

NONPROFITS

Chanel, Pharrell Williams announce partnership, extend support to Black and Latinx entrepreneurs

October 17, 2022



The partnership between Chanel and Pharell Williams will give Black Ambition prize contenders and finalists access to esteemed programming, with input from industry heavyweights. Image credit: Chanel

By LUXURY DAILY NEWS SERVICE

French fashion house **Chanel** is lending long-term resources to emerging entrepreneurs of color, in conjunction with longtime collaborator and music magnate Pharrell Williams.

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This time around, the historied maison is positing cross-sector success with "Black Ambition," a nonprofit vehicle founded by Mr. Williams' providing funding and mentorship to fuel the ideas and innovations of Black and Latinx entrepreneurs. Together, Chanel and Mr. Williams are launching a two-part mentorship program for Black Ambition prize finalists, with backing from celebrity peers and industry notables.

Chanel x Pharrell

Chanel is teaming up with Mr. Williams to further champion up-and-coming talent.

The star's philanthropic focus, Black Ambition, provides funding and mentorship to fuel the ideas and innovations of Black and Latinx entrepreneurs. The house is lending its platform, connections and visibility to Mr. Williams' empowerment effort, in the name of lifting traditionally under-resourced leaders.

Mr. Williams details the nature of Chanel's latest partnership in a new video

The dual-part partnership will debut with "Women Who Lead," an hourlong panel musing on building culture and community voiced by female-identifying fashion leaders, including Tracee Ellis Ross, actor, producer and CEO; Emma Grede, CEO and cofounder at Good American; Natalie Massenet, cofounder and partner at Imaginary Ventures and Samira Nasr, editor in chief of *Harper's Bazaar*.

An event exclusive to Black Ambition semifinalists and network members, the intimate exchange of insights is slated for June 11th.

The program's second pillar involves a series of interactive seminars open to Black Ambition prize finalists.

Leveraging Chanel's business expertise, the mentorship-based workshops will provide a "fashion business 101"-style run down to the group of emerging talents, honing in on the skills and capabilities necessary to launch and sustain a brand.

Chanel has shared plans to engage with the initiative long-term, making clear its avid and abiding level of support for the charitable cause. The brand has played a crucial role in fostering the next wave of industry talent as of late.

The French fashion house is placing three up-and-coming makeup artists at the forefront of its latest incubative effort, announcing the launch of "Cometes Collective," a group of rising beauty shaping the future of the industry. As of this month, the inaugural MUAs Ammy Drammeh, Ccile Paravina and Valentina Li have been named its first Global Creative Makeup Partners ([see story](#)).

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