

# Advancing Women in Transportation Greater New York Chapter



Issue: 48

# July 2019

#### **Upcoming Events**

**July 2019** 

## WTS-GNY Book Club Meeting

July 11, 2019, 6:00 PM-7:30 PM

Come join us for an inaugural book club meeting with Metro-North President Catherine Rinaldi! We will discuss the book *The Confidence Code* by Katty Kay & Claire Shipman. No experience necessary. Simply read the book, save your favorite quotes, network and participate in a group discussion over beverages and hors d'oeuvres. Register <u>here!</u>

# **Young Professionals Port Authority Bus Terminal Tour** July 19, 2019, 2:00 PM-4:00 PM

Please join us for a Port Authority Bus Terminal tour hosted by WTS-GNY Young Professionals Committee and PANYNJ. Staff from PANYNJ will lead a walking tour covering both North and South wings, Lincoln Tunnel access ramps, and the Bus Terminal Replacement Center. There's lots to learn about this bustling transportation hub! After the tour, we'll continue networking over food and drinks at Beer Authority (next door to Port Authority)!. Register <a href="here">here</a>.

# August 2019

 August 20th: Emerging Women Leaders On-Site Training Series- The Leadership Pipeline. Click <u>here!</u> 1:00 PM-2:00 PM 2018 - 2019 CORPORATE PARTNERS

Diamond



**AECOM** 

**ARUP** 



**GPI** 



#### WTS-GNY Chapter Survey #6: Transportation YOU

WTS Greater New York Chapter is conducting a series of surveys to give us insight into how we as an organization can better serve our members and the transportation industry. This survey is on behalf of the Transportation YOU NY & NJ Committees.

We value your opinion. All responses are optional and anonymous.

Everyone who completes the survey by July 31st will have a chance to win a \$50 Amazon Gift Card. Your contact information will be kept separate from your survey responses. <u>CLICK HERE</u> TO COMPLETE SURVEY

CONGRATULATIONS to Marcia Shapiro of Marine Tiger Technologies for being our first \$50 Amazon gift card winner! We appreciate the feedback from everyone who has responded to our surveys thus far. Please continue to fill out the monthly surveys - you could be the next big winner!

# WTS-GNY Transportation YOU New Jersey is accepting applications from high school students!

The application for WTS Transportation You New Jersey Program is now open for the school year 2019-2020. This year-long program encourages high-school female students to have a career in the transportation industry. The program conducts workshops, tours and seminars throughout the year during after-school hours and school holidays. Any female high school student living in New Jersey can apply. However, since most of the events are based out of Newark we prefer students in and around that area. To know more about this program and apply please go to our

websitehttps://transportationyou.wixsite.com/newjersey.

#### WTS-GNY Transportation YOU New Jersey is seeking mentors!

The WTS Transportation You New Jersey Program is also looking for mentors to join the program in the school year 2019-2020. If you are interested in joining then send an email to Carolyn Brazier (cbrazier@dewberry.com ) or Yetunde Adelekan (Yetunde.Adelekan@hdrinc.com). Thank you!





#### **2019 Annual International Conference**

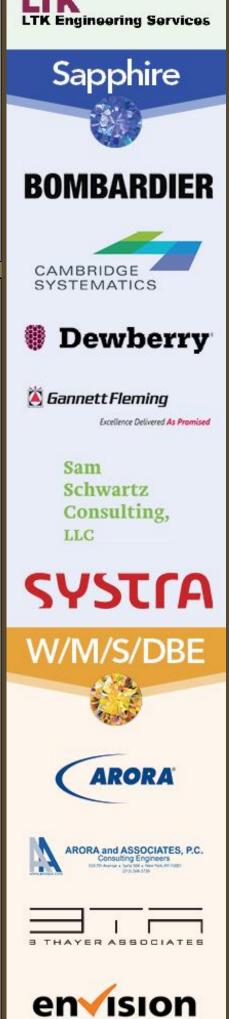
By Ece Koch, AECOM

The 2019 WTS International Annual Conference was hosted by the Boston chapter at the Westin Copley Place in Boston's Back Bay from May 15th through 17th. There was great attendance with 766 people participating in the entire event and 966 who attended at least one of the conference programs.

The conference's theme was a "Hub of Ingenuity" with breakout sessions with titles such as "Catalyst For Change," "Ingenuity in Resilience," "Embracing Innovation Through Policy and Funding Changes," and "Transformations in Mobility." Approximately 36 WTS-GNY chapter members attended and benefited from the professional development sessions, technical tours, and breakout sessions. There were also several members who represented the GNY chapter as panelists, poster presenters, and volunteers. And the GNY chapter hosted a get-together at Citrus & Salt in Boston on Wednesday evening following the Conference Welcome Reception to kick off the professional networking and bonding experience.

The following day began with the Opening Plenary Panel Session, "A View From the Top: Female DOT CEOs Take the Stage" where panelists shared valuable guidance on work-life balance, staying true to your values, and overcoming difficult situations in the workplace. The luncheon keynote speaker Katty Kay, anchor of BBC World News and co-author of the book *The Confidence Code*, delivered an inspiring message on women's confidence stating, "Act more, think less, be authentic and pass it on." The Gala Awards program was touching as the 2019 recognition award recipients and scholarship winners shared their personal stories of perseverance and success. The final day's Plenary Session was a "WTS Women of the Year" panel where we heard from extraordinary women who had been recognized by their chapters as Women of the Year. The moderator kicked off the session with a a memorable quote, "Pick up the stones in your way and build a bridge for others behind you."

In closing the 2019 WTS International Annual Conference, the WTS-GNY Chapter was recognized as a WTS Gold Chapter at the Chapter



Circle of Excellence Awards and Recognition Ceremony. Thank you so much to WTS International and the WTS Boston Chapter for planning and hosting such a wonderful conference. Stay tuned for next year's conference in Phoenix, Arizona!



From left to right:

Erika Moshkovich, Karina Vangani, Leticia Caviness, Nur Atiqa Asri, Yvonne Lopez-Diaz, Beth DeAngelo, Alexa Gangemi, Keri Cibelli, Carla Artis, Zenobia Fields, Lisa Santoro, Polina Knaster, Israe Zizaoui, Elizabeth Hynes, Kelly King, Nathalie Waelbroeck, and Sarah Colker.

See the full photo album <u>here!</u>

#### We Asked - You Answered - We Listened

By Natalie Noel - Sandra Forte Memorial Membership Award Recipient; Membership Committee

Over the last few months, WTS-GNY Committees have been conducting surveys to better understand our membership base, their opinions and desires. Some results were consistent with our knowledge or expectations, but there were some surprises!

Thank you to everyone who has responded to our past surveys. We appreciate all the feedback and are taking your responses seriously. Please read on to see the results and highlights of our surveys thus far.

Greater than 75 percent of respondents viewed networking as one of the top benefits of WTS-GNY compared with other professional organizations. However, only 16 percent of respondents thought that professional development was a benefit offered by WTS-GNY. And while 3 percent thought that













mentoring was a benefit, almost no one identified it as such for job listings, scholarships and technical skill development.

WTS-GNY provides all these benefits, which can be realized through participation in chapter committees and programs. We were happy to learn of your loyalty to the organization in the support of membership enrollment and event participation.

Thank you for your continued cooperation in making the WTS-GNY provide you with opportunities to grow both personally and professionally.

Please click on this link for the entire article.

## 2019 Transportation YOU Graduation

By Destiny Jacobs, Transportation YOU Graduate

My experience at WTS can be summed up in a series of shattered expectations.

I joined the club thinking we'd be cooped up in a classroom and have women who worked in STEM fields try to describe the indescribable. And yet today, I can't remember ever being seated for more than 30 minutes.

On our club's first trip to an NYCT building, I expected a boring PowerPoint and dry small talk all wrapped up in an hour and 45 minute bow. Granted we got an (interesting) PowerPoint presentation, but we were also given a tour and a chance to ask questions and to sit down and have real conversations with people who work there everyday. The trips didn't just stop at buildings. There were bridges, airports, and plenty of project sites. When I close my eyes, I still can see the illuminated stops and lines of the railroad control center.

After we had completed all of this during our first school year, we were given a chance to work side by side with our mentors for the first time over the summer. And rather than being left in the wind to figure out how to navigate in a work environment, we were taught by a woman professionally trained in the art. The words "don't make yourself small" still stick with me even after four years of learning it.

Between going to events, collecting business cards and working for the engineering department at MTA Maintenance of Way, I have yet to meet someone who isn't more than happy to tell their story, offer a helping hand, or throw us into the field to experience what their job entails. Because they understand that career searching doesn't begin behind a desk, it begins by making connections and opening eyes. It's a big world out there, and today, your graduation day, is proof that you have the tools to find your place in it. Therefore, after years of witnessing how expectations have been shattered by both the program

and us, I can say with certainty that you are all ready to shatter a few more. Whether it be at MTA, NYCT, or the world outside of it.

Destiny graduated from City Polytechnic High School in 2018 and is attending college at The New York City College of Technology To view photos from graduation, click <a href="here!">here!</a>

#### **WTS GNY Spring Dinner Program**

The Glass Ceiling Panel: The Women Who Have Broken Through

By Adrienne Zicklin Kanter, WTS GNY Editor

On Tuesday, May 7th, WTS GNY held its annual spring dinner featuring NJDOT Director of Government and Community Affairs Zenobia Fields as moderator and NYCT Senior Vice President of Subways Sally Librera, Marine Tiger Technologies President Marcia Shapiro, United Airlines Managing Director of Corporate, Government Affairs Monica Slater-Stokes and NYC DOT Commissioner Polly Trottenberg as panelists.

Alexa Gangemi, president of WTS GNY, initiated the presentation by warmly welcoming everyone and presenting the Sandra Forte Memorial Membership Award awards to Lauren Antonelli, NYC DOT deputy chief of staff, and Natalie Noel, project manager at LIRR. Ms. Gangemi then highlighted several statistics based on surveys conducted for the report *Women in the Greater New York Transportation Industry: A Baseline Study for Future Benchmarking of Women in Leadership Roles* by the chapter's Glass Ceiling Committee. While there were only 27 responses by organizations in the New York region, they represent approximately 65,000 employees in the transportation industry. Of these, about 20 percent are women. And among the participant organizations, only six had a 50-50 gender split at the senior level. It is also striking that private organizations had better representation of senior-level women (34 percent) than government organizations (20 percent).

Many thanks to New York Programs Chair Sofia Berger and Bibi Khan and Glass Ceiling Committee Co-chairs Yvonne Lopez-Diaz and Erin Hyland, as well as Daniella Zellers, Zenobia Fields, Namecca Parker, Racquel Williams, Fiona Robe, Jane Huang, Laura Eng, Han Pham, Keri Cibelli, and Sheriza Majid.



From left to right: Marcia Shapiro (Marine Tiger Technologies), Monica Slater-Stokes (United Airlines), Sally Librera (NYCT), Polly Trottenberg (NYC DOT), and Zenobia Fields (NJDOT).

To view more photos, click <a href="here!">here!</a>
To read the full article, please click on this <a href="hill.link">link</a>.

#### **Volunteers Wanted and Appreciated!**

WTS-GNY is always interested in volunteers to help the Chapter. Don't see anything of interest below, but want to help? Email us at wtsgny@gmail.com to find a committee that's right for you!

The **TransportationYOU New Jersey Committee** is looking for volunteers to serve as mentors for high school students.

## **Transportation Job Opportunities**

WTS-GNY would like to be a resource for women seeking positions in transportation and firms looking for candidates. Visit our <u>Job Opportunities</u> page for latest updates!

If your firm would like to post a position, fill out our <u>job form</u>. We will share your job opportunity on our LinkedIn Page and in our next Chapter News as well as our website.

April Opportunities (more on the WTS-GNY Jobs Page)

Employer Micheal Baker International

Job Title Civil Associate I/Transportation Planner

How to Apply Website

Deadline Open until vacancy filled

Employer Lyft (New York, NY)

Job Title Regional Director

How to Apply Website

Deadline Open until vacancy filled

Employer Parsons (New York, NY)

Job Title N. E. Business Development Manager -

Transportation

How to Apply Website

Deadline Open until vacancy filled

Employer The Port Authority of NY & NJ

Job Title Project Manager, EWR/TEB

How to Apply Website

Deadline Open until vacancy filled

Employer MTA

Job Title Project Coordinator

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: <u>Email us</u> by 7/26/2019.

# Did your email address change?

If your email or mailing address has changed, log into the <u>WTS website</u> and update your information in the "My Account" page.