CFDA+ 2017

CFDA+ is a curated platform to spotlight exemplary graduating talent. Selected CFDA+ 2017 Design Graduates will receive a one year profile-based showcase on CFDA.com. CFDA+ profiles are visible to the CFDA Membership community of 500+ leading American designers. Additionally, the CFDA is honored to continue its collaboration with Floriane de Saint Pierre’s Paris-based Eyes on Talents, which will generously spotlight CFDA+ and provide the talent with unique global exposure.

The CFDA works to support and identify top-tier Graduate and Undergraduate talent from a global community of invited colleges. School-endorsed students expected to graduate in 2017 from a full-time Graduate or Undergraduate degree program are eligible to apply.

Applications are invited globally from all fashion specializations including Men’s, Women’s, Children’s, Accessories, Jewelry and Materiality. Graduates with creative acumen within technical design, sustainability, and new approaches to combine fashion + technology are encouraged.

All applications are due no later than 5:00PM EST on Monday June 19th 2017 and require a faculty endorsement in support of their excellence in design and professional practice. Following portfolio review, final phase candidates will be invited for a virtual interview.

CFDA+ 2017 Design Graduates will be announced, September 2017.
ABOUT THE COUNCIL OF FASHION DESIGNERS OF AMERICA (CFDA)

The Council of Fashion Designers of America, Inc. (CFDA) is a not-for-profit trade association founded in 1962, whose membership consists of more than 500 of America’s foremost womenswear, menswear, jewelry and accessory designers.

The CFDA Foundation, Inc. is a separate not-for-profit organization, which was created to raise funds for charity and industry activities.

In addition to hosting the annual CFDA Fashion Awards, the trade organization owns the Fashion Calendar and stages New York Fashion Week: Men's.

ABOUT CFDA+ 2016 DESIGN GRADUATES

In 2016, the Council of Fashion Designers of America (CFDA) was pleased to introduce the CFDA+ 2016 Design Graduates. The 51 talents represented the best graduates selected among 240+ applications from 30 leading fashion schools around the world. They are ready to take their first steps into fashion’s global landscape and designers looking to make new hires can view their portfolios on CFDA.com.

The final selection was made by a committee featuring Piotrek Panszczyk and Beckett Fogg, AREA; Sarah Blair, Barneys New York; Brandon Maxwell; Kristy Caylor, Cerci; Michael Colovos, Colovos; Henry Zankov, DVF; Rio Uribe, Gypsy Sport; Tess Giberson, Lane Bryant; Lisa Salzer, Lulu Frost; Pamela Love; Thomas Chen, Prabal Gurung; Britt Cosgrove and Marina Polo; SVILU; Thi Wan, Thom Browne, and Wendy Lu, Tory Burch.

Representing 14 nationalities, the CFDA+ 2016 Design Graduates were creatively diverse with unique perspectives and specializations in Womenswear, Menswear, Accessories, Jewelry, Textiles and Knitwear.

The CFDA+ mark of distinction celebrates exemplary global graduate talent. CFDA+ continued its partnership with EyesonTalents, Floriane de Saint Pierre’s innovative platform, which generously spotlights the program and provides global visibility to the CFDA+ 2016 Design Graduates. The designer profiles were shared with CFDA’s 500-plus Membership.

In 2016, we received 247 APPLICATIONS from 30 PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS [17 U.S + 13 ABROAD]

Academy of Art University | Arts University Bournemouth | California College of the Arts | Central Saint Martins Columbia College of Chicago | Drexel University | Fashion Institute of Technology | Institut Francais de la Mode | International Fashion Academy | Kent State University | London College of Fashion Marist College | Massachusetts College of Art and Design | Miami International University of Art and Design | Northumbria University | Parsons School of Design | Pratt Institute | Rhode Island School of Design | Royal Academy of Fine Arts Antwerp | Royal College of Art | Savannah College of Art and Design | Shenkar College of Engineering and Design | Stephens College | The School of the Art Institute of Chicago | University for the Creative Arts Epsom | University for the Creative Arts Rochester University of Cincinnati | University of Salford | University of Westminster | Virginia Commonwealth University

For more information about CFDA+:  

CFDA+ 2016 Design Graduates | [https://cfda.com/programs/designers/cfda-2016-design-grads](https://cfda.com/programs/designers/cfda-2016-design-grads)
CFDA+ 2015 Talent Book | [https://www.dropbox.com/s/057e09dhhv1n0z1/CFDA%2B%202015%20Talent%20Book%20-%202016%202015.pdf?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/s/057e09dhhv1n0z1/CFDA%2B%202015%20Talent%20Book%20-%202016%202015.pdf?dl=0)
CFDA+ 2017 | CATEGORIES

The Council of Fashion Designers of America invites CFDA+ 2017 applications within the fashion categories of APPAREL, ACCESSORIES, AND MATERIALITY and below foci:

CATEGORY 1: FASHION APPAREL Menswear | Womenswear | Childrenswear | Universal
CATEGORY 2: FASHION ACCESSORIES Footwear | Handbags | Jewelry | Millinery | Other
CATEGORY 3: MATERIALITY Knitwear | Textiles

CHECK APPROPRIATE SPECIALIZATIONS THAT APPLY:
(Please use your discretion in selecting the below as your application will be reviewed based on the selected)

3D / Creative Technical Design
Active Wear / Performance
Artisanal / Handcrafted
Bespoke / Custom
Bridal
CAD / Technical Design
Cut + Sew Knitwear
Denim
Digital / New Technologies (3D Printing, Laser Cutting, etc.)
Digital Fabrication
Embellishment
Embroidery
Evening Wear
Fiber Arts
Fine / Precious Stones
Fully Fashioned Knitwear
Hand Knitting
Leather / Non Wovens
Lingerie
Luxury
Machine Knitting
Metals
Outerwear
Print
Soft Goods
Surface Design
Sustainability/ Systems
Wearables
Woven Materials
Other {Please Indicate}
CFDA+ 2017 | PORTFOLIO SUBMISSION

Endorsed CFDA+ 2017 student applications are due no later than 5:00PM EST on Monday, June 19th 2017.

To be considered, candidates must have a planned graduation date within 2017 from an invited Undergraduate (BFA/BA) and Graduate (MFA/MA) program.

Please submit all application elements via FluidReview (https://CFDA-Applications.fluidreview.com/); regretfully, incomplete applications and those received past the deadline will be deemed ineligible.

Application Elements

± Resume/ CV
± Biography (written +/or video self- introduction)
± Statement of Intent highlighting key achievements, vision/ ethos, goals/ aspirations + interests
± Portfolio* Containing a minimum of 18 pages of design work focused to Thesis/ Collection
± Faculty Endorsement**
± Applicant Acknowledgement and Release Form
± Designer Headshot
± CFDA+ 2017 Online Completed Application (https://CFDA-Applications.fluidreview.com/)

Portfolio = curated design research, journey and conclusion with focus to strength, design identity, and presentation inclusive of image-making, technical and creative strengths

+Research (Primary/ Secondary +/or Visual)
+Design Ideation (Development, Iteration)
+Thesis Conclusion (Presentation of collection or final thesis prototypes)
+ Materials + Processes (As relevant to specialization)

Faculty Endorsement: Candidates are required to provide endorsement and reference from a faculty member or tutor (Director, Program Chair, Senior Thesis Professor or Equivalent). Faculty referees will only be contacted if candidate advances to the finalist stage and a concise feedback from will be provided.

Please direct all CFDA+ 2017 application queries to CFDA+@CFDA.com or to:
Sara Kozlowski | Director of Education + Professional Development, S.Kozlowski@CFDA.com
Anna Chae | Program Associate of Education + Professional Development, A.Chae@CFDA.com
CFDA+ 2017 | SELECTION

Faculty endorsed CFDA+ 2017 applications will be reviewed during Summer 2017 with final decision and announcement in September, 2017.

PHASE 1 | PORTFOLIO REVIEW: JUNE/ JULY

During Phase 1, Portfolio Based Reviews will be conducted with strict focus to high caliber design talent. Each candidate will be awarded a singular vote based upon a holistic score in consideration of:

PORTFOLIO | Vision, Design Identity, Demonstrated Skills, Narrative, Technical Skills, Process, Research
SPECIALIZATION | Depth/ Breadth as demonstrated/ Talent within target area of specialization(s);
STATEMENT OF INTENT: Communication Skills/ Ability to Self- Articulate
PROFILE: Overall Profile in context of Professional Practice/ Professional Readiness = Potential

PHASE 2 | INTERVIEWS: JULY/ AUGUST

During Phase 2, CFDA Education + Professional Development will conduct 15 minute video conference based interviews to further explore candidate’s aspirations, interest and aptitudes with focus to design ethos, professional readiness, and vision/ goals.

PHASE 3 | CFDA SELECTION COMMITTEE: SEPTEMBER

The CFDA’s goal is to curate a dynamic talent pool, visible to CFDA Membership and community through editorial exposure that is both expert within areas of specialization and versatile in potential for future areas of professional focus. Phase 3 weighs as the final decision in naming CFDA+ 2017 Design Graduates based on overall excellence, professional readiness, diverse creative acumen and envisioned success. There is no minimum or maximum defined number limiting decision. In 2016, a total of 51 CFDA+ 2016 Design Graduate were selected. The CFDA Selection Committee will consist of invited CFDA Members. CFDA+ 2017 Design Graduates will be announced to the fashion industry in September, 2017.

APPLICATION DEADLINE The deadline for endorsed student applications is 5:00PM EST on Monday, June 19th 2017. Please note: Late and/or incomplete submissions will NOT be accepted.