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Style Girl: Belk's view of fashion future

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Courtesy of Belk's

Arlene Goldstein, Belk's vice president of trend merchandising and fashion direction, says everyone needs a statement necklace such as this one.

I recently met Arlene Goldstein, Belk's vice president of trend merchandising and fashion direction, who was dressed in a sleek black ensemble, pulled-back hair and bold statement necklace. Goldstein, who is based in Charlotte at Belk's corporate office but spends time reviewing runway shows in New York, Paris, London and Milan, shared with me her style statements for spring and what's to come at Belk.

COLOR: "Canary yellow is an important color for spring, along with other bright, optimistic colors. It's not so centered on one specific color like last season when we woke up and everything's purple."

SHOES: "Shoes will overpower everything else. The conceal-and-reveal shape (like summer booties) will be important, along with cone, block and platform heels."

CARDIGAN: "The new cardigan is spring's most important completer piece. Layer and update."

JEWELRY: "Everyone needs a statement necklace. Go bold! Add color and frame your face."

Important looks

Free Spirited: "Whimsy rules. Combine unpredictable patterns - mixed prints and watercolor florals in an eclectic mix of fabrics like lace, eyelet, satin and chiffon in an offbeat yet enchanting way."

Global Goddess: "This is the look I'm most excited about. It embraces a fusion of exotic styles - a tapestry of ikats, tile prints and tribal motifs. Go for exotic materials, mixed-media necklaces, stacks of bangles and tribal sandals in worked leathers."

Got style questions or fashion concerns? E-mail Jess at jess.james@starnewsonline.com.

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