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25 FOR 25 SERIES

## BETHANN HARDISON

*25 for 25 is an original content series by Gucci and CHIME FOR CHANGE to mark the historic milestone of Beijing +25 in March, as well as Women's History Month. The series will highlight activists, CHIME Advisory Board members, partners and supporters who represent the progress made on gender equality over the past 25 years, and the emerging next generation continuing this critical work.*



CHIME is proud to feature fashion advocate and documentarian **Bethann Hardison** as one of the women leaders and gender equality activists in the 25 for 25 content series. Hardison has devoted her career to inclusivity and advancement of models of color globally. Read her reflections on the progress needed to achieve equality for women and girls around the world below.

**What are your hopes and expectations for gender equality in the next 25 years?**

My hopes that a woman's right to choose are and will remain eternal. That the education of girls around the world are supported to allow those girls to succeed and continue to dream.

**What advice would you give younger generations on how to advocate / work for gender equality as they get older?**

I would encourage and advise the younger generation, if you are currently in the environment that supports your gender rights for education and right to choose, do not take it for granted. Work to raise consciousness to keep those rights in place, vote for the rights you believe in. Find global organizations, that you can connect to young girls and communicate by writing and encouraging them to stay strong and seek education where possible.

**Who do you look to as an example / role model in the fight for gender equality?**

Young girls being married off as child brides, that should be recognized as being against the law everywhere in the world. Every young woman in her global community who looks to succeed beyond cultural restrictions is who I admire and support as an example of what can help change the world that they and we live in.

