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## AS SEEN IN *California Apparel News*

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### ***TALA and the California Fashion Foundation Present 2013 Scholarships***

By [Alison A. Nieder](#) | Thursday, May 2, 2013

Industry executives and students from several Southern California fashion design programs gathered on April 18 for the **Textile Association of Los Angeles'** annual scholarship awards luncheon, held at the **California Market Center** in Los Angeles.

Before the event, guests mingled and viewed work by students at the **Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising, Los Angeles Trade-Technical College, Woodbury University, Otis College of Art + Design, Mt. San Antonio College, Pasadena City College, California State University, Los Angeles** and **El Camino College**.

“That talent we have seen come up this year is amazing,” said Ann Davis, past president of TALA and a member of the scholarship committee.

Leah Garvin, founder of **FactoryLA**, a new manufacturing incubator in Los Angeles, discussed what she calls a “global manufacturing renaissance” and the importance of domestic production.

“Without a doubt [there’s a] growing demand around the country and around the world for ‘Made in USA product,’” she said.

Garvin, who studied apparel manufacturing at FIDM, advised the group to take risks.

“Just a week ago, I signed a lease for a 4,000-square-foot incubator space. That, for sure, is [a big risk],” she said. “Every day is a big leap and a big risk for FactoryLA, and every day I land on my feet because of my experience at FIDM.”

During the presentation of awards, Ram Sareen, founder of Los Angeles–based **Tukatech**, presented LA Trade-Tech’s Virginia Dan, winner of the “Future Entrepreneur Award,” with a **TukaCAD** system.