

2007 CFDA FASHION AWARDS PRESENTED IN NEW YORK

OSCAR DE LA RENTA AND LAZARO HERNANDEZ & JACK MCCOLLOUGH FOR PROENZA SCHOULER TIE FOR TOP PRIZE

EVENING GENEROUSLY UNDERWRITTEN BY SWAROVSKI

Upstairs at the Library Viewing Party Hosted by T-Mobile Sidekick

New York, NY, June 5, 2007 – Last night, the Council of Fashion Designers of America (CFDA) paid tribute to the winners and honorees of the **2007 CFDA Fashion Awards** in the Celeste Bartos Forum of The New York Public Library. In a tie, top honors went to Oscar de la Renta and Lazaro Hernandez & Jack McCollough for Proenza Schouler for Womenswear Designer of the Year. Ralph Lauren won Menswear Designer of the Year and Derek Lam took home Accessory Designer of the Year. Phillip Lim won the Swarovski Award for Womenswear, David Neville & Marcus Wainwright for Rag & Bone won the Swarovski Award for Menswear, and the Swarovski Award for Accessory Design went to Jessie Randall for Loeffler Randall. The Awards were generously underwritten by **Swarovski**.

The evening also marked the 25th Anniversary of the CFDA Fashion Awards, and the presentation of honors in two newly designated categories: the first-ever **American Fashion Legend Award**, which went to **Ralph Lauren**, and the **Geoffrey Beene Lifetime Achievement Award**, which went to **Robert Lee Morris**, the first jewelry designer to ever receive such a distinction by the organization.

Designer **Pierre Cardin** was recognized with this year's International Award; **Washington Post** columnist **Robin Givhan** was honored with the Eugenia Sheppard Award; fashion photographer **Patrick Demarchelier** received the Eleanor Lambert Award; and the Board of Directors' Special Tribute went to singer and humanitarian **Bono and Ali Hewson**, his wife and partner in a host of philanthropic fashion initiatives.

The presentation was hosted by actress Ellen Barkin, who will appear in this summer's feature film **Ocean's 13**. Also lending their talents to this year's presentation were **Ashley** and **Mary-Kate Olsen**, **Uma Thurman**, **Oprah Winfrey**, and the cast of the Tony-nominated musical "**Spring Awakening**." Some of the most influential names in American fashion design, like CFDA President **Diane von Furstenberg**, **Betsey Johnson**, **Donna Karan**, **Calvin Klein**, **Zac Posen**, **Arnold Scaasi** and **Vera Wang**

were joined by celebrity guests **Kate Bosworth, Sean Combs, Hugh Dancy, Claire Danes, Heidi Klum, Vanessa Williams, and Eva Mendes.**

Of the ceremony, CFDA Executive Director **Steven Kolb** said, "It is especially fitting that on this, the 25th Anniversary of the CFDA Fashion Awards, the strength and diversity of this industry is so well-represented. From the emerging talent embodied by the Swarovski winners to the span of generations on both the men's and women's categories, to the presence of iconic figures who have influenced fashion for decades like Pierre Cardin and Ralph Lauren. At this important milestone, we are proud to say that the CFDA Fashion Awards remains a powerful symbol of the fine institution that American Fashion is and will continue to be.

"Swarovski is especially honored and privileged to have been a part of such a magical evening celebrating the CFDA's 25th anniversary, said **Nadja Swarovski**, Vice President of International Communications. "We send our most heart-felt congratulations to all the honorees and winners. In continuing Swarovski's commitment to fostering fashion's brightest emerging stars, we are especially excited by the prospect of working with the latest Swarovski Award winners. This talented group will undoubtedly become tomorrow's legends and icons as the CFDA enters its next 25 years."

For the second year in a row, the celebration incorporated a Viewing Party. "**Upstairs at the Library Hosted T-Mobile Sidekick**" was a lounge-like space from which a larger group of fashion designers, editors and other industry supporters watched a live simulcast of the awards.

The CFDA is also proud to announce that for the second year in a row, highlights of the event will be podcast online at www.cfda.com and on iTunes.

The **CFDA Fashion Awards** are generously underwritten by **Swarovski**, which commissioned Studio Job to create the torchere shades, curtain tie-backs featured in Astor Hall and the table lamps in Celeste Bartos, all of which were created with Swarovski crystal. The evening's décor combined contemporary touches and old world elements for an eclectic, modern baroque feel. **KCD** produced the event, and the journal and graphics were designed by **Lloyd + (Co).**

Nominees, honorees, and winners were determined by a Selection Committee comprised of CFDA members, leading fashion journalists, stylist and top retail executives. **Ernst & Young LLP** was the official accounting firm of the Awards.

Additionally, the CFDA would like to acknowledge the companies that added to the success of this year's event: **W Hotels Worldwide** – official hotel; **Continental Airlines** – official airline; **Champagne Taittinger**; **FIJI**; website designer: **Hudson Union**; **Bernard's Salon and Spa**, **L'Oreal Professionnel**, and **MAC Pro Team** and **MAC Cosmetics**, and **Nick Graham / wonderbrand** and the **CarbonNeutral Company** for helping the CFDA offset the carbon created by the event and the travel of the attendees (more information available at www.carbonneutral.com.)

The winners and honorees of the 2007 **CFDA Fashion Awards**:

Womenswear Designer of the Year

Tie:

Oscar de la Renta and
Lazaro Hernandez & Jack McCollough for Proenza Schouler

Menswear Designer of the Year

Ralph Lauren

Accessory Designer of the Year

Derek Lam

Swarovski Award for Emerging Talent Womenswear

Phillip Lim

Swarovski Award for Emerging Talent Menswear

David Neville & Marcus Wainwright for Rag & Bone

Swarovski Award for Emerging Talent Accessory Design

Jessie Randall for Loeffler Randall

Geoffrey Beene Lifetime Achievement Award

Robert Lee Morris

International Award

Pierre Cardin

Eugenia Sheppard Award for Fashion Journalism

Robin Givhan

Eleanor Lambert Award

Patrick Demarchelier

Board of Directors' Special Tribute

Bono and Ali Hewson

American Fashion Legend Award

Ralph Lauren

Press Contact:

Kim Krikorian

Swarovski

kim.krikorian@swarovski.com

212-935-4200