

VegNews Beauty Editor **Aurelia d'Andrea** dishes the latest in vegan style.



Beauty + The Biz

These days, it's not enough to simply be cruelty-free. To stand out in a sea of products, beauty brands must go the extra mile, and these women-led brands do just that. We love their clean ingredients, eco-friendly packaging, and backstories with soul; but their quality products that deliver on their promises are what win our allegiance.

KINDri Los Angeles, CA

BRAIN BEHIND THE BRAND:

Robin McDonald

SIGNATURE PRODUCT: Bloom serum BACKSTORY: Before developing her cactus seed oil-based line in 2014, McDonald was an esthetician in a place where beauty is always in the spotlight: Hollywood. Her mentor Ole Henriksen was an early pioneer in vegan skincare and helped McDonald create her own brand. "Important to me was to offer up not only a high-performance skincare line, but something bright, uplifting, [with] true scents from nature," says McDonald. Famous clients like Charlize Theron, Alfre Woodard, and Renée Zellweger would say she's achieved her goals. WHY WE LOVE IT: Most of KINDri's products are built around one simple ingredient—cactus—and that simplicity, married with efficacy, is a winning combo.





The Fanciful Fox Brooklyn, NY

BRAINS BEHIND THE BRAND:

Kathie and Amanda Fox **SIGNATURE PRODUCT: Handcrafted** Organic Coconut Milk Bar Soap **BACKSTORY:** What began as a candlemaking hobby morphed into something the mother-daughter Fox duo never expected. "One day, we blinked and were surrounded by soaps, scrubs, and the beginning of a face-care line," says Amanda. Their family loved the products so much Kathie and Amanda began selling them—and in 2014, their Brooklyn storefront was born. "We were both vegan before the idea of a store was dreamed, so making our brand exclusively cruelty-free was a no-brainer."

WHY WE LOVE IT: Vegan family values and quality ingredients that clean, soothe, and pamper are ideals worth investing in.



NOLA Skinsentials Queens, NY

BRAIN BEHIND THE BRAND:

Jane Ormon

SIGNATURE PRODUCT:

Witches Brew Toner

BACKSTORY: Ormon struggled with
acne throughout her teenage years and
tried everything on the market without
seeing results. "This informed my
decision to create entirely plant-based,
cruelty-free products that I could use
myself," says the 23-year-old. "My usually
oily, acne-prone skin was improving
tremendously with my all-natural, handcrafted concoctions, so I felt confident

WHY WE LOVE IT: Every product is made by hand with clean, natural ingredients like calendula, seaweed, and aloe vera, making it a great fit for sensitive skin.

selling my goods to others."

