

Ana María Nieto

Perseverance and patience

Graduating from our school in 2009, Ana continued her path to the United States, studying fashion design in Parsons The New School for Design, one of the best design schools in the world. Hardworking and perfectionist, in 2015 she graduated with excellence. Today Ana lives in New York and works as a footwear designer in Alexander Wang, one of the most exclusive brands in the new wave of fashion in the U.S. We had a conversation with her and she told us a bit about her life.



Photo: Jake Benrubi

What is Abraham Lincoln for you?

An icon and symbol of diversity, freedom of expression.

What images come to your mind when you think of school?

My life in Chile, my friends, my family, all the fun we use to have on the grass field in recess, the good memories that were the basis of my development of the person I am today. Thinking about the school brings me a lot of nostalgia; Chile was and has been the longest period in my development years.



Who do you remember most of Lintac?

My classmates, who are still my best friends. Then come the teachers, the school's cafeteria, the girl's bathroom, the grass field, the gym.

Which was your favorite subject?

Biology: it fascinated me. On the other hand, with Physics I think I never got more than a 4.0.



Which year do you specially remember in school and why?

12th grade was a very special year. For me and my friends it was a time where we started to take important decisions in our lives, and we were together in that process. It was also more relaxed and we could avoid the scientific courses since I chose humanities for the PSU exam. To be a bit more mature helped enjoy school and the good moments in a different way, instead of only studying. That year my group of friends' bonds strengthened a lot, we all felt more

united. I have seen a lot of them when they come to New York, and every time I travel to Chile we get together.

¿What is your greatest virtue?

To use fear as an engine to push me forward rather than making me give up.

¿What is your greatest weakness?

Sometimes I get stressed out a lot and I feel overwhelmed. One hard thing for me has been to learn to take things a little lighter in life, to learn that there is a solution for everything, regardless if it might not be the solution that one agrees on, and work on that frustration.

Who do you admire?

My family and how we have had perseverance when faced with change and adversity. Without these values (that my family has given me) I would have never made it here in New York.

Favorite book?

Steppenwolf of Hermann Hesse.

If you could be granted with three wishes, ¿which would these be?

Accomplish my goals in the future, health always for my close ones and that the political climate can go in the right direction before it's too late.

Favorite movie?

Intouchables (French movie).

What advice would you give?

Always have perseverance and patience that things will work out. Be productive in the sense of not giving up, learn to stand through bad times and use it as a lesson to grow up; you never have to avoid or deny these moments. They are as important as the good times.

¿What do you today and where do you see yourself in the future?

I work in the area of accessories in Alexander Wang, specifically in footwear design for two years now, collaborating with the brand in more than ten collections. To be honest every day is different; there is never a routine to follow. I definitely want to stay more time in New York. I want to continue in the world of fashion but for now I am exploring other options. I am really interested in marketing and I want to follow the footsteps of my dad and work for his brand –of men’s fashion– and strengthen the area of footwear. But that is more into the future.



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