

Motor City transforms into Fashion City

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"I'm happy to be coming back and to be able to contribute a little bit," he said.

According to Karen Buscemi, editor of StyleLine magazine and a member of FID's executive committee, the event is modeled after New York Fashion Week. It will be staged every spring and fall, and grow longer as it gains momentum.

FID was co-founded by Project Runway contestant Joe Faris of Troy, and interior designer Leslie Ann Pilling of Bloomfield Hills. It's run by a six-person committee of heavy hitters in the local fashion industry.

"Every person on that committee is dedicated to this event being a success. Failure is not an option," said Buscemi, of Royal Oak. "This event is not only going to happen, it's going to happen according to the vision. We're not scrimping. When you walk into the tents you're going to feel like you're at a major fashion event. Every detail has been considered."

STUDENT DESIGNERS

Thursday includes a student fashion show showcasing up-and-coming talent, and the winner of the Michigan Fashion Designer Competition will be announced. Finalists William Malcolm of Troy, Adrianna Pavon of Royal Oak and Kelly Tinsley of Ypsilanti will vie for a guaranteed spot in the March show with the \$2,500 designer fee waived.

The AfterGlow Bash (ages 21 and over) will be held at Stage 3 Productions in Warren, where guests can mingle with designers and celebrities. The 40,000-square-foot space will be divided into two atmospheres, with bands Dirty Americans, Tripper and Next Exit playing on one side, and DJ Sugar Hiccup, aerial shows by Detroit Flyhouse and a VIP lounge on the other. Some of metro Detroit's best restaurants, including Tre Monti and Mon Jin Lau of Troy, will serve free appetizers.

Buscemi said all the models, vendors and sponsors involved in FID are Michigan-based.

"The one thing that we have found since starting this is how much local talent there is," Buscemi said.

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