



FROM LEFT: NAJLA BURT, FOUNDER, DUR DOUX; ROBIN FISHER, FOUNDER, POLISHED IMAGE AND STYLE; LYNDA ERKILETIAN, FOUNDER, THE ARTIST AGENCY; SOPHIE BLAKE, FOUNDER, SOPHIE BLAKE NEW YORK; DEIDRE JEFFERIES, FOUNDER, ESPION ATELIER; PAUL WHARTON, FOUNDER AND CREATIVE LIFESTYLE DIRECTOR, PAUL WHARTON STYLE; AND LAUREN ROTHMAN, FOUNDER, STYLEAUTEUR.



**KATE WARREN**  
FOUNDER AND  
CREATIVE DIRECTOR,  
GOKATESHOOT

"My business provides opportunities for me and my clients to walk the walk on shared values around diversity, inclusion and representation," says the multiplatform storyteller, who makes it a goal to combat inequality with her art. "I educate clients on the importance of being intentional about every element of their visual narrative, and that includes styling. I refuse to let DC's conservative take on styling limit me; I try to raise the bar on each project I do." [gokateshoot.com](http://gokateshoot.com), [@gokateshoot](https://www.instagram.com/gokateshoot)



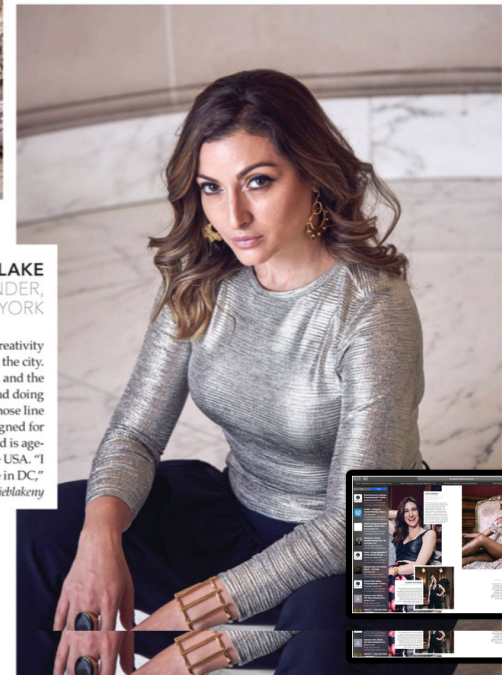
**LAUREN ROTHMAN**  
FOUNDER, STYLEAUTEUR

"I am constantly in awe of my clients' interest in the pursuit of style, fashion and beauty knowledge," says the professional style guide, whose latest book, *Style Bible: What to Wear to Work*, has been featured in *The New York Times*, *Washington Post* and on CNN. "DC's political climate will always ensure the survival of classic style, but eager shoppers are on the prowl to emulate the latest runway trends," she adds. [styleauteur.com](http://styleauteur.com), [@styleauteur](https://www.instagram.com/styleauteur)



**NAJLA BURT**  
FOUNDER, DUR DOUX

"We have a passion and fierce drive to influence the future of DC fashion and style through offering exclusive fashion product offerings and forging alliances and collaborations that strengthen the quality, value and design aesthetics of fashion available in greater DC," says Burt, who recently showed both her Amazonia and Red Carpet Dur Doux Resort collections at New York Fashion Week. [durdoux.com](http://durdoux.com), [@dur\\_doux](https://www.instagram.com/dur_doux)



**SOPHIE BLAKE**  
FOUNDER,  
SOPHIE BLAKE NEW YORK

"I moved to DC five years ago when creativity and fashion were emerging across the city. The market has grown significantly, and the creative community is truly special and doing incredible things," says Blake, whose line of fashion and fine jewelry is designed for the "modern, confident woman" and is age-agnostic, eco-friendly and made in the USA. "I think we have a very bright future here in DC," she adds. [sophieblake.com](http://sophieblake.com), [@sophieblakeny](https://www.instagram.com/sophieblakeny)

