

An amazing young girl:
Kheris Rogers, a fashion designer

We'd like you to meet Kheris Rogers, New York's youngest and most exciting¹ young fashion² designer³. Kheris started designing clothes when she was only ten years old. At that time, Kheris was unhappy at school. She was one of only four African-American⁴ children in her class and the other children were very unkind to her, saying horrible⁵ things about the color of her skin⁶. However⁷, she was most shocked⁸ when the students had to draw themselves. The teacher gave the other African-American children a brown crayon⁹, but she gave Kheris a black one! Kheris was disappointed¹⁰ when she moved to a school with more African-American children, because they were too unkind. Kheris found their behavior¹¹ surprising and confusing¹².

At first, Kheris didn't tell anyone how unhappy she was, but soon her older sister realized that something was wrong. The women in her family (her grandmother, her mother, and her sister) taught Kheris to be proud of who she is. With her sister's help, Kheris started designing T-shirts and selling them online¹³. Kheris printed¹⁴ phrases¹⁵ on the T-shirts which encouraged¹⁶ people to love their skin color. Both she and her sister were amazed¹⁷ how quickly their business¹⁸ grew. "It's crazy¹⁹ how people want to buy our clothes," she said.

Kheris was delighted²⁰ when celebrities²¹ started posting²² pictures of themselves wearing her clothes on social²³ media²⁴. At the age of 11, Kheris became the youngest designer to attend²⁵ *New York Fashion Week*. As well as²⁶ designing clothes, Kheris is now also a successful model. She recently²⁷ walked the catwalk²⁸ on the TV programme²⁹ *America's Next Top Model*. She also appeared³⁰ in an advertisement³¹ for a very famous brand³² of sports clothing.

She's no longer embarrassed³³ about the color of her skin and hopes that her success will encourage other young people to feel happy and comfortable³⁴ with who they are:

"I'm telling other young kids that they can do anything they want to do," she said. "Nobody can tell you that you can't do anything just because of the way you look."

- 1 exciting adj.激动的
- 2 fashion n.时尚
- 3 designer n.设计师
- 4 African-American 美国黑人
- 5 horrible adj.恐怖的, 难受的
- 6 skin n.皮肤
- 7 however adv.然而
- 8 shock v.使……震惊
- 9 crayon n.蜡笔
- 10 disappoint v.使……失落
- 11 behavior n.言行举止
- 12 confuse n.使……疑惑
- 13 online adv.线上, 网上
- 14 print v.印刷
- 15 phrase n.短语; 简洁语句
- 16 encourage v.鼓励
- 17 amaze v.使……惊讶
- 18 business n.商业
- 19 crazy adj.疯狂的
- 20 delight v.使……高兴
- 21 celebrity n.名人, 名流
- 22 post v.张贴, 传播
- 23 social adj.社会的, 社交的
- 24 medium n.媒介, 媒体
- 25 attend v.参与
- 26 as well as 不仅
- 27 recently adv.最近, 目前
- 28 catwalk n.T 台, 通道
- 29 programme n.节目
- 30 appear v.出现
- 31 advertisement n.广告
- 32 brand n.品牌
- 33 embarrass v.使……窘迫
- 34 comfortable adj.舒适的