

Meet Our Mentees – Vanessa Romero

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It's well-known that having a mentoring relationship early on in a woman's career is likely to help her rise to the c-suite. In addition, mentoring is a wonderful way to build skills, develop a long-lasting bond, and can give you the opportunity to advance your career. Over the past year we have talked with multiple mentees about their experiences in the FWA Mentoring program. Here's what Baruch College Senior, Vanessa Romero had to say about the program:



Baruch Mentee Vanessa Romero

"I first joined the FWA mentoring program because I knew that I needed assistance in building my interview and networking skills. The program is not just another professional organization, but it is the ability to be a part of a family. Having both a professional and personal environment makes it a resourceful group while still being in a comfortable setting. This has helped me to build my self-confidence and grow out of my comfort zone. My mentor, Ora Shtull, provided me with the confidence that I did not have in myself and helped me to grow and perform better."

When asked about her mentor, Ora Shtull, Vanessa explained that her mentor has been extremely proactive in guiding her career path. "I am a first-generation college student, with my parents having immigrated from Paraguay in hopes of giving me a better life. My FWA mentor Ora, has helped tremendously in figuring out what I want to achieve within the short amount of time. She has always been there to help with any questions I might have, and she has always ensured that I was confident enough to do well in my interviews. I have emailed Ora at times of the day when most would not respond, but she always makes herself available whether in person or through video calls. I recently emailed her about my switch in major and she was very hopeful, already offering assistance with the transition after I return from study abroad and encouraging me to just enjoy my time abroad at the moment." Vanessa and Ora's relationship is a prime example of how positive mentoring relationships benefit students in the long-run.

Thanks in-part to the FWA, Vanessa has been able to participate in a study abroad program, as well as, professional development conferences to help boost her career. "I also have a sister who attends Baruch College through the Macaulay Honors Program. We are both currently studying abroad because we love to travel and wanted to experience a semester of college without commuting from home. I chose to study in Florence and my sister chose Copenhagen, though we both try to visit one another or meet up in other cities. Not to mention, one of my favorite memories from the FWA mentoring program was attending the NCCWSL Conference in Washington D.C. It was empowering being surrounded by such successful women and student leaders from all over America. I enjoyed meeting new people throughout the conference and having the opportunity to network and attend workshops. I most enjoyed being with other FWA mentees from Baruch and getting to know each other better because we had spent more time together at the conference than we normally would at FWA events due to scheduling."

Interested in Mentoring?

Given how important mentoring is, you could be a key source of knowledge to a young woman seeking guidance with developing her career. To learn more about FWA mentoring and to get involved contact:

(Baruch College) [Betsy Werley](#),

(Seton Hall University) [Carol Doyle](#) or [Rachel Peddle](#),

(High School) [Beth Dorfman](#) or [Mindy Kipness](#).