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## Who's Running the Runway? We Look Behind the Data at NYFW

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The most glamorous event in the NYC fashion calendar, **Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week**, kicked off last Thursday and has since seen a whole lot of firsts for an event that hasn't historically been known for its diversity.

The Carrie Hammer show last Thursday saw the first model with Down's Syndrome, Jamie Brewer – best known for her role in American Horror Story – **walk the catwalk**, Jack Eyers was the first male model amputee to walk a NYFW show for FTL Moda at the Lincoln Center on Sunday and Becca McCharen's runway show on Saturday featured plus-size models, trans women and girls from all ethnicities.

Her whole collection was inspired by Martine Rothblatt, a trans woman who is America's highest paid female CEO.



Moves like these have put the spotlight on the event for reasons other than swathes of fabric on silky limbs, and hopefully blazes a trail for other **fashion industry** events in the future.

The use of more diverse mix of models certainly drove a lot of online mentions across the web, alongside more predictable names like Victoria Beckham and FROW (front row) stalwarts, Rihanna and Beyonce.