

### **Laila Dar**

Laila Dar is a publicity and marketing professional as Account Manager at PR VEIN. We caught up with Laila recently to learn more about her and all things Dallas, art and fashion. Check out the full interview below. Be sure to follow her on social media for updates.

IG: @lailadar @dallasprgal

What, in your opinion, makes the best fashion statement?

I think a really great pair of shoes ties any look together. You can look as casual or as polished as you want with just a pair of shoes.

Dallas is a city with many art experiences to offer. Is there a particular experience that has stood out to you the most? What about it and why?

As an FGI member, I am of course obsessed with fashion, but I'm also fascinated by art history. So any museum that combines those two things is a win in my book. I'm currently obsessed with the Dior exhibit at the Dallas Museum of Art; the pieces are so stunning and share a unique peek into the brand's creative journey. Can't wait to attend the private tour of the exhibit with FGI!

What designers have you been truly influenced by and why?

My two favorite designers are Alexander Wang and Celine (#bringbackphilo), but I'm truly inspired by the passion and dedication of emerging brands like @bornfromawave and @agaati.california. I just love seeing emerging designers bring their dreams to life!

What piece do you think will always be in style, no matter how much time passes by?

I'm a denim addict, so I have to say that Levi 501 jeans will no go out of style. Their straight leg jeans look good on everyone and are very versatile.

If you could have any actress play you in a movie about your life, who would you want for the role?

I would choose Jameela Jamil because she is a proud South Asian feminist like myself.

### **Julia Rice**

New member Julia Rice relocated to Dallas in 2016 from New York City. She is the creator, owner and CEO of Julia Rice LLC, a womenswear ready-to-wear brand. Julia is a passionate fashion designer, artist and creative director for her brand which was founded in 2017. She currently runs all operations from her home in Uptown Dallas. We caught up with Julia recently to learn more about her and her business. Check out the full interview below. Be sure to follow her on social media for updates on shows, sales and all things fashion.

IG: @julia\_\_rice

[Julia@juliarice.com](mailto:Julia@juliarice.com)

How would you describe your style in 3 words?

The Julia Rice woman style is sexy, comfortable, and classic.

What beauty products can you NOT live without?

Mario Badescu Facial Spray. Tocca hair fragrance. And, Fenty glitter pompom. I love a good glow!

Who are your top 3 favorite fashion designers?

Gianni #Versace, #KarlLagerfeld, #LaQuanSmith and #Jacquemus. I know I gave four, and honestly, I could have given more but there are so many designers, artists, and people that have shaped me as a designer.

### **Gary Walden**

Gary Walden is a hairstylist, creative and often consultant at Salon 3622 in Oak Lawn. Connect with him on Instagram at @garyrussellwalden for updates on all things beauty and the Dallas social scene.

How would you describe your style in 3 words?

Enthusiastic, colorful, unique ♡♡♡

Any fun projects or events coming up that you're working on?

I'm currently days away from AIN Bloomin' Ball June 1; I'm honored to be serving as cochair this year. This year's event will be a real treat for those who love art and music, and of course color and flowers! Bloomin' Ball event Chairs Gary Walden and the Honorable Dominique Collins, along with Honorary Chair Gretchen Kelly and Auction Chair JR Hernandez, will host the floral-themed spring event. Former NBC 'The Voice' contestant Dana Harper, along with award winning local artist Chris Chism, will entertain as guests sit down to a three course farm-to-table meal.

Celebrating its 13th year, Bloomin' Ball has raised over 2 million dollars in programmatic funding. This year, AIN will also be celebrating CEO Steven Pace's 20th year leading the 33 year old organization.

Name three Dallas-based designers, stylists, celebrities or influencers that you are following right now?

Julie McCullough, Logan Miles and Chris Orla

What beauty products can you NOT live without?

Joanna Vargas miracle bar, Jeffrey James The Light serum and Neo Cutis Bio Cream

Who are your top 3 favorite fashion designers?

Julie McCullough, Jil Sander and Daniel Silverstein of Zero Waste Daniel.

### **Taylor Humphries**

How would you describe your style in 3 words?

Evolving, classic & comfortable.

Please state your official title, job description, company info and social media handles

I work for Neiman Marcus as an Assistant Buyer in Denim Collections.

Name three Dallas-based designers, stylists, celebrities or influencers that you are following right now?

My friend recently launched Her.HQ a female-focused community and workspace so I have been following them religiously!

- @Her.HQ\_ on IG

I love following Sophie McGuire more commonly known as "muchlovesophie". She is genuine, young, colorful and perusing her dreams right here in Dallas!

- @muchlovesophie on IG

My favorite stylist in Dallas has to be Hayley Johnson - "colorbyhayley". Talk about hair goals/inspiration.

My hair in natural right now...but a girl can dream.

- @colorbyhayley on IG

What beauty products can you NOT live without?

This list could get out of hand so ill limit it to three!

Vintners Daughter - Hands down, no question, this is my holy grail beauty item/serum.

Exquisite Exfoliate by Skin Print - This a chemical exfoliate. Simple but mighty.

Tata Harper Restorative Eye Creme - I laugh a lot so this is a must!

Who are your top 3 favorite fashion designers?

Ugh this is hard you guys! I would have to say my current three favorites are GANNI, IRO and Zimmermann. If I could sneak in a couple more I would also pick RIXO and AMUR.