



Ojai resident Caressa Cowan shows off some of our favorite local finds.

- Dress: Tysa Designs dress, \$149; made in L.A. — Modern Folk Living
- Maasai Bracelets: Beads of Esiteti, \$15-\$25; made in Kenya, fair trade — Fig Curated Living
- Gold-and-Turquoise Triangle Ring: Karen London, \$72; made in L.A. — Summer Camp

No compromise

Where eco-friendly means eco-fashionable

Story by Misty Volaski
Photos by Garrett Combs

These days, the concepts of “sustainability” and “eco-friendly” are transitioning from buzz words into actual lifestyles. Being a responsible consumer means many things — but it doesn’t have to mean

compromising fashion.

And that’s where Ojai shops like Fig Curated Living, Summer Camp and Modern Folk Living come in.

These locally-owned shops all share a common goal: to offer

beautiful items that, as Modern Folk proprietor Wanda Weller Sakai puts it, are “selected with both the customer and the environment in mind.”

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- Ojai Bag: Apolis Global, \$68; made in Bangladesh and L.A., fair trade — Modern Folk Living



• Copper Wire Ring: Kaylin Fox, \$38; made in Santa Barbara — Fig Curated Living



• Yellow Wishbone Necklace: Julie Cristello, \$88; made in San Francisco — Fig Curated Living



• Blue Scarf: Choissette, \$64; made in L.A. — Fig Curated Living



FIG Curated Living

Wonder why they call it Fig? Walk inside the shop and you'll see why — the brick walls are covered by an ancient fig plant. Instead of chopping it down, owner Victoria Johansen used the long, narrow walkway to the main portion of the shop to display some of her hand-crafted garden items. The wood and greenery are a perfect backdrop for one-of-a-kind ceramic planters and sculptures, wind chimes made from melted glass bottles and bird houses fashioned out of gourds.



Head down the hall, past the recirculating bamboo fountains and colorful lawn chairs, and you'll find the main portion of the shop. Bright natural light plays off old ladders and wood repurposed as display shelves. You'll find low-maintenance air plants in BKB Ceramic planters, hip accessories made of upcycled materials, soft leather bags, kids' clothes, folk art and heaps more. Judy Jackson's rich-hued pottery, handmade in New York, sits beside delicious-smelling soaps from Ojai Botanika — 100 percent organic soaps formulated by an Ojai Valley teenager. And don't forget to check out the Maasai beaded bracelets, made by Kenyan women who run their own collective, Beads of Esiteti.

Fig Curated Living: 327 E.Ojai Ave.; (805) 646-6561

