

EDUCATION

## Burberry, The BRIT School announce two-year educational partnership

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*The brand is sponsoring The BRIT School's fashion, styling and textile course, launching the new Stepping Stones Bursary Prize in the process. Image credit: Burberry*

By LUXURY DAILY NEWS SERVICE

British fashion house Burberry is now working with a United Kingdom-based place of learning.

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Announcing a two-year partnership with creative arts institution The BRIT School, the house is continuing a commitment to young people's education. Burberry will be sponsoring the London organization's fashion, styling and textile course for the duration of the period, and launching the new Burberry Stepping Stones Bursary Prize in the process to support burgeoning talents from disenfranchised groups.

"I couldn't have imagined what my time at The BRIT School would give me and how the creativity and industry insight provided there would help shape my career over the years," said Geoffrey Williams, vice president of diversity, equity and inclusion at **Burberry**, in a statement.

"Through this partnership, we hope to help students of the Fashion, Styling & Textiles course fulfill their career ambitions, and create a more inclusive pipeline of upcoming creatives in the fashion industry."

Forward-thinking fashion

Working with The Brit School, Burberry is backing fashion education while pushing forward current initiatives.

The new Burberry Stepping Stones Bursary Prize specifically furthers the British house's ESG efforts. The award will go to two final-year students from disenfranchised communities who need financial aid in their journey to a creative career.



*The newly-announced prize seeks to uplift artist youths from underrepresented communities. Image credit: Burberry*

The BRIT School itself hosts a higher number of students from global majority backgrounds than surrounding schools, representing 44 percent of the student body. According to statistics from the educational institution, this figure is 34.1 percent higher than that of "pupils in secondary schools" around the U.K.

Along with the sponsorship of the fashion, styling and textile course, the move allows The BRIT School to offer education without any cost to students or their families, buoying current enrichment exercises, including an existing mentorship program.

The accredited diploma course that Burberry is supporting for the next two years covers a diverse range of learning opportunities, allowing students to dive into a variety of technical skills such as pattern cutting, photography, graphic design and fashion illustration.

"This is a defining moment for The BRIT School to be partnering with Burberry, a leader in the British creative industries," said Stuart Worden, principal of The BRIT School, in a statement.



*Attendees of Burberry's backed course will learn vital skills of their preferred professions. Image credit: Burberry*

"The BRIT School is both a shelter for students to be who they want to be and a springboard to achieve ambitious career goals in the creative world," Mr. Worden said. "Through Burberry's generous support, we're looking forward to connecting our students to industry professionals and offering enhanced facilities on our fashion, styling and textiles course for students to train to professional standards and be industry ready."

This is not the first instance of Burberry partnering with a leader in education within its home country.

In June 2023, the fashion house, teaming up with London's Royal Academy of Arts, granted Christine Wilkinson and Grace Ladoja the second annual Thomas Burberry Prize for Print ([see story](#)). Like this latest show of support for creative students, a financial commitment was made to up-and-coming talents.

Debuting a new monetary award for learners, the RA Schools Scholarship Grant and Bursary will fund one student's living expenses and the entire cost of tuition.