

Number the Stars

FGI announces Rising Star nominees

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(NEW YORK) The Fashion Group International has selected its list of nominees for the 10th annual Rising Star Awards. Categories include women's and men's ready-to-wear, accessories, retail, jewelry, beauty, and interior design.

Candidates for women's ready-to-wear include Brian Reyes, Erin Fetterston, Tia Cibani of Ports 1961, Sari Gueron, Lyn Devon, Victoria Bartlett of VPL by Victoria Bartlett, and Alice & Olivia's Stacey Bendet. The men's ready-to-wear nominees include Teres McLean of Teres McLean Collection, Duncan Quinn of DQ LLC, Brian Wood of Brian Wood Exclusive LLC, and Victor Hugo de Leon and Robert Mazzuccelli of VM Apparel Ventures LLC.

Accessories nominees are Lori Sappenfield of Mark, Lesley Armstrong and Anka Fox of Armstrong Fox Textiles Inc., and Farrah Delaney and Margaret Karner of Massive Silver, Inc. Fine jewelry finalists include Amrita Singh, Christine J. Bravdt, Chitaya Kapadia of Maya Jewels, Goomi Bhasin of Goomi, Geava Kats of Sotio Etsamal, and Puspadee Kobkul-Boonsiri of Grunberger Jewelers.

The Fashion Group's fragrance corporate nominees in beauty are Monica Raftogi of Estée Lauder, Anahita Mehanik of IFF, Adriana Medina Baez of Givaudan Fragrances Corp., and Shirley Dong of Avon Products. The complementary fragrance entrepreneur nominees include Kristen Becker and John Eshaya of Becker Eshaya Inc., **Steven Victor of Victor Cosmeceuticals**, Pauline Ashworth and Ruth Stern of Colour Revolution Inc., Maziar Aghalarpour of Berjang USA Inc., and Shizuka Bernstein of Shizuka New York Inc.

Last but not least are the home and interior design nominees: David Wiseman of David Wiseman Studio, Sachin and Babi Ahluwalia of Ankasa, David Asher of D-ash Design, and Sophie Mallebranche of eh Qui.

This year's awards, to be held at a luncheon on January 25 at the New York Hilton, are sponsored by Target, *Cosmopolitan* and Solstiss Bucol. Joseph Abboud will serve as the keynote speaker. Confirmed award presenters include Carolina Herrera for women's ready-to-wear, Nicole Fischelis of Macys for retail, Gerard Yosca for fine jewelry, and *Cosmopolitan's* Donna Kalajian Lagani for accessories.

JIM SHI



Sari Gueron
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Victoria Bartlett
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