

APPAREL AND ACCESSORIES

## Capri Holdings creates foundation to support diversity in fashion

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*Capri Holdings is launching its Foundation for the Advancement of Diversity in Fashion. Image credit: Versace*

By LUXURY DAILY NEWS SERVICE

Fashion group Capri Holdings Limited is forming a new foundation to further its commitment to workforce diversity.

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The group has pledged \$20 million to Capri Holdings Foundation for the Advancement of Diversity in Fashion. To support the company's efforts to advance diversity, inclusion and equality, the foundation will work with educational institutions to create opportunities in fashion for underrepresented communities.

Diversity in fashion

The Capri Holdings Foundation for the Advancement of Diversity in Fashion will collaborate with high schools and universities to help students prepare for successful fashion careers.

This will involve on-campus recruitment, mentorship and scholarship programs.

"Diversity and inclusion are embedded in the DNA of each of our fashion luxury brands Versace, Jimmy Choo and Michael Kors," said John D. Idol, chairman and CEO of Capri Holdings, in a statement. "Capri's role as a leading global fashion company is to set trends, inspire creativity and represent the world around us.

"We are doing our part to promote a more inclusive fashion industry with our investment in the foundation," he said.



*People of color are more likely to see the fashion industry as inaccessible. Image credit: Michael Kors*

According to a new "State of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion in Fashion" report, Black employees report greater inaccessibility to the industry, at a rate of 68 percent to 37 percent of white employees. Similarly, 51 percent of LGBTQ+ employees report inaccessibility to the fashion business, compared to 41 percent of heterosexual employees.

Nearly four in 10 of Black employees, 37 percent, have to supplement their income beyond parent support, through freelancing or gig economy jobs, compared to 23 percent of white employees. This also impacts perceptions of performance, as some employees cannot afford to put in unpaid overtime hours ([see story](#)).

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