

TRENDSETTERS

her style

PAULA WICHTERMAN

A stylish risk-taker

BY SUSAN LANIER-GRAHAM

PHOTO BY CARL SCHULTZ



Paula Wichterman, a self-described girly-girl who loves a polished look, is a vice president at the Private Bank at National Bank of Arizona, where she focuses on the physician banking market. The married mother of four—who loves grabbing a bite at Federal Pizza or Joyride Tacos in her North Central Phoenix neighborhood—also has a great sense of giving back to her community. The South Carolina native is the 2015 vice chair for the Phoenix Heart Ball and a board member for Homeward Bound and ACCEL School.

Despite being in banking, Wichterman doesn't do business suits. "I cannot stand wearing suits, so I do lots of dresses," she explains.

Her current passion? "Anything with a full skirt. If I could wear one every day of the week and get away with it, I totally would."

She also adores pairing her outfits with vintage jewelry. "To rock a great one-of-a-kind vintage piece takes style," she says.

Wichterman says she now finds herself taking more style risks. "It is nice to be comfortable in my own skin," she says.

What are your favorite accessories?

Shoes. Invest in a killer pair of nude or black stilettos and you will never regret it. You can instantly dress up anything with a great pair of pearls. I think that's the first thing all Southern girls learn. Then there's a black leather clutch with a gold honeybee on the side that I love. I picked it up on a whim at a boutique, and every time I carry it, I get lots of compliments. **What's your go-to style when you're not working?** I am a big fan of jeans with a great pair of stilettos for a night out. But weekends are low-key. I am trying to get better about weekend casual, but honestly, I am in lululemon all weekend.

Where are your favorite places to shop in the Valley? I love the smaller boutiques we have here. Nové and Muse are a few favorites. We also have wonderful consignment places. To Be Continued always has amazing designer pieces.