

APPAREL AND ACCESSORIES

CFDA, NYCEDC award 12 grant recipients to keep manufacturing in New York

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CFDA hopes to secure manufacturing jobs in New York. Image credit: CFDA

By STAFF REPORTS

The Council of Fashion Designers of America is working with New York City Economic Development Corporation for another round of funding to support local fashion manufacturers.

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A sixth funding round has been completed for the Fashion Manufacturing Initiative, marking the largest investment year for the grant fund. After launching in 2013, the fund has been awarded to the largest number of recipients yet, including Atelier Amelia, Button Down Factory and Create-A-Marker.

"We are proud to see the largest investment yet in the Fashion Manufacturing Initiative's six-year history," said Steven Kolb, president and CEO of the CFDA, in a statement "By investing in local manufacturing, we are supporting the fashion industry at-large and we will continue to expand our programming to build a viable production sector in New York City."

Preserving New York manufacturing

Eight first-time winners have joined the 12 total recipients of the grant this year, with each company winning grants consisting of about \$730,000 each.

The goal with the FMI is to secure and preserve manufacturing jobs in New York, with funds allocated to equipment and software, infrastructure upgrades and capital improvements, relocation costs and workforce training within in each recipient company.

In addition to production manufacturer Atelier Amelia, garment manufacturer Button Down Factory and computerized grading and marking service Create-A-Marker, winners include design atelier Geri Gerard, Brooklyn-based trouser maker Hertling, textile studio New York Embroidery Studio, dye and wash house Not Just Lace, family-run Park Avenue Trimming, Queens' Rainbow Leather, one-stop garment shop SN Productions, WholeGarment 3D knitting service Tailored Industry and custom costume designer Timberlake Studios.

[View this post on Instagram](#)

CFDA's Fashion Manufacturing Initiative invests into local factories to preserve fashion manufacturing jobs in NYC. To celebrate our 2018-19 #FMI Grant Fund recipients, we brought on New York native model Dilone to showcase the best American-made looks on location in the Garment District. Head to our link in bio for the full shoot! Dilone wears @VeraWangGang dress produced with Not Just Lace Model: @_dilone Photographer: @leeorwild Fashion Editor: @nickycbell Makeup: @rennyvasquez for @patmcgrathreal Hair: @ivainsane Set Design: Elisia Mirabelli

A post shared by cfda (@cfda) on Apr 18, 2019 at 8:54am PDT

Instagram post from the CFDA

The FMI program also includes a full production directory, which provides fashion designers with better connection with quality manufacturers, including the grant winners.

"Providing grant assistance for upgrades and expansion costs is key to ensuring that the garment manufacturing industry stays strong in New York," said James Patchett, NYCEDC president and CEO, in a statement.

"Congratulations to this year's recipients. I look forward to their continued contributions to one of New York's most iconic industries."

Recently, U.S. fashion designer Tom Ford was announced to succeed Diane von Furstenberg as the chairman of the CFDA.

Mr. Ford's appointment was ratified during a CFDA board meeting on March 19. He will start the role effective Jan. 1, 2020 ([see story](#)).

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