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Happy Holidays
By Judith Costa

Cal State LA fashion Student Featured in The New York Times, Vogue

Reva Ochuba's *Ifeoma* brand captures national attention

Camera flashes illuminated the dark Brooklyn home, where young men and women modeled a fashion line crafted by a new designer: Cal State LA student Reva Ochuba. Her models ate, drank and smoked while guests admired the collection.

The dinner party, attended by a select group of fashion industry professionals and artists, launched Ochuba into the national spotlight. She was recently featured in *The New York Times* and *Vogue* magazine as an up-and-coming artist. A Los Angeles resident, Ochuba says that she was shocked to receive this attention.

"To be frank, I went through this really intense moment of feeling like I didn't deserve it," says Ochuba, an undergraduate student in the Fashion, Fiber and Materials Program. "I wasn't expecting any recognition. At the very least it's validating, and I feel like it's made me a little more confident in what I'm doing."

The national media recognition is well deserved, says Cal State LA Professor Mika M. Cho, chair of the Art Department in the College of



Cal State LA student Reva Ochuba was recently featured in *The New York Times* and *Vogue* magazine.

Arts and Letters.

"It is very significant," Cho says. "Reva knows how to put herself out there, and her stuff is good, otherwise you don't get that kind of attention."

In October, Ochuba officially launched her brand *Ifeoma* with a line of clothing called "Renaissance," inspired by her research of sumptuary laws from the 14th to 17th centuries. Traditionally, sumptuary laws enforced strict social hierarchies by restricting the use of luxury items.

Sumptuary laws were "obviously meant to separate the haves and the have-nots," Ochuba says. "It was something I felt I could discuss and bring discourse to via creating clothing around it."

She developed her detail-oriented design process during an internship with New York clothing label Eckhaus Latta and while writing for Berlin-based culture magazine *032c*. These experiences inspired and encouraged her to pursue her passion for design. Ochuba returned home to Los Angeles and enrolled in Cal State LA's fashion program.

"Reva is one of the most hardworking students I've ever known," Cho says. Rebecca Davis, a professor in the Fashion, Fiber and Materials Program, notes that Ochuba has "always dreamed big."

"She's very forward looking and ambitious," says Davis, one of Ochuba's mentors at Cal State LA. "She has a finger on the pulse of the industry."

Ochuba has an exhibition in January in Beverly Hills. After graduating in spring 2017, she looks forward to continuing her fashion education in graduate school.

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Torrance Sailor celebrates Native American and Alaskan Native heritage month

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Christina El Moussa Posts Somber Instagram Message

Carson Sergeant Gives Life-Saving Kidney to His Former Trainee, A Lakewood Deputy

Darrin Offringa gave his former trainee a priceless early Christmas gift that should stay with him for the rest of his life.

Offringa, a sergeant at the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's Carson station, donated his left kidney to Deputy Kevin Ay, who trained with him six years ago at the Lakewood station.

The two have been friends since they worked together. But their friendship has a new depth since the successful Nov. 29 transplant operation at UCLA Medical Center.

"I've always thought highly of Darrin. But knowing that I'm carrying him with me for the rest of my life is definitely a new experience," Ay said. "Words can't really express how grateful I am.



Carson sheriff's station Sergeant Darrin Offringa gave the ultimate gift to his former patrol partner Lakewood Sheriff's Deputy Kevin Ay by donating one of his kidneys to Ay who was in need of transplant due to renal failure. The transplant surgery took place November 29, 2016 and both are doing well. Ay, left, and Offringa laugh as they share story with news media during press conference at Hall of Justice in Los Angeles.

"If our story can help convince anybody to go through with it and make that donation, it's the best gift any-

body can make." Ay was diagnosed with renal failure

three years ago, at the age of 33. The disease, the result of a congenital birth defect, struck a week after

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Big Jay McNeely Superstar On Cleopatra Records & Guest Artists Leon Levy & The 'Blues Queen' Carolyn Gaines