



DRESS TO THRILL

TOTZ ONLY – Walk into Totz Only in Burbank, and you walk out of the mainstream. This children's boutique has the whimsy of a child's bedroom, arranged by bright colors and inspiring imagination. Quirky tees with Wheaties or Girl Power Superheroes spark memories, while ladybug raincoats and boots take us to simpler times. More than just a store, Totz offers free events, from story time to crafts, and hosts Outside the Box and soon, Habla Blah Blah.

• **HOT TIP:** Each Friday something fun and unexpected (like everything with yellow on it) is 20% off, and there are two big Courtyard sales per year when everything is 50%-75% off. *Clothing: \$15-\$75.* ▶▶ 3009 W. Magnolia Blvd., Burbank; 818-845-TOTZ; www.totzonly.com

TOUGH COOKIES CHILDREN'S BOUTIQUE

– Do your kids rock? Tough Cookies in Sherman Oaks has clothing to reflect that edgy vibe. Vintage style rock tees, a sundress made from an actual concert tee and rockabilly outfits will awaken the nostalgia in adult shoppers who often ask owner Shannon Komsky, "Can I get this in my size?" Local designers and mom-based businesses rule here, too. Beyond the duds, Tough Cookies holds fundraisers and charity events – a genuine community builder.

• **HOT TIP:** Shannon pulls all baby registry items and arranges them in a large tin, so choosing is a no-brainer for shoppers. Also, she discounts 10% off all items left for a month after baby is born!

• **HOT TIP 2:** Tough Cookies fills a cool zebra tin with hip and unique baby gear. This is a great custom gift that can be shipped anywhere. Starts at \$100, which includes metal zebra tin. *T-shirts: \$22-\$48. Jeans and dresses: \$48 and up.* ▶▶ 13638 Ventura Blvd., Sherman Oaks; 818-990-0922; www.shoptoughcookies.com

VISIONARY BOUTIQUE – If you and your kids lean green, get eco-chic at Visionary Boutique on Melrose. You'll



A tree is planted with each item sold at eco-hip Visionary Boutique.

find a style that reflects your choice to "dress and live for the planet you want." Owner Magda Rod's children's line, Wildchild Wear, is a rock-inspired girls' line with thought-provoking, inspiring messages. Visionary gives a hip and edgy flair to an eco-friendly lifestyle. And with each item sold, a tree is planted!

• **HOT TIP:** Bring the kids in to write their "Wish for the World" and hang it from the tree in the middle of the store! Read other wishes to start the conversation about what you will do to make the world a better place. While there, you can purchase a wish necklace for \$5 that has a blank scroll inside a charm to keep your Wish for the World close to your heart. *Clothing: \$40-\$115.* ▶▶ 8568-1/2 Melrose Ave., West Hollywood; 310-659-1177; www.visionaryboutique.com



JUMP, SING AND SURF

KIDS GYM USA – Kids Gym USA offers classes and parties for children 6 months to 10 years old. It has been operating for 36 years, and the instructors have extensive training. Owner and director Holly Houska has a master's degree in education from USC. Her instructors have degrees from Cal State Northridge and Pierce College. Kids

Gym USA offers party packages for birthdays and celebrations after 2:30 p.m. on Fridays and on weekends. *\$185 for 10 weeks.* ▶▶ 5520 Crebs Ave., Tarzana; 818-343-1120; www.kidsgymtarzana.com

KIDS ON STAGE – Kids On Stage is a theater, video and performing arts program for kids and teenagers ages 10 months to 18 years. They offer classes, camps and parties. The classes help students develop creativity, self-expression and social consciousness through acting, singing, dancing, art and filmmaking. There is a Winter Play Festival scheduled in December, when children in the programs display their talents. There is also a Spring Play Festival in June. Kids On Stage offers vacation camps during school breaks in winter, spring and summer, which includes a number of festivals throughout Los Angeles. In their new vocal workshop, kids sing with a professional vocal teacher who works on improving healthy vocal techniques, proper breathing, vocal strength, range, group dynamics, performance skills and joyful expression. *\$170-\$420 for classes, \$300-\$1,480 for summer camps.* ▶▶ Locations in Santa Monica, Mar Vista and Culver City; 310-314-0035; www.kidsonstage.com

KINDERMUSIK – Kindermusik offers music and movement classes for children ages 2 weeks to 7 years. Director Sarah Orfe says she doesn't charge for classes for children between 2 weeks and 4