



September 2020

Upcoming Events

September 2020

TRB Webinar: How Women Fare in the Transit Industry

September 2, 2020 | 2:00 pm -3:30 pm

What are transit agencies doing to attract, retain, and advance women in the industry? TRB is hosting a webinar that will identify the barriers and solutions to including more women in the transit industry.

Presenters will discuss strategies to support women in transit and will share examples of transit agencies that have effectively implemented programs to do so. Register [here](#).

Learn From a Leader

Virtual Event | 5:30 pm-7:00 pm

The WTS NY Programs Committee has lined up a great set of speakers for our Learn From a Leader series.

- Gillian Blake - September 1, 2020 (Principal-Infrastructure at Arup)
- Shanique Holmes - September 23, 2020 (Diversity and Inclusion Leader at Port Authority of New York and New Jersey)
- Doreen Taveras - September 30, 2020 (AVP/Director of Diversity Programs-Northeast Region at AECOM)

Register [here](#).

Annual WTS-GNY/APA/YPT Trivia Event

September 16, 2020 | 6:30 pm- 8:00 pm

Our annual trivia event is going virtual - and we're excited to bring you a joint trivia event co-sponsored by our WTS Young Professionals Committee with Young Professionals in Transportation (YPT) and the American Planning Association (APA). Get your thinking caps on!

Register [here](#).

WTS-GNY/PANYNJ Women's Council Emerging Women Leaders Webinar Series

Issue: 61

2019-2020
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WTS-GNY and PA's Women Council are partnering to host two virtual adaptations of the Emerging Leaders Training Series. The series blends leadership skills training with advice from speakers who are senior-level women leaders in transportation. The session will be focused on practical tips to developing professional and career skills with opportunities virtual networking among participants.

Session 1: Amplify Your Accomplishments
September 29th, 2020 | 12:00 pm- 1:00 pm

Session 2: The "Juggle"
September 30th, 2020 | 4:00 pm-5:00 pm

Lookout for the registration link!

October 2020

WTS-GNY 18th Annual Gala
October 22nd, 2020 | 6:30 pm-9:00 pm

Please join us this fall for a virtual WTS-GNY gala celebrating Woman of the Year Clarelle DeGraffe, Director of Rail Transit and General Manager of PATH at the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey (PANYNJ)! See below for more details. Register [here](#)! Donate [here](#)

Book Club #5: So You Want to Talk About Race by Anne Patrone

Book Club #5 took place on August 20. Approximately 10 chapter members joined moderator and Board Secretary Anne Patrone for a discussion of Ijeoma Oluo's book *So You Want to Talk About Race*. Participants discussed the sections of the book that had the most impact on them personally, which aspects of the book surprised them, and which techniques they would take forward for talking about race and racism in their workplaces and communities. There was a lot of conversation about what we can do as transportation professionals to overcome our biases and dismantle systemic racism, and how WTS-GNY can continue to promote education, awareness and discourse as a professional organization. Stay tuned for the next Book Club announcement!

The Neuroscience of Equity in Complex Decision-Making: Fairness and the Transportation Industry -by Carla Artis

Thanks to everyone that participated in WTS-GNY's Workshop on "The Neuroscience of Equity in Complex Decision-Making: Fairness and the Transportation Industry"
This highly interactive course explored the neuroscience of fairness,



Emerald



innovation, accuracy and empathy. In Part One, we reviewed neurophysiologic studies to explain what blocks:

- effective strategic design;
- rigorous problem solving;
- accurate assessments and evaluation;
- skillful innovation;
- equitable supervision;
- consistent retention of talent;
- solid communication; and
- broad networking.

We saw how brain imaging studies show what may motivate, scare and fool decision-makers in all roles; how communication methods and future planning can be affected by brain reactions; how neurophysiologic and decision-making studies are used to explain how people may assess intelligence, competence, leadership, and threat in diverse societies.

In Part Two: we received individual solutions to reduce and/or eliminate implicit bias. Ms. Papillon focused on meaningful solutions that reduce the effects of unconscious or implicit associations on decision-making.

Learn From a Leader Series with Porie Saikia-Eapen

By Ocean Stokes

Porie Saikia-Eapen, Director of Environmental, Sustainability and Compliance at the MTA, was our first guest speaker to start the "Learn From a Leader" series on August 26, 2020. She inspired 25 participants by sharing her experience as a leader nationally and internationally and spoke about some amazing individuals she has worked with during her career. Porie spoke about the strength on the inside of us all and it is important to use it because it is our power. Do you want to know what keeps Porie Saikia-Eapen up at night? Greenhouse emissions. Currently, she is working with various firms across the region to reduce greenhouse emissions, including MTA's most recent commitment to the Science Based Target Initiative as per the Paris Climate Agreement - where MTA is setting its emission reduction targets to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change and global warming by contributing towards keeping global temperature rise well-below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and reducing its emission to a limit defined by the SBTi protocol. Key takeaways that Porie spoke about included leading with enthusiasm and determination because it allows you to empower others. Being a leader or potential leader means to always be willing to learn something new. Learn from your mistakes and embrace the challenges because they create other opportunities. Find a career you enjoy and excites you and you will never burnout. Surround yourself with good friends and have dinner. Deal with challenges as they come, do not worry about tomorrow, deal with today. Develop qualities such as empathy followed by competence, integrity, and reliability. Align your profession with your passion. Know your skills, know your worth and know what you can bring to a job and the job will teach you everything else.

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2020 Volunteers Needed

WTS GNY
CHAPTER



**WE ARE LOOKING FOR
VOLUNTEERS TO SUPPORT THE
BUSINESS DIVERSITY COMMITTEE**

OUR COMMITTEE
GOALS ARE TO EMPOWER, PROVIDE GUIDANCE AND OPPORTUNITIES TO SMALL
BUSINESSES IN OUR REGION.

FOR FURTHER
INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT
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WTS GNY 18th Annual Gala

In addition to honoring Ms. DeGraffe, the event will provide an opportunity to commemorate the formation of the WTS-GNY chapter 40 years ago, the chapter's recent accomplishments, and its vision for the future. WTS-GNY also will present the 2020 Scholarship awards to remarkable students who demonstrate the potential to excel in the transportation field. Special guest speakers include Cheryl McKissack, President and CEO of McKissack & McKissack, and Sally Librera, former Senior Vice President for Subways at MTA New York City Transit. And don't worry, you will still have an opportunity to network at the close of the event! While this is a free event, we encourage participants and supporters to donate to the scholarship fund which will allow the chapter to continue to provide student scholarships in 2021.



****Attention all WTS-GNY members****

Did you know 2020 marks the 40th Anniversary of the WTS-GNY Chapter?? The Special Events Committee is collecting information and photos from the last 40 years to incorporate in our Gala program and journal, as well as an historical document the committee will be creating. We have information and photographs from the last 20 years, so are mainly looking for resources from 1980 to 2000. Also, we would love to hear from people who attended the first meeting in 1979 and/or the founding in 1980. Please send any information, stories and photographs to Sarah.Colker@parsons.com. Thanks!

Transportation Job Opportunities

WTS-GNY would like to be a resource for women seeking positions in transportation and firms looking for candidates.

If your firm would like to post a position, fill out our [job form](#). We will share your job opportunity on our LinkedIn Page and in our next Chapter News as well as our website.

Employer Metropolitan Transportation Authority

Job Title Transportation Planner / Analyst Series

How to Apply [Website](#)

Deadline Open until vacancy filled

Employer Port Authority of New York and New Jersey

Job Title Senior Civil Engineer

How to Apply [Website](#)

Deadline Open until vacancy filled

Employer HNTB

Job Title Chief Bridge Engineer - Structures

How to Apply [Website](#)

Deadline Open until vacancy filled

Employer Stantec

Job Title Architect - Project Manager

How to Apply [Website](#)

Deadline Open until vacancy filled

Have exciting content for the next issue?

Article pitches, women in transportation news, member spotlights, discussion topic ideas: [Email us](#) by 9/25/2020.