

NONPROFITS

CFDA selects Thom Browne to succeed Tom Ford as Chairman

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American designer Thom Browne will serve as the organization's next Chairman. Image credit: CFDA

By LUXURY DAILY NEWS SERVICE

The Council of Fashion Designers of America (CFDA) has named a new chair.

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American designer Thom Browne will serve as the organization's next Chairman. The two-year appointment, a unanimous election from the nonprofit's Board of Directors, is effective January 1, 2023.

"Thom understands the steps that are required to build an American fashion business that is both successful and highly respected by the global fashion community," said Steven Kolb, CEO at the [Council of Fashion Designers of America](#), in a statement.

"Thom firmly believes the craft of fashion is the foundation of success, and his commitment to creativity runs through everything that he touches," he said. "Our members, at every level of the CFDA, and the organization as a whole will benefit immensely from his thoughts, ideas and experience, and I'm looking forward to our work together."

American fashion's new guard

A CFDA member since 2005, Mr. Browne joins the prestigious ranks of previous chairs and American designers including Tom Ford, Diane von Furstenberg, Perry Ellis, and Oscar de la Renta.

The creative established his eponymous label in 2003, beginning with made-to-order menswear. The Thom Browne brand has since grown to include womenswear, footwear, accessories and fragrance.

We're pleased to announce that [@ThomBrowne](#) is the next Chairman of the CFDA, effective January 1, 2023. The CFDA Board of Directors unanimously elected the designer to the role for a two-year term. Learn more: <https://t.co/khDqn4rVgH> pic.twitter.com/72zvt0TYso

CFDA (@CFDA) [October 11, 2022](#)

In the process, Mr. Browne has racked up three Menswear Designer of the Year awards in 2006, 2013 and 2016, from the organization he will now lead.

"I am very excited about taking on the Chairmanship of the CFDA," said Mr. Browne.

"I am so proud to be an American designer there is so much happening in American design today that the world needs to really see and recognize and truly appreciate," he said. "As designers, it is our responsibility to provoke, to educate, to entertain, to make laugh and to make cry and, most importantly, to make beautiful clothes and to succeed in nurturing the next generation of American design.



The CFDA helped the U.S. fashion industry bounce back from pandemic losses. Image credit: CFDA

"My most important message is that everyone should have all the opportunities to thrive as designers, but the core of this success has to start from pure creativity."

Mr. Kolb, who has served as interim chair since, will continue in the role through the end of the year.

Previous CFDA Chairman, American designer Tom Ford, stepped down from the role in May 2022 ([see story](#)).

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