

## BEST OF THE CITY

CULTURE / HEALTH & BEAUTY / STYLE DESIGN FOOD & NIGHTLIFE



Local Luxury Homegrown designers are bringing high-end fashion production to the Windy City. Accessories line JGeren (jgeren.com) founders Lori Wallis and Jen Gerenraich didn't know made-in-Chicago was an option until a factory on Cicero became the best choice. "Now it's part of our whole story," says Gerenraich. "We found it here and put it together here, so why would we ever go elsewhere?" Last May, Winifred Grace (winifredgrace.com) celebrated 13 years of vintage-inspired jewelry by opening a shop in Andersonville. Owner and designer Winifred Grace Gundeck has become a standout for her collaborative design process (she offers immediate in-store personalization). "The customers get excited I'm here. The more personal the pieces we can wear—it just gives things that much more of a true value," says Gundeck. And for ready-to-wear and jewelry designer Lagi Nadeau (laginadeau.com), who is currently at the Chicago Fashion Incubator, introducing her line here was a no-brainer. "People want to help you develop and create when you're here," Nadeau says. "If I took production overseas, I wouldn't have the same access... to make my garments and make them with love." —MS

## Well Suited

Chicago's bespoke and custom clothiers ensure perfection that makes a statement. As Grant McNamara of Daniel George (155 N. Michigan Ave., 312.525.1819), which does everything from tuxedos to fun sport jackets. says, "It isn't about the latest trend. It is about what fits right." Other standouts like Syd Jerome (2 N. LaSalle St., 312,346,0333), which carries Zeana, Brioni and more, and Oxxford Clothes (1220 W. Van Buren St., 312.829.3600), a staple since 1916, ensure Chicago's men are on our best-dressed list. -SR



## READERS' CHOICE: FAVORITE BOUTIQUE :

From a Chicago staple to neighborhood spots, this list of favorite boutiques is as chic and eclectic as our readers.

L. AKIRA The Chicago-based style haven Akies continues to reign as a fan favorite, stocking diesses, denim, jewelry and handbags from over 200 designers, including Jeffrey Campbell, For Love and Lemons, Mink Pink, BCBO and Jessica Simpson. 122 S. State St.,

372.346.3034, shapatisa com § 2. CINNAMON BOLTIQUE Tucked in the heart of Rascoe Village, the independently owned Congruen Bourque holds a small but mighty provess, boasting modern urban high fashion from the likes of Drate von Fustienberg, Citizens of Humanity, Jose and Ella Moss. 2104 W. Rascoe St., 773.281.2466, compronorbasique com § 3. COMFORT ME From fina markets and trade shows to independent designers and arisans, Comfort Me bourque institute handmade privally, home formittings, vintage heasures, tea, lish sweaters and cocktail diesses to line style with mark-needed comfort. 701 W. Annitage Ave., 312.255.1412, comfortne-bourque com § 6. MILK HANDMADE The Andersonville bourque Milk Handmade brings the meaning of one-of-a-kind to new levels, specializing in smallnur, handcasted goods sourced from local designers. 3137 N. Clask St., 273.234.2053, milk-protocologic com § 5. INDEPENDENCE Independence introduces on American while to Okt Street Interview hand.

773,234 7053, millihandmode.com § 5. INDEPENDENCE Independence introduces an Americana vibe to Ook Street, featuring brands like Fast Overalls, Imagene + Willie, Oak Street Bootmakers and Canada Goose in its expansive selection of mensivear fashion and accessories. 47 E. Oak St., 312 675, 2105, independence-chicago.com -CM

WRAPPED UP With efferings from independent designans, Comfart Me is a favorite boutique for all things coss