

NONPROFITS

Gucci announces 2021 North American Changemakers scholars

July 8, 2021



Gucci Changemakers Scholarship awards young people pursuing careers in fashion. Image credit: Gucci

By LUXURY DAILY NEWS SERVICE

Italian fashion house Gucci has announced this year's Changemakers Scholarship awardees, a class of 22 young people from diverse backgrounds who are pursuing careers within fashion at undergraduate colleges and universities.

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The Gucci Changemakers Scholarship program was created in March 2019 as an initiative featured on the relaunched Gucci Equilibrium platform outlining the brand's goal of generating positive change for people and the planet. This year's class will receive an academic scholarship for up to \$20,000, in addition to mentorship and virtual internship opportunities through Gucci America.

"We are honored to announce the selection of these talented and creative students from all backgrounds and regions in North America," said Antoine Phillips, vice president of brand and culture engagement at Gucci, in a statement. "They represent HBCUs, community colleges, fashion schools and non-fashion schools alike.

"Their diverse points of views embody the future of not only fashion, but creative industries as a whole," he said. "We look forward to engaging with all of our scholars over the coming months ahead."

Gucci Changemakers

The program primarily focuses on students from diverse backgrounds who live or study in one of the 12 Gucci North America Changemakers cities: Atlanta, Chicago, Detroit, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, New Orleans, New York, Philadelphia, San Francisco, Toronto and Washington. It also includes those who plan to attend or currently attend a Historically Black College and University (HBCU) ([see story](#)).



Six of the 22 2021 awardees. Image credit: Gucci

Under the Changemakers umbrella, Gucci also announced that Savannah College of Art and Design senior D'on Lauren Edwards has been selected as the Gucci North America Changemakers x CFDA Scholar by Design as part of a program reimagined to support one woman, or a person who identifies as a female, of color with a \$20,000 one-year scholarship.

The 2021 class will join the Changemakers community as it continues to grow, offering students the opportunity to pursue their unique path within the fashion industry.

"After being granted the opportunity to be one of the recipients of the Gucci Changemakers Scholars award, I found an unbelievable amount of stress taken off my shoulders," said Miles Richards, a 2020 and 2021 Gucci Changemakers Scholar. "And without a shadow of a doubt, the program provided me with the creative freedom to express myself without the burden of tuition during my first year as an art major."

The next round of applications for the Gucci North America Changemakers Scholarship Program will open in Fall 2021.

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