

# Wall Street Exchange 2016

[fwa.org/spotlight/wall-street-exchange-2016/](http://fwa.org/spotlight/wall-street-exchange-2016/)

The Wall Street Exchange is a career development program for interns in the New York City area to augment and supplement their summer internships by providing job search and leadership skills. Designed by Financial Women's Association, the program has more than 1,000 alumni to date. This year, a cohort of 21 WSE participants from diverse backgrounds had the opportunity to expand their peer networks outside of their internship firms.

Participating President's Circle firms each sponsored an evening professional development activity over the eight-week program, which covered topics such as international opportunities and interviewing skills, as well as a number of financial industry career panels. Sponsor firms for 2016 Class included: DTCC, BNY Mellon, TD, UBS, SMBC, PGIM, New York Life, and BNP Paribas.

Co-Chairs of the WSE Committee this year, Marline Alexander and Kamellia Saroop, were both delighted to see the talent in this year's participants.

"The success of this year's Wall Street Exchange Program would not be possible without the generous sponsorship of our FWA's President Circle Firms and Corporate Sponsors, the collaborative efforts of the WSE Committee and FWA members and the participation of the 2016 WSE program cohorts" Marline and Kamellia are appreciative of the dedication and support of the WSE Committee members who work at a variety of firms.

BNP Paribas hosted the closing reception with a theme of "Transitioning from School to Work." Raleigh Mayer, a longtime FWA member who is also known as the "Gravitas Guru," was the keynote speaker. Prior to Raleigh's address, Eileen Isola, Head of Market Integrity/Professional Ethics, Americas at BNP Paribas offered some thoughts during her introductory remarks and Eileen imparted on junior talent in the room to always leave a great first impression. She also shared the history of the FWA and BNP Paribas' partnership,



Chen Rao welcomes the Wall Street Exchange participants to the closing reception



Keynote Speaker Raleigh Mayer address the WSE participants

including her own personal commitment. Chen Rao, Structuring Analyst in Prime Solutions & Financing at BNP Paribas shared her experience as a BNP Paribas intern and WSE participant during the summer of 2013. She told this year's interns to be courageous and practice common sense as they enter the financial industry.

For more information about the Wall Street Exchange program, contact the committee co-chairs: [Marline Alexander](#) or [Kamellia Saroop](#).

*All photos credit to Donna La Spina, BNP Paribas.*



Speaker Raleigh Mayer with Eileen Isola