**Name:** *Ngoc Nguyen*

**Hometown:***I was born in Vietnam and moved to the U.S. when I was 6. I grew up in Orange County. I attended college in the Bay Area and have stayed here since.*

**College:***University of California Berkeley*

**Former company:** *KPMG LLP (Santa Clara office)*

**What drew you to Old Navy?** *I like the idea that clothing can be fashionable, well fitted, and affordable for the whole family. I also appreciate that Old Navy offers extended sizes. As a petite woman, it has always been a challenge for me to find clothes that fit well.*

**What’s your favorite product that you’ve bought from Old Navy?** *Rubber flip flops – I own several pairs and they are a pool/beach favorite.*

**Favorite food:***It changes…but right now I am craving the “Oyster Po’boy” at Brenda’s French Soul Food.*

**Favorite movie:** *Inception*

**Favorite TV show:** *Game of Thrones*

**Greatest accomplishment:** *My greatest accomplishment would probably the adoption of a healthier and more active lifestyle. During the three years that I worked at KPMG, I traveled non-stop from January to July every year. I was not used to being stationary for long periods of time and eating out three meals a day, so I gained a lot of weight. It finally hit me in 2012 that I really needed to change my diet and to find time to exercise regularly even when I am on the road. It was a life changing experience that made me realize how important it was to be healthy.*

**Biggest fear:** *I am afraid of the dark and have a cute IKEA night light that I bring with me on all my business trips. I was in Utica (upstate New York and an hour’s drive from the nearest local airport) for a week and I heard from the client that one of the hotels was haunted. We drove over 50 miles on a country road surrounded by thick trees that reminded me of the Forbidden Forest and it didn’t help that the town itself was like a scene out of Water for Elephants (land sparsely populated with buildings adorned with bright circus-like lights).*

**Favorite place you’ve ever traveled:** *I traveled to NYC in the summer of 2011 and Winter/Spring of 2013 for two different projects and stayed in Manhattan for about 4 months. I was fascinated by how well dressed the locals were and how amazing the food was. Fortunately, I was there when the Alexander McQueen Savage Beauty exhibit was on display at the Metropolitan Art Museum. I was absolutely in love with his work and in some ways had influenced my decision to pursue a career in the clothing industry.*

**Place you haven’t been but most want to travel to:** *Japan – I am huge anime fan and had seen certain aspects of Japanese life depicted in animation, but I would love to visit Japan and experience the culture.*

**Something you are proud of/passionate about:** *I recently conquered my fear of heights through indoor climbing. I was first introduced to bouldering and enjoyed the challenge, but was uncomfortable with the idea of free falling several feet, so I thought top rope climbing might be a better idea since I wouldn’t fall more than a few inches. I was initially terrified and envisioned these what could go wrong scenarios happening (e.g. knot comes lose, anchor system breaks, belayer falls asleep, etc), but learned to avoid looking down until I reached the top and removed some of that fear.*

**Favorite celeb:** *I love Johnny Depp for his eccentric and quirky personality in Pirates of the Caribbean and in the Tim Burton creations.*

**Interesting fact #1:** *My right ear is actually considerably larger than my left ear and it wasn’t until college when the earplug in my left ear kept falling out that I realized they were not of the same size.*

**Interesting fact #2:** *I am directionally challenged and often carry a map (before the advent of iphones) or have google maps ready whenever I travel as I am often lost without one. Friends who are aware of my sense of direction often offer to navigate. As a gaming nerd I would take my avatar through the same part of the dungeon several times before realizing I was not discovering new territory. Whenever I shared a console with my cousin, I would specialize in “battle” and she would “navigate”.*

**Interesting fact #3:** *I love to experiment with different ingredients and flavors in my cooking. I also like to make diet versions of my favorite foods. Some dishes were amazing with the substitutions, but others not so great (e.g. rock hard butter-less green tea cookies).*