

NEW YORK FASHION WEEK SEPTEMBER 10, 2024

Thank you for attending the 13th annual Emerge! Fashion Runway Show! When I created Emerge! 13 years ago, my vision was to provide a powerful platform for talented designers to showcase their work on a national and global scale. It has always been my mission for Emerge! to be a catalyst and resource for designers, helping them gain the recognition they deserve both in the U.S. and around the world.

It fills me with immense pride to witness how Emerge! has evolved into a major production, now supported by a dedicated team of over 30 staff and volunteers, 80 incredible models, a backstage crew of 50 talented hair and makeup artists, and an exceptional production and creative team. Together, we work tirelessly to ensure that these gifted designers have the best possible stage to express their creativity and vision.

One of the core values of Emerge! is to honor the legendary pioneers and icons in the fashion industry who have paved the way for emerging designers and creatives. This year, I am thrilled to celebrate the industry's finest Fashion Innovators. Their contributions have left an indelible mark on fashion, and it is our privilege to honor them tonight.

We could not achieve this without the generous support of our sponsors. A heartfelt thank you to our presenting sponsor, Thank God It's Natural (TGIN) haircare, as well as Basil Hayden Bourbon, Bennett Career Institute, Models Inc & D. Williams PR Group. Your unwavering commitment to the Emerge! mission is truly commendable.

I'm also excited to share that Emerge! has expanded to London, furthering our mission to support Black designers on an international stage. This new chapter allows us to continue empowering creatives across the globe, fostering a community that transcends borders.

Thank you again for being a part of this journey. Enjoy the show, and please continue to spread the word about Emerge! using the hashtags #EmergeFashionShow and #EmergeLondon.

DIONNE WILLIAMS

Creator of Emerge! Fashion Show New York & London President, Emerge! Fashion Group LLC





The Emerge! Fashion Show is a premier platform dedicated to showcasing the work of emerging designers from across the globe. Founded with the mission to bridge the gap between aspiring designers and the fashion industry's forefront, Emerge! offers a unique opportunity for creatives to present their collections to an influential audience, including industry professionals, media, and fashion enthusiasts. The show is known for its commitment to diversity, innovation, and the celebration of new talent, providing a runway that highlights the creativity and vision of designers who might otherwise go unseen.

Over the years, Emerge! has become a springboard for many designers, offering them not only exposure but also the resources and connections necessary to advance their careers. The event has grown in scale and reputation, becoming a key fixture during New York Fashion Week and expanding its reach to include international showcases like Emerge! London. By honoring industry icons and trailblazers, the show also underscores its dedication to recognizing those who have paved the way for the next generation of fashion leaders. Emerge! continues to be a beacon of opportunity, driving the future of fashion by empowering emerging designers to make their mark on the global stage.

FASHION INNOVATOR Juage



BETHANN HARDISON

Advocate, documentarian, model, muse—with a career spanning over five decades, Bethann Hardison has gone from working in NYC's Garment District; to becoming one of the first Black models favored by European and New York designers; to creative director and producer; to founding her namesake agency where she guided the careers of some of the most prominent models.

In 1988, she founded the Black Girls Coalition, and in 2013, she spearheaded the launch of the Diversity Coalition sparking an industry-wide movement for diversity and inclusion. In recognition of her decades of advocacy work, Bethann has received numerous awards, including the CFDA's Founder's Award.

In 2018, with the support of the CFDA, she founded The Designers Hub to guide and empower Black designers, and in 2019 became an inaugural member of Gucci's Changemakers Council. 2023 marked her directorial debut when *Invisible Beauty*, which she co-directed with Frédéric Tcheng, premiered at the Sundance Film Festival. The documentary has since been featured worldwide in over two dozen film festivals, winning several awards, including the NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Documentary Film, and is now available on Hulu and all digital platforms after an eight-week nationwide theatrical release via Magnolia Pictures. Currently, Bethann serves on the CFDA's Board of Directors and as Gucci's Executive Advisor for Global Equity and Cultural Engagement.

FASHION TRAILBLAZER Jward



KOLLIN CARTER

A visionary in fashion styling, Kollin brings a dynamic body of work, styling high-profile clients and leading brands. Renowned for his bold and vibrant aesthetic, he has made a unique mark in the industry. Kollin's impressive career began under the guidance of Law Roach. He has since worked with luminaries such as Cardi B, Victoria Monet (WME), Normani (WME), Kelly Rowland, Kylie Jenner (WME), Teyana Taylor (WME), and Naomi Campbell, among others.

His editorial acumen shines through partnerships with top photographers and features in eminent publications like Vogue, W Magazine, and Interview. His influence also permeates the advertising world with campaigns for prestigious brands like Balenciaga, Chanel, and Gucci.

Kollin also brings a voice to his visuals, advocating during the Black Lives Matter movement to ensure his work reflects cultural significance and integrity.



As a passionate designer dedicated to empowering tall women, I blend fashionforward aesthetics with practical elegance. My mission? To celebrate height and redefine the way tall women experience clothing.

Background: With years of experience in the industry, as a model and stylist I've honed my craft by designing pieces that seamlessly complement longer proportions. As a former athlete, coach and executive, I carry a unique perspective and specific target audience.

Signature Style: My designs celebrate elongated silhouettes, emphasizing grace and confidence. From tailored wide leg pants to flirty flare dresses, I create wardrobe essentials that flatter tall frames. Inspiration: Nature, architecture, and global cultures inspire my collections. Each piece tells a story, inviting tall women to embrace their uniqueness.

Ethical Focus: I'm committed to ethical supply chain practices, supporting women and minority owed businesses.

About tallHER

Exclusive and Inclusive Tall Sizing: Our brand caters specifically to women 5'9" and taller, with sizes ranging from XL to XXL. No more compromising on fit!

Quality is King: From the fabric we source to the craftsmanship and attention to detail behind each piece. You will feel our dedication to durability, functionality, and timeless design. Quality isn't just a feature—it's woven into the fabric of who we are.



LATRICESA MYONNE

Emerging and on the come-up-former Nail Technician turned fashion designer, "Latricesa Myonne" definitely has a style all her own. Born and raised on Detroit's westside, she knew from an early age that she wanted to be a part of the fashion industry. Utilizing her love for fabrics and shapely silhouettes to create awe inspiring gowns and ready-to-wear pieces, she started to become known for her fashionable talent, winning local and state fashion design contests.

For some this may have just resulted in making fashion a fun hobby, but not Latricesa. Her desire to put her imprint on the fashion world grew stronger when she couldn't find clothes, she wanted to wear in stores to fit her voluptuous shape. Adhering to the notion of "If you can't buy it, then you must create it," she made designing clothes that would get her noticed by the fashion and entertainment elite her main mission.

A self-taught, 19-year veteran in the fashion world, her talent and ambition have earned her opportunities to showcase her designs at fashion events around the country. It soon set the stage for her work as a stylist for local and international music artists. Her fashions have been worn by rapper Bizzare (from Eminem's super group D12), rapper Detroit Diamond, Viceland TV personality and one of the Top commentators in the ballroom "Jusss Precious", RnB artist Nyoln Keies and other musicians and social media influencers.

When it comes to fashion, she says this, "I believe life is a runway and you don't ever want to be mediocre. To command the room, you need to walk in with confidence, style and a unique flair—with a bit of sexy on the side. That's the type of designer I am and how I want my clients to feel when they wear my designs." Latricesa Myonne is not only a name but a brand that will leave a memorable mark on the industry.





RENE TYLER

Founded in 2010 by celebrity designer Angela Rene', Rene' Tyler creates contemporary designs in sizes zero to plus. Rene' Tyler's designs have been worn and admired by celebrities including Gayle King, Laverne Cox, The Daily Show's Dulcé Sloan, Garcelle Beauvais, Amber Riley, CBS' Ghosts star Danielle Pinnock, gospel artist Kierra Clark-Sheard for the Stellar Awards, and most recently former Miss USA 1990 Carole Gist for the 2024 Miss USA pageant. The brand was featured on the critically acclaimed AMC television series Dietland starring Julianna Margulies and Joy Nash. In 2014, she produced the runway event 40+ Divas showcasing models ages 40 and above, sizes two to twenty-six. In December of 2023, the event rebranded and debuted as 40+ Divas & Silver Gents at The Four Seasons Hotel.

In 2016, Rene' Tyler made history as the first-ever plus-size brand to show at Art Hearts LA Fashion Week. Inspired by the belief that high-end fashion should be inclusive all shapes sizes, and ages she opened the first-ever plus-size boutique on the Las Vegas Strip, at The Grand Canal Shoppes at The Venetian Resort. In 2020 the boutique opened at the Fashion Show Mall. She was featured in the September issue of Vegas Magazine as one of 2022's Dynamic Women, and most recently her designs were on the runway at the Off The Field NFL Wives Charity Fashion Show during Super Bowl Weekend in Las Vegas. Her philosophy is whether you're a size four or thirty-four, fashion is for everyone!

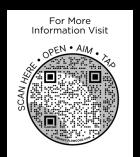
TYGERIAN LACE BURKE

Tygerian Lace Burke's journey into the fashion world began with a personal need. After the birth of her second child, she found herself yearning for luxurious, sustainable, and timeless clothing that could fit within the budget of her growing household. Determined to fill this gap, she decided to start her own clothing brand.

With unwavering support from her husband and two children, Burke left her position in corporate America to found TYGERIANLACE. The philosophy behind TYGERIANLACE is to create garments that exude luxury, sustainability, and are timeless. Working predominantly with a color palette of black, white, and red, each piece crafted by Burke strikes a balance between bold finishes and soft silhouettes. The materials used in TYGERIANLACE garments include a blend of biodegradable and non-biodegradable sequins, faux feathers, brocade, and cotton. These textiles are manipulated through techniques such as draping, pleating, gathering, tucking, and ruching to create the brand's signature look.

Every collection from TYGERIANLACE is crafted in Burke's 200 sq ft workspace at home, each piece representing a unique story. Looking ahead, Burke continues to build a legacy for TYGERIANLACE defined by its commitment to sustainable luxury and timeless design, paving the way for future designers, especially those of color, to follow in her footsteps.







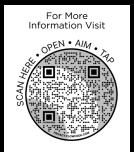
KORTO MOMOLU

Inspired by her African roots, Liberian born fashion designer and stylist Korto Momolu (pronounced CUT-TOE MOE-MOE-LOO) is stamping her global brand in fashion. With a women's wear and accessory line that celebrates the essence of her rich heritage through the use of traditional, luxury fabrics. A graduate of L'academies des Couturiers Design Institute in OJawa, Ontario, Canada [Korto relocated to Canada in 1990 following the coup in her homeland Liberia]. Advancing her field experience, she auditioned for and earned a spot on the 5th season of Bravo's Emmy Nominated show Project Runway.

Throughout the season, Korto's primary signature uses color and diversity in print, style and presentation. Her feisty spirit resonated well with the audience earning her the coveted "Fan Favorite" vote and ultimately a placement of 1st runner up.

Career highlights include headlining countless fashion shows worldwide in places like Jamaica, Cayman Islands, British Virgin Islands, Honduras, Canada and Liberia. Korto was commissioned by Alice Walton to design uniforms for The Crystal Bridges Museum staff based on her ability to design for people of all shapes and sizes. She served as the "Cheerios ambassador" for the Shoprite Partners in Caring "Knock out Hunger" campaign and continues to contribute her time and talents to countless charitable and philanthropic endeavors.

Highlighted as Top 5 to watch by New York magazine, Korto has been featured in countless international and Global publications including Elle, Us weekly, Marie Claire, Arise, and Essence. Television appearances include Project Runway All Stars 3.



JPRATT

"Who would ever have known that watching one's wife throw out shoes, could inspire someone to create customized embellished shoes." - JPratt

Jermaine Pratt CEO and Founder of then JPratt Shoes turned his vision into a brick and mortar reality. Adding to his high demand in shoe designing, he then added the most important component in fashion. JPratt Boutique was born, giving his clients a place to come to receive upscale one on one personal and private service(s).

It is no secret that Pratt's church up bringing afforded him the opportunity to style and design for First Ladies and Head Pastors of mega churches in the New Jersey tri-state area. After many years of building an outstanding reputation in the churches, Pratt soon realized the need to expend outside the four walls of the church.

Casting his net further into the fashion world he quickly landed the attention of Philly Fashion Week which then pushed him onto the runways of Atlantic City, Miami and New York's fashion weeks. In between fashion show seasons Pratt travels around the world styling celebrities who are attending red carpets at various awards show such as, The Dove Awards, BMI Trailblazers, Grammys, Stellars and more.

Just recently settling in from his International Ghana tour JPratt Boutique continues to capture the pure essence in what it means to make a statement and to also push the envelope.

Today, JPratt is located n the city of brotherly love in downtown Philadelphia. Pratt believes that if you work hard enough you wont have to introduce yourself when you walk into a room, your work will speak for itself.



GLOBAL PARTNER

AFRICAN DESIGNER AMBASSADOR WEARABLE ART COLLECTIVE

LOLA OWOLABI

LOLA@WEARABLEARTS.CO



The Wearable Art Collective consists of a rich pool of talented artisans emerging from the African continent and around the world. Through fashion design, jewelry, sculpture and textiles the Wearable Arts Collective challenges conventional notions of a singular African aesthetic and identity, and reflects the integration of African art and design without making the usual distinctions between "professional" and "artisan."

The Wearable Art Collective mission is to promote, strengthen, empower African artisans. TWAC strives to serve as good global citizens and provide foundation to these African artisans, empowering the designers and artists giving them the exposure and resources to use the tools in the community. With this primary purpose we hope to bridge the economic and cultural gaps between Africa and America.

Each piece worn is contributing and making financial and social impact in the lives of families and young women in developing nations.

Lola Owolabi, FRSA, FinstLM, MA, a lover of all things Africa is the Curator for Wearable Art Collective and the creative force behind the brand. Lola has created this brand of African Collectives that she believes can bring her vision of African influenced beauty and design to the forefront.



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Bennett Career Institute

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Mr. Chet A. Bennett is the founder, Vice President and Chief Executive Officer of BCI. Mr. Bennett is a graduate of Morehouse College with a BA in Religion, he also holds a Masters Degree in Educational Administration and Supervision from Howard University. He has over 23 years of work experience in the cosmetology and barbering industry.

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