

KENNETH COLE
Chairman & Chief Creative Officer

There is certainly truth to the cliché, "You can do well by doing good." For Kenneth Cole, "doing good" has meant being on the frontline of fashion trends as well as important social issues such as homelessness and AIDS awareness. As a renowned American designer and humanitarian, Kenneth believes that "One can change their outfit, they can outfit change or...both."

A business that began over 25 years ago when Kenneth sold his first pair of shoes out of the back of a 40-foot trailer, Kenneth Cole Productions has risen to the top of American fashion world. In the process, Kenneth has been able to unite his fashion instincts and business acumen with his social and philanthropic convictions. As Chairman to the Foundation for AIDS Research (amfAR), and a founding board member of the homeless organization HELP USA, Kenneth has made it his business to fuse fashion with social action. He is also a board member of the Council of Fashion Designers of America (CFDA) and the Sundance Institute.

In November of 2008, Kenneth Cole Productions launched AWEARNESS – KENNETH COLE. AWEARNESS aims to raise awareness, stimulate public debate, and provide inspiration and opportunities to help our communities get involved and give back. All monies raised are donated to the AWEARNESS FUND – a not-for-profit entity that supports, encourages and empowers acts of service, volunteerism and social change.

Today, Kenneth Cole Productions is one of the most widely revered fashion houses with retail sales in excess of one and a half billion dollars. Its full lifestyle fashion business designs, markets, and distributes its products through over 5,000 points of distribution globally. Currently, there are 21 licensees that cover 71 multi-brand product categories.

Kenneth continues to be the driving force behind the company's strategic and creative vision.

Sometimes politically ironic and irreverent but always socially conscious and relevant– Kenneth Cole's advertising has touched on everything from gun control and cloning to abortion and AIDS. He believes that, "to be aware is more important than what you wear."

Kenneth resides in Westchester, New York with his wife Maria Cuomo Cole and their three daughters.