

# RALPH LAUREN

## Ralph Lauren Corporation and Parity.org Convene Fashion Industry Group to Take Action to Close the Gender Gap

October 22, 2020

*Group delivers an actionable roadmap for how brands can break down barriers to achieve gender equality and calls on the industry to sign onto The Parity Model™ to reach gender parity*

NEW YORK--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Oct. 22, 2020-- Ralph Lauren Corporation (NYSE:RL), a global leader in the design, marketing and distribution of premium lifestyle products, and [Parity.org](https://www.parity.org), a non-profit organization focused on bringing gender parity to the highest levels of business, along with PVH Corp., Lacoste, Tiffany & Co. and Movado Group Inc., today unveiled a new roadmap for the fashion industry to make measurable progress in achieving gender parity. The roadmap is outlined in a paper titled, "Unlocking Gender Parity in Fashion," which offers industry peers step-by-step methods to help achieve gender parity and pay equality at all levels of their organizations.

"Across the industry, we recognize that we need to make discernible progress on diversity, equality and inclusion. By coming together to develop a consistent method and approach to achieving gender parity and greater diversity, we can move further, faster," said Roseann Lynch, Chief People Officer, Ralph Lauren. "This roadmap represents a significant milestone for our industry, and we look forward to continuing to engage in meaningful dialogue with our peers as it is embraced and implemented across companies."

In 2019, Ralph Lauren and [Parity.org](https://www.parity.org) brought leading fashion houses and retail organizations together for an open discussion about barriers to gender parity, the industry's approach to change and the steps required to collectively close the gender gap. The roadmap, which adapted The Parity Model™ developed by [Parity.org](https://www.parity.org), is the result of these reflections and roundtable dialogues. It is divided into five areas and designed to help companies of all sizes, regardless of budget or resources, to align with a consistent approach for delivering representation, equality and inclusion:

1. **Making a visible commitment** as the first step to close the gender gap and keep it closed;
2. **Executive recruitment strategy** as the key to hiring qualified and diverse women at equal levels, positions and pay;
3. **Executive preparedness** to help companies ensure high-potential women are ready for leadership;
4. **Benefits and policies** to improve work-life balance and make it possible for women to do their best work; and
5. **Equal pay** as an essential part of reaching and sustaining gender parity.

"We are excited to partner with the fashion industry, which inspires and employs so many women overall but is lacking meaningful representation at the top," said Cathrin Stickney, [Parity.org](https://www.parity.org) Founder and CEO. "The companies that joined us are leaders in recognizing the need to address this proactively as an industry, and I know that, together with this roadmap, they will bring the kind of progress that their employees need and consumers increasingly expect."

The fashion industry has some distance to travel to achieve gender parity. The roadmap offers practical solutions to accelerate progress toward this goal. By focusing on best practices in recruitment, executive preparedness, benefits and policies and pay parity, companies can achieve equality and deliver the diversity that is proven to help businesses thrive.

The paper, "Unlocking Gender Parity in Fashion" is available at [Parity.org/fashion](https://www.parity.org/fashion).

### ABOUT RALPH LAUREN CORPORATION

Ralph Lauren Corporation (NYSE:RL) is a global leader in the design, marketing and distribution of premium lifestyle products in five categories: apparel, footwear & accessories, home, fragrances and hospitality. For more than 50 years, Ralph Lauren's reputation and distinctive image have been consistently developed across an expanding number of products, brands and international markets. The Company's brand names, which include Ralph Lauren, Ralph Lauren Collection, Ralph Lauren Purple Label, Polo Ralph Lauren, Double RL, Lauren Ralph Lauren, Polo Ralph Lauren Children, Chaps and Club Monaco, among others, constitute one of the world's most widely recognized families of consumer brands. For more information, go to <https://corporate.ralphlauren.com>.

### ABOUT PARITY.ORG

[Parity.org](https://www.parity.org) is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization dedicated to gender parity at the highest ranks of business leadership. [Parity.org](https://www.parity.org) is assembling a founding advisory board of some of the most recognized men and women leaders in business. You can follow [Parity.org](https://www.parity.org) on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/parity.org), [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/company/parity.org) and [Twitter](https://twitter.com/parity.org).

### ABOUT RALPH LAUREN'S COMMITMENT TO EQUALITY FOR WOMEN AND PEOPLE OF COLOR

Ralph Lauren is proud to be a founding member of [Parity.org](https://www.parity.org). The Company is continuously striving to increase opportunities for women across our organization and within our communities. In FY20, the Company reached a significant milestone, achieving its 2023 gender parity goal for equal representation in leadership positions at the VP level and above three years ahead of schedule. Women held 50 percent of VP level and above positions at the Company. Moving forward, the Company will continue to uphold our [Parity.org](https://www.parity.org) commitment to include women and diverse candidates in the interview process for all open VP level and above roles. Additionally, Ralph Lauren recently became a founding member of [Parity.org's ParityPledge In Support of People of Color](https://www.parity.org/pledge) – which underscores the Company's commitment to elevate Black and African American talent in our leadership ranks, by interviewing at least one Black or African American candidate and at least one candidate from another underrepresented group for every open leadership role, VP and higher, including the C-suite and the Board of Directors.

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