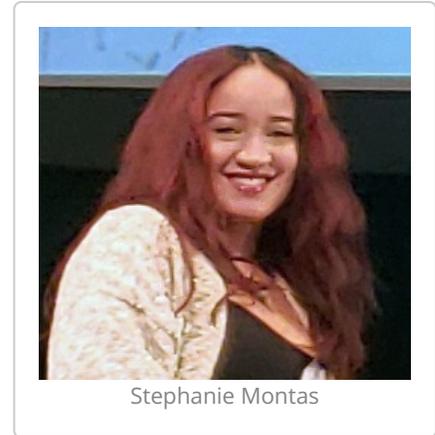


Stephanie Montas – a Mentoring Success Story

fwa.org/spotlight/stephanie-montas-a-mentoring-success-story/

Stephanie started her journey with the Financial Women’s Association in 2012 at Murry Bergtraum High School for Business Careers. Since then she has been an enthusiastic and active participant in the FWA’s mentoring program and is a recipient of our Undergraduate Scholarship while attending New York City College of Technology. Stephanie shared that she “was instantly excited to be part of an official organization that celebrated me for my academics and allowed me to be part of a family of girls with similar aspirations.” “Ever since then, I’ve been surrounded by a network of successful women who motivate and support me through different approaches such as college preparation, mentoring and understanding.”



Through the FWA, Stephanie has had the opportunity to attend many leadership conferences and networking events. She recently attended the Columbia Women’s Business Society’s 15th Annual Women’s Leadership Conference with other FWA mentees from the FWA Scholarship Program, Baruch, and Seton Hall. She commented that this conference “was completely different” and that she “thoroughly enjoyed every aspect of the conference.” Attending this event unexpectedly opened a new door for her in the hospitality industry.

During one of the Breakout Sessions, “Branding Yourself,” Stephanie was inspired upon hearing the success story of panelist Cheryl Gentry, CEO/Founder of her own company, Glow Global Events. After learning about her being a successful minority entrepreneur in the event management industry, which is part of Stephanie’s major, Hospitality Management, and is of great interest to her, she “immediately knew that I had to network with her.” At first she was reluctant because she was intimidated by the fact that Cheryl is the CEO of a large company and she is a college student. Fortunately Stephanie’s dear friend and fellow mentee, Isis Patterson, gave her the pep talk and motivation she needed to go ahead and introduce herself. “I built up the courage and used all of the skills I’ve acquired working with the FWA” to approach and speak to her. Meeting the CEO led me to an interview and ultimately a paid internship at Glow Global Events. “I want to venture out and try different fields within the industry to see which one I like best. This internship has given me new insights into the work and time that goes into planning a successful and smooth event.”

Stephanie looks forward to graduating from New York City College of Technology this year and hopes to continue her association with the Financial Women's Association.

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.