kayak rentals to concession stands, and it's the best place for visitors and regulars alike to pick up a game of volleyball. *1600 N. Lake Shore Drive*

2. Oak Street Beach

Located in the heart of the Gold Coast, this popular beach is best for relaxing

in close proximity to restaurants and amenities. *1000 N. Lake Shore Drive*

3. Foster Avenue Beach

The northern neighborhood of Edgewater is home to Foster Avenue Beach, where you will find bike rentals, free Wi-Fi and an adjoining dog area. *5200 N. Lake Shore Drive*

4. Ohio Street Beach

Tucked away by the shoreline close to Navy

Pier, this quiet, sandy beach offers the best place for swimmers to enjoy the spectacular downtown views. *600 N. Lake Shore Drive*

5. Osterman Beach

Also known as Hollywood beach, this LGBTQ-friendly beach in Edgewater boasts a sustainably designed, LEED-certified beach house that provides water sports rentals, washrooms and concessions. *5800 N. Lake Shore Drive*

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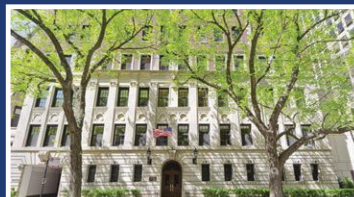
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Master sushi chef Kaze Chan inspires wonder with Sushi-san's tableside oma-KAZE.



From top: Sushi-san's tableside oma-KAZE menu offerings include various prime cuts of tuna served in a bento box, as well as seared tuna cheek topped with uni; crispy rice at Naoki Sushi.

3 SUSHI SPOTS TO TRY NOW

Get your omakase on at this trio of buzzy Japanese restaurants. *BY J.P. ANDERSON*

1. Hinoki Sushiko

Renowned sushi chef Otto Phan has made his name in Chicago with stunning 14-seat omakase spot Kyōten, and now he's going bigger with this new izakaya and large-format omakase destination tucked away in the Elston Corridor. Expect an energetic izakaya lounge with curated tunes and modern interpretations of Japanese street food on the ground floor; upstairs, dine at the eight-person sushi bar

or surrounding tables as Phan executes a 90-minute omakase tasting featuring 18 sushi pieces in authentic edomae style. 1465 W. Willow St., hinokisushiko.com

2. Naoki Sushi

Five years ago, Naoki made a splash as a jewel box of a restaurant hidden inside Lettuce Entertain You's revolving culinary concept Intro. Now, the company has revived the sushi favorite for carryout and delivery only as a

source for chef Naoki Nakashima's signature sashimi, maki and specialty Japanese dishes—think tuna sashimi with dashi vinaigrette and spicy salmon with spicy ginger soy, plus plates of gyoza, spicy tuna crispy rice and more. 21 E. Hubbard St., naoki-sushi.com

3. Sushi-san

Formerly available only at the sushi bar, this River North spot's signature omakase offering has relaunched as a tableside 14-course experience available Friday and Saturday nights. Led by master sushi chef Kaze Chan, the meal features special preparations of seasonal ingredients flown from all over the world—think sweet prawn with uni butter, amberjack with ginger and chive, and Japanese snapper with pickled plum. 63 W. Grand Ave., sushisanrestaurant.com

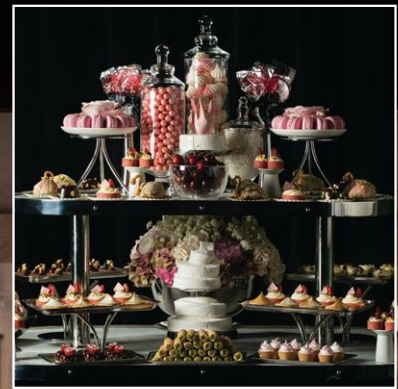


FROM TOP, PHOTOS BY ZOE RAIN; JEFF MARINE; CHRISSEY SLATON

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Main image courtesy of Kent Drake Photography.

THE MIGHTY QUINN

This North Shore native and influencer extraordinaire is having a mega-moment thanks to both a new Netflix movie and album debut.

BY ANTONIA DEPACE

You might know Kevin Quinn from his recent role as troubled teen Will Hawkins in Netflix film *A Week Away*. But what many don't know is that the Wilmette native really only started acting as a hobby—it wasn't until after an appearance on season 12 of *American Idol* that his talent pushed him into a career starting in downtown Chicago. Today, the actor has big-name shows like *Shameless*, *Chicago P.D.* and *Bunk'd* on his impressive résumé, as well as gigs at Steppenwolf Theatre and Chicago Shakespeare Theater—not to mention he racks up over 1.5 million followers on Instagram alone. Here, we catch up with Quinn on his journey to fame and what we can expect next.

How has the response to *A Week Away* been?

The response has been incredible. We have a whole fandom around the world, which is something I don't think any of us could have anticipated when we made the film. It really was just an independent film at the time. So, it was amazing to see those responses from fans. I hold that pretty dear to my heart.

Tell me more about your character, Will Hawkins.

The backstory is that he is a juvenile delinquent; he gets thrown at a crossroads of either going to juvie or attending a Christian summer camp. He obviously



Actor/singer/songwriter Kevin Quinn is breaking out in a big way.

chooses the Christian summer camp, and along the way he meets a special girl, Avery, who he has a romance with. He meets his new best friend, George, and he finds a place where he belongs for the first time. In some ways, I kind of incorporated my own experiences or myself into that character. I've always felt like an outsider, so Will being an outsider and being thrown into this world like a fish out of water felt pretty familiar to me.

You just released a new album.

What inspired it?

I had pitched a project to [Capitol Records] that was more of pop, R&B with Christian undertones. We were hoping that we could make something with faith undertones that would appeal to the *A Week Away* audience. I mean, I couldn't have asked for a better partnership. They've been helping me explore my sound. I can confidently say that the music that's coming is going to be the best I've ever done. The quality is just through the roof.

What's next?

Right now, I'm hyperfocused on music. It seems to be taking priority, at least right now. The goal is to get the single or EP out, and eventually have an LP out within the next year or so. And then it would be to take it on tour. As far as film and TV, I'm always auditioning. I'm attached to another musical project that I'm hoping will go this year before we ever do a sequel to *A Week Away*—if and when.

You grew up in the area. What are some of your must-visit spots?

Even though I grew up in suburbia, I always felt very, very connected to the city of Chicago. Part of the reason was that I grew up a block from the Linden L. So, even as a kid, I remember taking the train out downtown or to Addison and going to see Cubs games. And Chicago very much feels like part of my DNA in that way. Chicago was my stomping ground. I used to swim at Oak Street Beach during the summers and meet friends downtown. I would eat at the Walnut Room for Christmas... [go to] Christkindlmarket. These basic Chicago staples were part of my upbringing every year, year after year.

PHOTO BY DANIEL PRAKOPCYK

A glass of beer with a thick head of foam sits on the left. In the center, a dark bowl of sushi is garnished with yellow flowers, green leaves, and a piece of salmon. A large bundle of bamboo chopsticks is arranged in a fan shape on the right. The background is dark and textured.

M

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