The Pacesetter Program

The FWA’s proprietary leadership program for President Circle Company Women

Who are the Pacesetters?

Upwardly mobile women who have distinguished themselves in their organizations and have the aspiration, talents and exemplary skills that set the pace for excellence.

2020 Pacesetters: The FWA is proud to sponsor its specialized leadership development program for high potential women from the FWA’s President’s Circle Companies. At the FWA, we believe the word “pacesetter” has always applied to that group of elite companies that have partnered with us. The Pacesetter Program is a continuing partnership with the President’s Circle organizations that recognizes outstanding women within those companies who exemplify the character, achievement, passion, and leadership that is critical to organizational success. The Pacesetter Program was launched in 2015 as an additional benefit to President’s Circle Companies and to support the development of the next generation of women leaders within those organizations.

We are pleased to present the fifth Pacesetter cohort of twenty-three dynamic women for 2020/21:

Lauren Bogardus
Bank of New York Mellon

Jewell Jones
Bank of New York Mellon

Elizabeth Jourdan
BMO Capital Markets

Kristen Jones
BMO Capital Markets

Zainab Ahmed
BNP Paribas

Mary Ellen Cusumano
BNP Paribas

Laureen Gage
BNP Paribas

Gillian Marcott
Citizens Bank

Nichole R. Schier
Citizens Bank

Stephanie Mizerak
Deloitte

Jeanne M. Waters
Eversheds Sutherland (US) LLP
The Pacesetter Program offers participants the opportunity to focus on specific objectives and needs which are relevant to their leadership development and career advancement.

Early in the fiscal year, a customized development plan is created. From there, participants will:

- Be mentored by a senior FWA member and coached by a professional executive coach
- Attend dedicated workshops designed to build key leadership skills
- Meet senior leaders from President’s Circle Companies and benefit from their insights, perspectives, and experience
- Attend workshops and other interactive sessions with professional development experts, authors, organizational development specialists and renowned leaders
- Expand their networks while developing personal and professional bonds with their cohort group, previous cohorts and others in the FWA
- Receive a complimentary FWA membership and enjoy the many membership benefits
- Be recognized at the FWA’s Annual Reception and featured in its member communications
- Attend FWA events and be welcomed into the FWA community

“I am most looking forward to gaining industry insights, and take advantage of opportunities to work with C-suite level mentors and executive coaches who are committed to help me grow and develop both personally and professionally.”

Shannon Seidel, MBA  
Director, Project Management  
Enterprise Services & Systems  
Prudential
Over the course of the year, participants can anticipate 10 leadership development events which are supplemented by group mentoring and individual coaching sessions, round table meetings with senior leaders, attendance at FWA events, and, of course, implementing their development plan on the job. An Advisory Board of FWA Board and Leadership Council members oversees the strategic direction and implementation of the Pacesetter Program.

Executive Coaches

Marian Oláh, Lead coach
Angela Durham
Christine Birnbaum
Ellen Auster
Jane Maloney

FWA Mentors

Justine Mannering  Catherine O’Donnell
Robin Matza  Bina Patel
Maureen Adolf  Monique Murphy
Ellen Auster  Leslie Green
Annette Stewart  Jane Pedreira
Seyda Pirinccioğlu  Anna Pinedo
Melissa Ruttnner  Judy Elkin
Kathryn Mayer  Susan Gatz
Karin Kovacic  Judy Elkin
Sarah Kim  Andrea Cinkovic
Randi Brosterman Hutchens  Selina Ip

The Pacesetters met their Mentors at SMBC and their Executive Coaches at MUFG.

Through individual Executive Coaching and Group Mentoring sessions, Pacesetters benefit from the experience, knowledge, and guidance of dynamic leaders from the world’s finest financial services and insurance companies, as well as leaders from other industries.
The Pacesetter Nomination Process

Each President’s Circle Company is eligible to nominate two Pacesetters every fiscal year. An ideal Pacesetter candidate is one with 7-10 years of professional experience, a track record of increased responsibility and advancement, involvement in the company’s women’s leadership initiatives and/or other significant community involvement activities, and a passionate desire to grow as a next generation leader. Pacesetters are expected to participate fully in program events. For more information or to obtain a nomination form contact Pacesetter Co-Chairs:

Amy Hertenstein at amy.hertenstein@gmail.com
or
Marian Oláh at marian_olah@hotmail.com

About the FWA
Established in 1956, the FWA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit professional organization with a membership of approximately 800 female and male professionals working in the financial services industry or who hold a financial position in another industry. The FWA has a long tradition of encouraging women to seek career opportunities in finance and business through mentorship and networking.

President’s Circle Members

BMO Capital Markets
BNP Paribas
BNY Mellon
Citizens Bank
Deloitte
Eversheds Sutherland
MetLife
MUFG
New York Life
Prudential/PGIM
Sidley Austin
S&P Global
Stifel
Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation
Wells Fargo Advisors

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