

project
RUNWAY
PROJECT RUNWAY CONTESTANT BIOS

Aaron Potts

Aaron Potts spent years shaping major American and international brands before launching A.Potts, a unisex line for creative people who want clothes that work hard and feel like art. His “EVERYDAY EDITORIAL” pieces blend function, modernity and a wink of drama. He designs with soul, practicality and joy by drawing inspiration from art, nature, global cultures and people-watching.

Anna Molinari

Growing up as a Navy brat, Anna Molinari found stability and passion in fashion and “Project Runway” from the age of 8. Working primarily with secondhand materials, she built her craft through sustainability and resourcefulness. Now, as a rising sustainable-fashion influencer, she shows that high-impact and a one-of-a-kind design can thrive without harming the environment.

Andrea Moore

Andrea Moore Beaulieu is a street-fashion designer, entrepreneur and mother of three from Auburn, New Hampshire. Sewing since childhood, she’s known for gender-neutral silhouettes, unexpected textile pairings, and refined craftsmanship. Leading with kindness, she creates fashion spaces where people feel seen and empowered while also proving that creativity, ambition and family can thrive together.

Andriy Volkov

Ukrainian-born designer Andriy Volkov is a couture artist whose creative journey began in early childhood and carried him across continents. He first picked up a paintbrush at the age of 3, setting in motion a lifelong pursuit of beauty, craftsmanship and cultural connection. Today, Volkov’s work bridges worlds and draws on global influences while remaining deeply rooted in the traditions that move him most.

Bao Tranchi

Bao Tranchi is renowned for her architectural approach to fit and form, merging provocative design with couture-level craftsmanship. A “Next in Fashion” finalist with a thriving career in both costume and celebrity design, she’s recognized as a formidable creative force. As a mother of two, she’s equally committed to redefining what it looks like to build an empire on your own terms.

Bi Pham

Born in Da Nang and raised in the Pacific Northwest, Bi shifted from science to fashion to explore modernity and sensuality through premium ready-to-wear. His work centers joy as much as craft, believing that fashion should be fun. He brings that energy into the studio, jokes and all.

Varvara “Bobby” Diakonenkova

Originally from Moscow, Varvara Diakonenkova adopted the name “Bobby” and continued her American journey. Coming to the States to pursue fashion design, she uses fashion to speak about world politics, feminism and simply challenge forced internet fashion trends with timeless and memorable pieces executed by her fashion collective Most Hated, which is a name that speaks for itself, since Bobby never holds back from speaking her mind.

Bryan Barrientos

Bryan Barrientos is a Peruvian American designer whose couture practice blends memory, ritual and sculptural craftsmanship. Internationally trained and FIT-educated, his work draws from residencies in Urubamba, Peru, and Oaxaca and Puebla, Mexico. His collections have been seen at New York Fashion Week, with designs worn at the Met Gala and featured in Vogue, as well as Harper's Bazaar, Elle and WWD. Through Barrientos Atelier, he approaches fashion as both relic and performance, balancing precision with emotion and couture with narrative tension.

Chloe Magleby

Chloe Magleby, a designer from Provo, Utah, pushes the boundaries of sustainable fashion with her label, Public Parts. Transforming discarded materials into striking, sculptural forms, she reimagines what luxury can look like when built from what others leave behind.

Dani "Boots" Bennett

Dani "Boots" Bennett's inspirations range from rodeo clowns and rock 'n' roll to the Arizona night sky, giving her work its signature sense of wonder. Thrifting throughout her small-town upbringing sparked her love for upcycling and design. With her emerging brand, moonhAg, she's bringing ethical, sustainable fashion to life with one whimsical piece at a time.

Elizabeth Shevelev

Elizabeth Shevelev is an emerging New York City artist and designer known for experimental textile manipulation and an anti-perfect design ethos. Her work, as seen on celebrities and at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, draws from history, texture, performance and raw emotion. She brings a boundary-pushing perspective to "Project Runway" as an academically driven creator.

Jeffrey Kelly Abess

Jeffrey Kelly Designs, founded by Lebanese American designer Jeffrey Kelly Abess, is renowned for its fierce, high-fashion statement pieces that seamlessly merge couture craftsmanship with modern glamour. Raised in Dearborn, Michigan, and now based in Florida, he has built a reputation for iconic corseted gowns, avant-garde fashion and custom costuming. His work has appeared on celebrities and in standout moments on "RuPaul's Drag Race," defined by bold femininity, structure and unforgettable editorial impact.

Jennifer Daniels

Jennifer Daniels is a formally trained designer and FIT graduate who appeared on "Project Runway" as a model for four seasons. She is known for her unconventional ideas and fantasy-driven edge. She designs to make every client feel like the main character in their own movie.

Joseph McRae

Joseph McRae is the founder of JOSEPHMcRAE, a New York label rooted in storytelling, identity and the fluidity of masculinity and femininity. A self-taught designer with an electrical engineering background, he built his career outside traditional paths, earning recognition through New York Fashion Week and the CFDA calendar. Returning to "Project Runway" after Season 21, he brings a still unfolding perspective. He invites others to take up space, embrace vulnerability, and define expression on their own terms.

Jude Mikulenak

Originally from New Orleans, Jude Mikulenak is a Brooklyn-based designer whose practice is inspired by and rooted in classic tailoring. With an interest in both menswear and womenswear,

Jude combines old-world beauty with modern cuts, creating sleek, high-quality clothing emphasizing elegance and motion.

Omolara “LRÉ the Artist” Odupitan

LRÉ the Artist is a disabled Air Force veteran and first-generation Nigerian creative who channels emotion and silhouette into transformative design. Rooted in luxury streetwear with an avant-garde edge, their work empowers people to feel like their most authentic and powerful selves. Each piece is crafted as armor, liberation and self-expression in equal measure.

Naheim Muhammad

Naheim Yusuf is a young designer from Inglewood, California, carrying forward his father’s legacy of YahSoul. Despite a tough upbringing, he found his calling in fashion, creating spiritually driven and functional designs. His work pushes what fashion can be, which is a conscious gear for the soul that is rooted in liberation and intention.

Octavius Terry

Octavius Terry is the CEO and head designer of OCTAVIUS MARSION, a men’s ready-to-wear brand seen on major celebrities and global red carpets. A former singer/songwriter and U.S. Olympic track-and-field emerging athlete, he later rose to become a Fortune 500 executive and vice president at Wells Fargo. After 11 years in corporate America, he pivoted fully into fashion and real estate, now building his fashion empire while serving as a global real estate advisor with Keller Williams Realty West Atlanta Group.

Plane Jane

Plane Jane, as seen on “RuPaul’s Drag Race” Season 16 and “House of Villains” Season 3, brings her razor-sharp wit and chaotic charm to every stage she touches. As the host of her “critically reviewed” podcast, “Kudos for Spilling,” she’s equal parts shady and irresistible, a performer who knows exactly how to command a room.

R’Bonney Nola Gabriel

R’Bonney Nola Gabriel is a Filipina American sustainable fashion designer, model, host and Miss Universe 2022. Through her label, R’Bonney Nola Design, she champions eco-friendly fashion with handmade, upcycled pieces. Her curiosity for people, cultures and art fuels her collaborative spirit. With her bold style and hands-on creativity, she stands as a leading voice for sustainability in fashion.

Robert Crone

A costume designer who primarily creates custom work for drag artists, Crone’s work is highly theatrical, with a strong fashion influence. Crone is always learning new things and loves to challenge himself to take risks.

Yang Yang Xu

Born in China, trained in London, and now based in New York, Yangyang Xu is a womenswear and print designer shaped by a cross-cultural lens and refined technical training. Her work is deeply narrative-driven, exploring print and color through a balance of elegance and experimentation. She creates pieces that feel organic, poetic and subtly mysterious by blending softness with structure, where emotion, craftsmanship and avant-garde sensibility coexist.