

FASHION WEEK

AT THE BELLEVUE COLLECTION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Eight Local Designers Selected for Independent Designer Runway Show to Kick Off Fall Fashion Week at The Bellevue Collection

BELLEVUE, Wash. (April 26, 2017) – The Bellevue Collection announced today the eight designers selected to be featured in the sixth annual *Independent Designer Runway Show (IDRS)* during *Fashion Week at The Bellevue Collection* set for Sept. 20 – 24, 2017. Selected from a large pool of applicants, the eight designers demonstrated outstanding fashion sense and dynamic collections, innovative fabrics, and fresh silhouettes.

“We continue to be amazed and utterly impressed with the quality and level of our local designers,” says Jennifer Leavitt, vice president of marketing for The Bellevue Collection. “This year’s list of selected designers is truly representative of the talent we have in our community and why the Pacific Northwest is once again becoming a strong and viable contributor to fashion worldwide.”

Each designer will showcase their collection in one segment of the show, set for Sept. 21, 2017 at The Bellevue Collection Fashion Week runway at the Hyatt Regency Bellevue. IDRS is the lead off show to the annual weeklong fashion event and is always a highlight, performing to a sell-out crowd of nearly 600 ticket holders including local media, retailers and buyers.

Selected local fashion designers and their labels are:

- Rebekah Adams at [Poppyseed](#)
- Gustave Apiti at [Gustavo Apiti Couture](#)
- Jennifer Charkow at [Stone Crow Designs](#)
- Victoria Cocieru at [Kheops](#)
- Paloma Hurtado (no current website)
- Meagan Kruz at [Jersey Virago](#)
- Nora Suarez at [LOURDES é EVA](#)
- Maria Venturini (no current website)

Each designer will receive the opportunity to present 10 looks in the professionally produced runway show dedicated to independent designers during Fashion Week at The Bellevue Collection, a feature in IDRS Designer Profile Booklet, up to a \$500 reimbursement for runway look materials, mentorship by our panel of fashion industry experts, promotion featuring them in Fashion Week marketing materials including the official website and social media. One winner, to be chosen by the panel immediately following the show, will receive a \$5000 cash prize furnished by The Kemper Freeman Family and The Bellevue Collection and have their collection displayed in Bellevue Square during the month of October.

Panel members will judge the designers on their creativity and originality, workmanship, business model and presentation. The panel includes Marj Turner, of Seattle Fashion Group International, Bruce Pflaumer of Michael Bruce Image Consulting, and designer and consultant Lisa Vian Hunter. New this year is magazine editor Jennifer McCullum.

For more information, visit fashionweekbellevue.com.

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About The Bellevue Collection/Kemper Development Company

Located in the heart of Bellevue, Washington, The Bellevue Collection, owned by Kemper Development Company and affiliates, includes Bellevue Square, a super-regional upscale shopping center, Bellevue Place, a mixed-use property featuring the Hyatt Regency Bellevue and small boutiques and Lincoln Square, anchored by the Lincoln Square Cinemark theaters, restaurants, home furnishing stores and The Westin Bellevue hotel. Currently, it consists of a distinctive collection of 250 of the finest shops, 30 sit-down restaurants, 1,100 luxury hotel rooms and 12,000 free retail parking spaces, all in one location, making The Bellevue Collection a shopping, dining and nightlife and entertainment experience unlike any other in the region. With the expansion of Lincoln Square, The Collection has added a total of 1.5 million sq. ft. including 177,000 sq. ft. restaurants/retail, 710,000 sq. ft. of Class A Premier Office space, the 245-room W Hotel and 218 luxury high-rise rental residences in Two Lincoln Tower. The Collection is located on Bellevue Way between NE 4th and NE 10th Streets in downtown Bellevue, just across Lake Washington from Seattle.

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