

CARLA

FOUNDER, THE BEAUTY CHEF

Having suffered eczema and allergies that lasted into her teenage years, it wasn't until Carla Oates, 44, consulted a naturopath that she began to notice an improvement in her skin. When the former model and journalist started The Beauty Chef in 2012, there was little understanding around healing skin with fermented foods and probiotics via the digestive system. "I understood restoring 'gut health' for beauty was not a desirable concept, particularly in an industry of glamour," says Oates. "But, because it helped my own skin, I felt confident that my protocol would help others." After completing extensive research, and working alongside natural health practitioners and formulators. she created the world's first "living skincare" range. Certified organic, cold-pressed and preservative free, the powders and elixirs are now available globally, including online at Net-a-Porter and Gwyneth Paltrow's Goop. Words to live by "Do what you love, because success requires hard work."

Next up "To continue to create products and content that help inspire a positive change."

ZOË FOSTER BLAKE

FOUNDER AND CREATIVE DIRECTOR, GO-TO SKINCARE

Despite a successful career as a beauty journalist, Zoë Foster Blake, 36, never dreamed she would create her own skincare line. "After being a beauty editor for so long, assumed my beauty days were done," she says. It wasn't until she met with friend and founder of skincare brand Sodashi, Megan Larsen, that she had her light bulb moment. "I mentioned to Megan that Sodashi should create a multi-purpose oil-balm. She said: 'Why don't you do it?' Megan made me believe that I had the passion, product knowledge, and consumer trust to [create] it." Now in its third year, Go-To is a certified cruelty-free skincare line formulated without synthetic ingredients or irritants. Foster Blake is also an author of seven books, including best-selling beauty manual, Amazinger Face. Words to live by "What you think about, you bring about. Thoughts become your reality, so make sure they're directed positively. Next up "I want to keep helping women-not just with beauty advice or relationship advice, but specifically with aid and education."

ANNA ROSS

CEO AND CREATIVE DIRECTOR, KESTER BLACK

In 2012, frustrated by the lack of ethically produced, environmentally friendly nail polishes, Anna Ross, 29, expanded her jewellery label, Kester Black, to include a range of sustainable lacquers. In the process she redefined industry standards around the environmental impact involved in producing cosmetics and, within three months, tripled the brand's turnover. "Nail polish is one of the ways people bring colour into their lives, making them happy, says Ross. "I get to see that injection of happiness, which is rewarding." Charity is also hugely important to Ross, who says it is "critical to her mission and philosophy in both business and in life". Kester Black has formally committed to donate two per cent of its annual revenue to various registered charities.

Words to live by "She who walks with the wise grows wise."

Next Up "To continue to position Kester Black as an example to others of how we can inspire global change within the beauty industry, and ensure all companies contribute towards sustainable business."