

Inclusivity on the Runway



## "Fashion with a Purpose"



Spotlight on Blind and Visually Impaired Talent Redefine Beauty and Style

2024

Brand Ambassador Gina Rowell

### **VISIONARY AWARDS**

www.notmyeyes.com

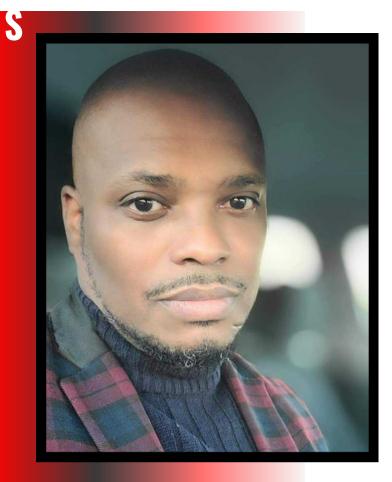


Not My Eyes Inc., a New York-based non-profit dedicated to empowering the blind and visually impaired community. Our mission centers on fostering inclusivity in fashion and raising funds through our annual fashion showcase, and other empowering events.

# MASTER OF CEREMONY

#### **UPPER CASUAL**

Ashley Stewart I.F.U. Menswear Robert E Knight Just Raymone featuring: Mem Naradhr



### LINGERIE

Defyned Curvez Livi Rae Lingerie

#### FORMAL

Georgia Stitch Malwcolm Custom Made To Fit Robert E. Knight

#### **AWARDS**

Fashionista Award Melissa Cahan **Boutique Award Lateffaney Scott Kurvacious Boutique Luminary** Award **Mary Jackson Impact Award** Zenobia Edwards **Media Award** Queen Size Magazine Tawana Blassingame **Fashion Commentator Award** Tasha Monique Hill **Designer** of the Year **Robert E. Knight Model Icon** Jeannie Ferguson Goodlow

Brian Bausley is from Charleston, WV and currently residing in Louisville, KY. He hails from a musical family and is first cousin to one of our own, Tanishia Rieves. He has had the pleasure of performing with several well known artists, and is happy to be here to perform for us today.



#### **BRIAN BAUSLEY**



PASTOR PAUL AGARDR Pastor Paul Agard has been pastoring at Christ Tabernacle Christian Fellowship for twelve years. He is married to his wife Joann Agard for 29 years and has two children. Besides being a pastor, he teaches social studies and history at Francis Lewis High School. Pastor Agard is also an author of two books, "Miseducation of Joy and This is That" and "You Perform the Possible."



Annalee Bowen-Smith, a visionary leader, earned a Bachelor's in Occupational Therapy from Long Island University. She worked at Helen Keller Services for the Blind as a Production Assistant, editing Braille and large print books. Alongside success in MLM and party planning,

ANNALEE BOWEN-SMITH

## Not My Eyes,Founder



Annalee is the CEO of Not My Eyes, Inc., promoting inclusivity in fashion. Named The Face of Kurvacious 2021, she inspired the Ms. Kapable Kurves Modeling Competition for visually impaired women. Her journey shows disabilities pose no limitations, making of beacon her a empowerment.

#### Co-Founder

Professional Experience: Worked at Helen Keller Services for the Blind (2006-2019), alongside freelance work and vendor partnerships with the New York State Commission for the Blind co-founder of Not My Eyes Inc., dedicated to empowering visually impaired individuals. Father, Uncle, ATC Instructor for the Blind Location: Born in Jamaica, West Indies, Migrated to the United States in 1987



Education: Horace attended Medgar Evers College in 1994 and earned a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science in 1998.

Career Journey: With over 20 years of experience as an ATC (Assistive Technology Coordinator) instructor for the blind, he has a passion for empowering others. Horace started his career at Burger King in 1988, rising from crew member to manager. During this time, he traveled from store to store to help maintain and upkeep each location, ensuring they received high-quality scores from shoppers who evaluated store cleanliness and customer service. Horace transitioned to a maintenance role during overnight shifts in 1988 before becoming a manager. Experiencing legal blindness in one eye in 1994 led to a shift towards advocacy and education.

#### Chief of Operations , Technology Department

Brand AMBASSADOR Ms. Kapable Kurves 2023

# GINA ROWELL

48-year-old visually impaired woman with Neuromyelitis optica syndrome disorder, also known as Devic's disease. She is divorced and children has four and grown one granddaughter. Gina discovered the Not My Eyes fashion showcase through social media and auditioned for Kurvacious Boutique's Kapable Kurves competition, designed for blind, curvy women. Despite never having an interest in modeling before, Gina won the competition and became the Brand Ambassador for the 2024 Not My Eyes fashion showcase. This experience has boosted her confidence and sparked an interest in modeling. Gina is also the President of The Active Blind Community, a special interest group providing activities and resources for blind and visually impaired individuals while raising awareness about blindness in communities.





# Not My Eyes Inc Core Team



#### **TANISHA GRAHAM**

Tanisha Graham is the Finance Director for NME. She has a disorder called pseudotumor cerebri, also known as IIH (idiopathic intracranial hypertension), and was diagnosed legally blind in 2020. Tanisha is currently an administrative assistant at Choffin Career & Technical Center in Youngstown, Ohio. She has an associate degree in accounting and is also the Treasurer for AFSCME Local 1143. Inspired by a social media post, Tanisha participated in the 2023 NME fashion showcase to boost her confidence and connect with individuals who are blind/visually impaired like her. She is from Girard, Ohio, and has a son named Kylan. Tanisha just turned 40 on April 1st.



### **KENYA BROWN**

Kenya Brown, the visionary owner of Kenya Brown Consulting, brings a unique blend of Southern warmth and Northwestern innovation to her work. With a strong educational background in Accounting, Finance, and Business Administration, Kenya has a keen understanding of business operations. Her personal journey as a visually impaired individual for over three decades gives her a deep understanding of the challenges faced by individuals with disabilities.

Kenya is also one of the Directors for Not My Eyes Inc. and has participated since the first show. She is dedicated to ensuring that no space is curated without the review of an accessibility consultant. As a parent to a visually impaired child, she is committed to creating a more accessible world for future generations.



### **TANISHIA RIEVES**

Tan Rieves, a Director for Not My Eyes Inc., is a resilient advocate from Dunbar, West Virginia. With over 20 years in **Customer and Career** Services, she is committed to helping others. Despite challenges like diabetes and partial vision loss, Tanishia is a force for underrepresented communities. As Co-Founder of the Justuz League, she empowers through advocacy. Tanishia's journey highlights strength and beauty. Her dedication inspires others, showing the transformative power of facing challenges.



### **CARRIE NAYLOR**

Carrie, Office Manager at United Real Estate Strive 212, firefighter's wife, and mother of two adults, is a passionate advocate for the blind and visually impaired. Alongside her dynamic career, love for travel, and culinary pursuits, she actively supports veterans and strives to create a positive impact in various spheres of life.



### **LISA DUNKLEY**

Lisa Dunkley, born with Optic Nerve Hypoplasia, is the director and founder of Math Star System, Inc. She earned her Bachelor's and Master's degrees in mathematics from Hunter College with honors. Lisa tutors students with disabilities at Hostos Community College and privately for 22 years, including visually impaired and blind She is also a jewelru students. consultant for Touchstone Crustal. a member VISIONS of Bronx-Westchester Advisory Board, and an alum of the CUNY Coalition for Students with Disabilities. Lisa joined Not My Eyes for its inaugural showcase in 2022 and name runner-up in the the Face of Kurvaious "Ms.Kapable Kurves" Modeling Competition 2 years in a row.



#### SHENEILLE GRAYE

Sheneille Gayle is a young lady who is passionate about using her skills to empower people all across the world. She is devoted to helping people in any way that she can, and she is always willing and eager to learn new things. Currently a thirdyear university student, Sheneille is pursuing a BSC in Information Technology. Despite being a student, she manages to maintain a successful career as a professional and experienced web developer, audio editor, programmer, and certified accessibility tester. Most importantly, Sheneille provides tutorials and private tutoring for persons in the blind and visually impaired community.

Visionary Award





oseph Corace is a dedicated community leader and philanthropist with a long history of service and achievement.

oe Corace

vocate of the Year Now!

2024

He joined Kiwanis in 1984 and quickly became an integral part of the organization, serving as Club President in 1988-89 and later as the Brooklyn Lt. Governor in 1992-93. Division Joe's commitment to Kiwanis has been unwavering, and he is a charter member of the Mapleton Kiwanis Club. He has held various positions within the New York District of Kiwanis, including Executive Assistant to several Governors. Joe served as the New York District Distinguished Governor from 2006 to 2007 and was awarded a "Lifetime" membership for his outstanding contributions. His dedication extends beyond Kiwanis to various community organizations, VISIONS including Services for the blind and visually impaired, Brooklyn School for Special Children, and the **Coney Island Sharks Football Association, among** others. **Joe**'s impact on the community is immeasurable, and he continues to make a difference in the lives of others through his work with Statewide, a New York senior action council program. and his ongoing commitment to community service.

# NME VISIONARY AWARD VIP'S OF SULFOLK COUNTY ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR

Visually Impaired Persons of Suffolk (VIPS) is a 501 C3 not-for-profit whose mission statement is a testament to what each of the members of VIPS embodies. The mission of VIPS is to facilitate the establishment of an inclusive community and county through education, advocacy, and information about the lived experiences of the differently-abled and the visually impaired persons of Suffolk County.

Established in September, 2015, Visually Impaired Persons of Suffolk began as an idea that was shared among a group of friends who, at the time, just enjoyed each other's company and shared some things in common. The commonality that each of these people held was not necessarily the fact that they were blind, it was that their heart went out to all people who were blind and/or differently-abled, and who despite their visual abilities, desired to live in a community where their rights were honored and they could live a normal life.





They also had a sincere desire to live their lives being happy and productive members of society. The only issue was that they all felt as though this was not the case with the different agencies and politicians in Suffolk County whose responsibility it is to assist with making the County an accessible place for those that needit.

So, to that end, these individuals who typically got together for lunch or to just hang out began talking amongst themselves about ways to make their homewhich was at the time, Suffolk County NY a more accessible place to live, learn, and enjoy life. This is how VIPS got started. Now, with over 20+ membersresiding in both Suffolk and Nassau Counties, VIPS is growing and is always seeking people to join the movement. We support the differently-abled community in NY and we are especially happy to join forces with the "Not My Eyes" movement where we also get to support other visually impaired people who understand that they should not be limited in any aspect of life, even in modeling and other positive self-imaging hobbies or professions! We firmly believe that all things are possible to those that believe, and we believe that blind people are just as capable as sighted people to model beautiful garments! We also want to offer a huge congratulations to Miss Anna and Horace Smith for their fortitude and energy with creating the Not My Eyes space for the visually impaired. We wish you continued success with each of your future endeavors.

# NME Visionary Award FASHIONISTA AWARD



#### **Feature Upper Casual**

# Melissa Caban

We proudly honor Melissa, manager at Ashley Stewart, with the Fashionista Award. Melissa's exceptional style and fashion influence have made a lasting impact, inspiring others and promoting inclusivity wirthin the visually impaired fashion community. Despite challenges in obtaining a bio and photo, we recognize and appreciate her dedication to our cause and her remarkable humility. Congratulations, Melissa!

## **NME 2024**



## Lateffaney Scott

LaTeffaney Scott, the founder of Kurvacious, has been a trailblazer in the fashion industry, particularly in the realm of plus-size fashion. With a background in finance and an MBA in business, LaTeffaney's passion for fashion led her to create Kurvacious in August 2010 in Nanuet, NY. Her vision was to bridge the gap between average plus-size fashion and high-end plus-size couture, offering a unique blend of styles from indie designers and well-known distributors in sizes 10-28.

In addition to her work with Kurvacious, LaTeffaney founded The Face of Kurvacious Model Competition in 2012, seeking to find the face of her brand and elevate Kurvacious's online presence. Despite challenges such as high rent leading to the closure of her brick-andmortar stores in Nanuet and Harlem, LaTeffaney's resilience and innovative spirit drove her to succeed in the competitive world of online fashion retail.



LaTeffaney's commitment to inclusivity and empowerment extends beyond her boutique. She created the Ms. Kapable Kurves competition after a visually impaired individual (Annalee won **Bowen-Smith**) The Face of Kurvacious in 2021, highlighting her dedication to diversity and representation in the fashion industry. Additionally. she serves as an advisor for Not My Eyes Fashion Inc. and their annual fashion showcase, furthering her impact on the fashion world and the visually impaired community.



### LUMINARYAWARD

HOME / MRS. TGIF



Mary Rice-Jackson is a designer who has participated in the Not My Eyes Fashion Showcase in 2022 and 2023. Mary is the founder and CEO of Thick Girls Is Fly, a brand that embraces body positivity and selfconfidence. She is passionate about usina fashion inspire to and empower women of all sizes. Mary is a married mother of three sons and a daughter. She works in the billing department at Main Line Health Care and will start her undergraduate studies in criminal justice in September, aiming to bring about change in the justice system. Mary, who is 40 years old, enjoys her Thursday nights as part of the adult segment of Parental Advisory on CMPradio.net.

# Mary Jackson

She is a people person with a crazy, sexy, cool personality often compared to T-Boz. Known as Twin 2 for her similarities to her twin, Nifate, Mary would rename herself Ms. Sassy based on her character. She describes herself as sweet as candy or evil as Satan, depending on the situation. Mary plans to continue being involved with CMP and its offerings in her city of Chester even after completing her education.



# NME 2024 Zenobia Edwards



### **IMPACT AWARD**



Zenobia Edwards is the founder of Legendary LLC, a brand that transcends fashion to become a beacon of positivity and empowerment. Having participated in the Not My Eyes Fashion Showcase in both 2022 and 2023, Zenobia brings a unique vision to the runway, one that goes beyond the fabric and stitches.

Legendary LLC is more than just a clothing brand; it's a movement. Zenobia's inspiration stems from a deep understanding of the struggles many face with depression, anxiety, and self-doubt. Through Legendary, she seeks to spread positivity, motivation, and hope. The brand's affirmations, prominently featured on their clothing, serve as reminders of personal strength and the belief that one can achieve anything.

The logo of Legendary, with its infinity symbol and the affirmation "I can do all things," embodies the brand's philosophy. It's a declaration of greatness, instilling power, confidence, and motivation in those who wear it. For Zenobia, Legendary's mission is clear: to give hope to the hopeless, to be the reason why people choose to live instead of succumbing to despair.

Zenobia's journey with Legendary is one of purpose and passion, a testament to her commitment to making a positive impact in the world. Through her work, she is not just creating clothes; she's creating a movement of empowerment and self-belief. Zenobia and Legendary LLC are truly living up to their name, inspiring others to be legendary in their own lives.

# NME 2024 MEDIA AWARD



Tawana Blassingame, the founder of Queen Size Magazine, has been a pioneer in promoting inclusivity and diversity within the fashion industry. Her magazine, a national full-figured fashion and lifestyle publication, has been a platform for showcasing individuals from all walks of life, including the visually impaired community. Annalee Bowen-Smith, founder and CEO of Not My Eyes Inc., was the first visually impaired person to be featured in Queen Size Magazine, marking a significant milestone in the representation of visually impaired individuals in the fashion world.

Tawana's dedication to uplifting others is evident in her work, where she not only highlights established models and entrepreneurs but also mentors and supports upcoming talent. In 2019, she expanded her impact by creating the Full-Figured Industry Awards, honoring excellence in various fields within the fullfigured industry.

Beyond her work in the fashion industry, Tawana is a dedicated healthcare professional, balancing her career with her entrepreneurial pursuits. Her efforts have not gone unnoticed, as she has received numerous awards, including the President Biden Lifetime Achievement award and the Danny Glover Power of the Dream award for her humanitarian services. Despite her many accomplishments,



Dra

Tawana remains grounded, living by her motto, "I strive to make the dash between my birth date and my death date mean something." Born and raised in Brooklyn, she now resides in Queens, NY, where she continues to make a positive impact in her community and beyond.

# **NME 2024** Fashion Commentator's Award



### Tasha Monique Hill

One of the founders of Runwau Parties, is also the host of the Now What Podcast. Tasha Monique has an impressive background as a fashion designer for the renowned brand BGU, and she has been a trailblazer in the plus-size community for over 13 years. Recently, she gracefully transitioned into curating fashion events fellow and collaborating with entrepreneurs.

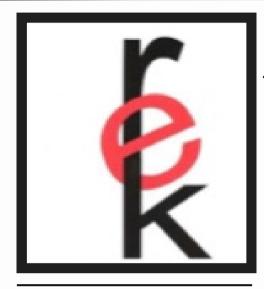
Her passion lies in entrepreneurship, specifically supporting individuals who are 40 years and older. Tasha Monique actively mentors fashion students, gives back to her community, and conducts confidenceboosting workshops on the runway for young girls in grades 6-12, alongside her sister for the DOE. If you enjoy listening to podcasts, I highly recommend checking out the Now What Podcast. It's available wherever you stream your favorite podcasts. Don't forget to subscribe, like, and share!

If you are 40+ and interested in becoming a guest or sponsor for the Now What Podcast, you reach to can out Tasha Monique by email at nowwhat7904@gmail.com or find her on Instagram @now\_what\_podcast4.



NME Visionary Award 2024

# **ROBERT E. KNIGHT**



ROBERT E. KNIGHT WAS BORN AND RAISED IN BROWNSVILLE. **BROOKLYN NEW YORK IN 1968.** THE FASHION HE ATTENDED INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY. **GRADUATING IN 1992 WITH A DEGREE IN MENSWEAR. FINDING CREATING MENSWEAR BORING** AND HAVING ALWAYS BEEN A FAN OF ASYMMETRY, COLOR AND PRINTS.HE FOUND THAT HE **ENJOYED INJECTING ALL THREE** COMBINATIONS INTO THAT **KIND** SPECIAL ONE OF Α HE BEGAN GARMENT: CONCENTRATING ON CREATING STRAIGHT SIZE WOMENSWEAR **IN 1995. IN 1998 HE ELEVATED TO** FULL **FIGURED** CREATING WOMENSWEAR.

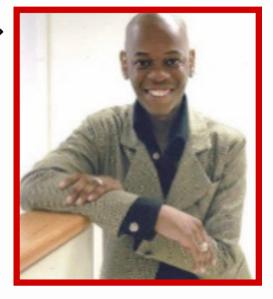
HIS PHILOSOPHY IS TO "PRODUCE TIMELESS, SPECIAL, FUN AND OFTEN ONE OF A KIND CREATIONS...ALL WITH THE INTENTION OF PROVIDING YEARS OF ENJOYMENT TO THE WEARER...."

Designer of the Year

IN 1998 HE ELEVATED TO HE HAS ASSISTED AT NUMEROUS HIGH END DESIGNER COMPANIES INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO: DOLCE AND GABANNA, ZAC POSEN, PETER SOM & CALVIN KLEIN.

HIS LOOKS HAVE DRAPED THE **BODIES OF MANY CELEBRITIES INCLUDING MODEL & REALITY** TV PERSONALITY **CYNTHIA** BAILEY, 8 RADIO TV PERSONALITY **WENDY** WILLIAMS, ACTOR & FEAMALE **IMPERSONATOR**/ **PERFORMER** HARMONICA SUNBEAM. WINNING GRAMMY AWARD **VOCALIST MONICA. GRAMMY** NOMINATED VOCALIST MARTHA WASH. VIOLINIST & **MEZZO-SOPRANO** TONA **BROWN**. SUPERMODEL R ACTOR **TYSON BECKFORD.BROADWAY ACTOR ALEX NEWELL,** 

THE WEEK,AND TAWANA ARS BLASSINGAME CEO OF THE THE FULL FIGURED INDUSTRY AWARDS/CREATOR OF QUEEN SIZE MAGAZINE. IN 2017,



ROBERT WAS HONORED WITH THE FULL FIGURED FASHION WEEK TM DESIGNER OF THE YEAR AWARD FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE FULL FIGURED COMMUNITY.

IN JULY OF 2018 ROBERT HAD THE HONOR TO BE THE FIRST MALE TO GRACE THE COVER OF QUEENSIZE MAGAZINE (THE KING SIZE ISSUE).

IN 2019 HE RECEIVED THE KURVACIOUS FASHION DESIGNER OF THE YEAR AWARD.

IN 2021 ROBERT RECEIVED THE AWARD FOR OUSTANDING MALE DESIGNER AT THE FULL FIGURED INDUSTRY AWARDS. IN 2023 HE RECEIVED THE PRESIDENT'S LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD, AS WELL AS THE DANNY GLOVER POWER OF A DREAM AWARD FOR HIS SERVICE IN FASHION AND THE COMMUNITY.

ROBERT'S ULTIMATE GOAL IS TO OPEN HIS OWN BOUTIQUE IN HIS HOMETOWN OF BROOKLYN, NEW

Jeannie Ferguson, a true powerhouse in the fashion industry. With over a decade of experience as a Buyer, Merchandiser, Allocator, and Product Development Coordinator, she's now making waves as a Production Manager.

But what sets Jeannie apart is her mission to redefine beautu standards. Despite societal expectations, she's embracing her unique beautu and making a difference. It all started when she was thrown onto the runway as a last-minute replacement. The crowd couldn't qet enough of her confidence and amazing strut, and she knew she had found her calling.

Jeannie Ferguson Goodlow

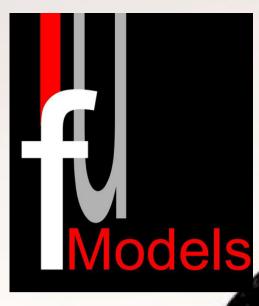
Since then, Jeannie has walked the runway for numerous designers, appeared on popular TV shows such as BET's Rip The Runway and America's Worst Baker, and even starred in the nationwide commercial for Always Discreet and Slim & Tone Leggings. Her influence extends beyond the screen, as she has also appeared in a national campaign for Ashley Stewart and various publications.

**NME 2024** 

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Not content with her success, Jeannie has been sharing her expertise through her Annual Walk This Way Runway Class, empowering aspiring models to master their craft. She's also a runway coach for model contestants in the prestigious Face of Kurvacious Model Competition and has even trained visually impaired models for runway shows and print work. But Jeannie's talents don't end there. She's also delving into acting, with several projects already under her belt. And if that weren't enough, Jeannie and her sister are celebrating their new business, Runway Parties, bringing joy and confidence to both adults and children.

Jeannie Ferguson is a force to be reckoned with, always pushing boundaries and inspiring others in the fashion industry. Make sure to follow her journey on social media and keep an eye out for her upcoming projects. Stay tuned for more exciting updates.



# Drew Felton

Drew Felton is the owner of the Felton Group agency in New York City, known for his fierce and fabulous designs. Prior to establishing his own agency, Drew worked as a booker for various agencies. With divisions in men, women, children, plus size, high fashion, and commercial modeling, Drew trains aspiring models in auditioning and interviewing skills. A graduate of the Fashion Institute of Technology, he is also a stylist for celebrities like Nick Cannon and Isaac Hayes. Drew designs clothing for his own fashion line, Andrew by Andrew Felton, and is currently coaching models for the Trinidadian & Tobagonian fashion show.







## Just Raymona

JUSTRAYMONA IS A TRAILBLAZING FASHION DESIGNER FROM RICHMOND, VIRGINIA, WITH THE BUSINESS SAVVY OF NEW YORK. IN 1995, SHE ESTABLISHED JUSTRAYMONA NY, INITIALLY A CUSTOM BRIDAL HOUSE THAT EVOLVED INTO SPORTSWEAR, EVENINGWEAR, AND STYLING. SHE HAS COLLABORATED WITH TOP FASHION STYLISTS IN NEW YORK, CREATING WARDROBES AND COSTUMES FOR ARTISTS AND VIDEOS IN THE ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY.

JUSTRAYMONA GAINED FAME AS A REALITY TV STAR ON SHOWS LIKE "24 HOUR CATWALK" AND "AMERICAN IT GIRL," KNOWN FOR HER DIRECT, HONEST, AND IN-YOUR-FACE PERSONALITY. IN 2024, SHE PROUDLY RETURNS TO THE RUNWAY AS THE BEHIND DESIGNER EN.V NEW YORK, A GROUNDBREAKING CLOTHING LINE MERGING SEVENTH AVENUE FIT, SELECTION, AND STYLE FOR THE FULL-FIGURED WOMAN. THE BRAND'S ONLINE SHOPPING SITE IS SET TO RELAUNCH IN 2024. OFFERING SIZES 14-32.

JUSTRAYMONA'S DIVERSE TALENTS INCLUDE PATTERN MAKING AND SAMPLE MAKING, FURTHER SOLIDIFYING HER REPUTATION AS A MULTIFACETED DESIGNER AND STYLE ICON. VISIT WWW.ENVNEWYORK.COM TO EXPLORE HER UNIQUE CREATIONS AND CELEBRATE THE ESSENCE OF THE FULL-FIGURED WOMAN.





Defyned Curvez was founded in 2022 by CEO Dy'Asia Napper-Morrison, driven by her passion for lingerie and her own experiences as a plus-size model. After years in the modeling industry and continuous bookings for boudoir projects, Dy'Asia decided to start her own lingerie line. Defyned Curvez is not just a lingerie brand; it's a movement for the love of curves. The brand aims to stigmas around lingerie, showcasing a true erase sisterhood and promoting confidence and self-love. Their goal is to help women express themselves through lingerie, embracing and celebrating their imperfections. Defyned Curvez is inspired by the need for supportive lingerie for plus-size women of all shapes and sizes, including those who have had children or who are bold and confident in their bodies. The brand caters exclusively to plus-size women, with sizing starting at 1X, aiming to support and enhance every woman's journey to self-love and acceptance.

Molly Hopkins is a southern belle with big city dreams, a single mother of two daughters, and a body positive advocate. With over 20 years of experience in intimate apparel, she is the owner of LiviRae Lingerie, a boutique specializing in bra fit, bust health, and custom intimates since 2006. Molly gained national attention in 2013 as the star of Lifetime's reality show, Double Divas, known for her wit, southern charm, and over-the-top personality.

Committed to celebrating women of all sizes, disabilities, races, and ages, Molly uses LiviRae Lingerie as a platform for inclusivity and diverse representation. The brand's ambassadors, representing various backgrounds, sparked the #NOSHAMELIVIRAE campaign, empowering women to embrace their bodies and speak out against body shaming.

In 2018, Molly returned to the spotlight on 90 Day Fiancé, where she continues to be a valuable asset to the franchise. Whether on TV or in her store, Molly's passion for empowering women shines through, making her a catalyst for change and a champion for body positivity.

## **Malcolm's Custom Fits**



Malcolm Staples of Malcolm's Custom Made To Fit is a renowned custom clothier in the Washington DC metropolitan area, known for his ultra-luxury services. He launched his brand in 2009, with his first client being his nephew, LaMarr Woodley of the NFL's Pittsburgh Steelers. Inspired by his stylish grandfather and the fashion of the 1950s. Malcolm creates perfectly tailored suits for both men and women, with a distinctive vintage flavor. His work has been featured on over 110 national and international magazine covers since 2021, and he has dressed clients worldwide. Malcolm is a graduate of Eastern Michigan University and the International Academu of Design and Technology, with postgraduate studies at Universitu's **Business** School in Harvard Cambridge, MA. He has been recognized with awards such as the Fashion and Beautu Olympics Designer Showcase and Designer of the Year by the SITA (Success In The Arts) organization and LH Luxe Beauty, Inc.

Nalcolm



# Keenya Kersey

Keenya Kersey is the head designer and owner of Georgia Stitch. She provides custom design clothing for women, who want to standout while looking sophisticated at the same time.

At the age of 12, she became interested in making clothes. It started when she made her first apron in Home Economics class at her Jr High School. She started designing at age of 34, that's when she realized that working as an administrative assistant wasn't the career path she wanted to take and her purpose in life was not being fulfilled. She enrolled in Katherine Gibbs College, where she learned Fashion Design and Merchandising. Once she completed the course and earned a degree, she began working in NYC garment industry where she received hands-on experience and skills.

Keenya presently service women across the US with custom designs and made to measure garments. She is known for her classic looks with girlie details.





Proudly offering career opportunities for people with vision loss

We are proud of the great work Gina Rowell does! And proud to support Gina representing on the runway!

## More than a job. Employment is Empowerment.

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# Originating Branch Manager

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Orville W. McLenan, M.D., F.A.C.S. Urologist

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## **ORGANIC GOLD**

#### Horace Smith 177 Long Beach Rd, Hempstead, NY 11550 <u>Organo Gold – Organo Gold (myorganogold.com)</u>

Who is the owner of Organo Gold? Bernardo Chua About. Bernardo Chua has been a leader in the health & wellness industry for over a decade. He is the founder and CEO of Organo Gold, a network marketing distributor of its own products that utilizes Ganoderma Lucidum-- a mushroom revered by practioners of traditional Asian medicine for its healing properties

<u>Organo Gold?</u>

How old is Organo Gold? In 2008, Chua left Gano Excel and founded Organo Gold, which comprises a group of companies operating under trading names of Organo Gold and Coffee Connoisseur.

About the Organo Gold"It all began with an absolutely delicious cup of coffee …" ORGANO GOLD was born in 2008 in the beautiful Richmond, B.C., Canada. The company's founders Bernie Chua and Shane Morand had an extraordinary idea. It started with only three employees in a tiny coffee shop. Organo Gold was born.

Thank you for considering our request. Together, we can empower the blind and low vision community and create a more inclusive fashion industry.

What is organo coffee made of?

ORGANO's Gourmet Black Coffee is a medium dark roast from a blend of arabica beans and robusta beans that mixes in an instant for a flavorful cup of gourmet coffee.

#### What kind of company is Organo Gold?

ORGANO® is a global company that offers premium everyday products including coffees, teas, nutraceuticals and personal care items.

#### BEVERAGES

- <u>Gourmet Black Coffee</u>
- King Of Coffee
- <u>Café Latte</u>
- Café Mocha
- Café Supreme
- Hot Cocoa
- Green Tea
- <u>Red Tea</u>
- **BODY MANAGEMENT**
- OGX FENIX™ Rich Chocolate
- <u>OGX FENIX™ Creamy Vanillas</u>
- Ganoderma Lucidum
- <u>Mycelium</u>
- <u>Spore Powder</u>
- Grape Seed Oil
- PERSONAL CARE
- <u>G3 Beauty Soap</u>





Organet<sup>ar</sup> uses a strong, easy to mix restant corfee that is bold and favored.





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# NME 2024



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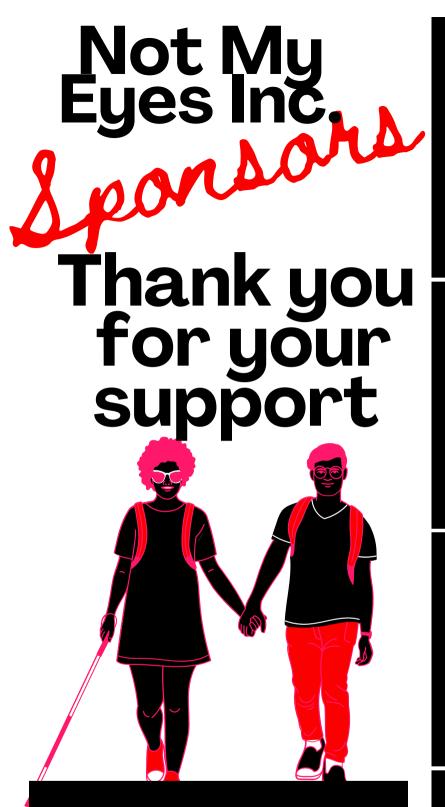






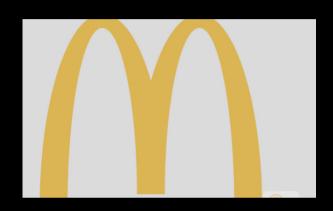


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Thank you

TO ALL OUR PARTNERS, SPONSORS, DONORS, VENDORS, AND EVERYONE WHO SUPPORTED THE NOT MY EYES 2024 FASHION SHOWCASE. YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS HELPED MAKE THIS EVENT A SUCCESS, EMPOWERING BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED INDIVIDUALS TO SHINE ON THE RUNWAY AND BEYOND. YOUR SUPPORT MEANS THE WORLD TO US. THANK YOU FOR BEING A PART OF OUR JOURNEY.