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POW

Fashion goes wild at Detroit Zoo

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Hundreds of fashion lovers showed up for the first-ever "Fashion In Detroit" show at the Detroit Zoo. The two-day event featured dozens of runway models showcasing 12 designers, exceptional student work and extravagant parties — with proceeds benefiting Work It Out, a nonprofit organization dedicated to fighting childhood obesity.

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"Fashion in Detroit" will become a twice-annual event, with the next showcase set for March 2010.

On Thursday, the crowd raved for Schott NYC designs by Troy native and Project Runway contestant Joe Faris; shiny, strapless dresses by Farmington Hills native Kevin Soronen; and lavish gowns by Detroit native Kevan Hall, among others.

Faris created "Fashion in Detroit" with a team of dedicated professionals: Rino Marra, owner of Birmingham's FIGO salon; designer Leslie Ann Pilling of Bloomfield Hills; Royal Oak's Karen Buscemi of Styleline magazine; K'Kio Hardin, who created all images and branding; and photographer Lians Jadan of LM Studio.

— By Jay M. Grossman