

## **Council of Urban Professionals Announces Inaugural CUP Catalyst Leaders in Finance**

### **Senior Level Professionals Recognized for Professional Achievement and Demonstrated Commitment to Community**

New York, NY -- October 4, 2012 -- Today, the Council of Urban Professionals (CUP) announced the **CUP Catalysts: Change Agents 2012 | Finance** inaugural list. The list highlights and celebrates the accomplishments of diverse leaders across the financial services sector who have achieved extraordinary success in business and have made a significant impact on their community. These individuals will be recognized at **CUP's 5th Annual Wall Street Partners Forum** on October 4th.

**The CUP Catalysts: Change Agents 2012 | Finance** list includes 15 financial service professionals, between the ages of 35-50, who serve at senior levels of organizations, and who have been nominated by their colleagues and peers.

"These are the wave-making, tree-shaking executives and entrepreneurs who are transforming business, driving economic growth, and giving back through board service, mentorship, and philanthropy," said CUP Executive Director Chloe Drew. "We are committed to recognizing diverse professionals from across financial sectors and congratulate the leaders who were nominated and selected."

Recognized professionals include:

- Cristal Baron is President of Rice Financial Products Company. Ms. Baron serves on the Board of Governors of Grace Episcopal Day School in Maryland, and is an active supporter of The Children's Peace Center in Baltimore.
- Valentino Carlotti is Partner and Head of the Institutional Client Group at Goldman, Sachs & Co. Mr. Carlotti serves as a board member of the Boys Club of New York, the Studio Museum in Harlem, American Ballet Theatre and Prep for Prep.
- Joyce Chang is Managing Director and Global Head of Emerging Markets, Credit and Index Research at J.P. Morgan. Ms. Chang is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and the Inter-American Dialogue and serves on the Board of

Directors of Trickle Up and Girls Inc. Ms. Chang is also on the steering committee of J.P. Morgan's Investment Bank Women's Network.

- Audrey Choi is Managing Director and Head of Global Sustainable Finance at Morgan Stanley. Ms. Choi serves on the boards of the Local Initiatives Support Corporation, The Wildlife Conservation Society, StoryCorps, Living Cities and the Morgan Stanley Foundation. She also serves on the National Leadership Council of Communities In Schools.
- Daniel Gamba is Managing Director and Head of iShares Americas Institutional Business at BlackRock. Mr. Gamba serves as a member of the Executive Advisory Board for the CFA Institute, the committee charged with overseeing all aspects of the development of the CFA Program candidate curriculum.
- David R. Jones is Co-Founder, President and Chief Executive Officer of CastleOak Securities L.P. Mr. Jones is a member of the Board of the New Jersey All Stars Project, the Presidential Advisory Council of Hampton University, the Board of the New Jersey Chapter Young Presidents' Organization and the Board of the Council Page of Urban Professionals.
- Nik Mittal is Partner at JANA Partners LLC. Mr. Mittal is a member of the Management Advisory Council for the Michael Price Student Investment Fund at NYU, a founding board member of Success Academy Harlem 5, a member of the Board of Visitors for UNC-CH, and a member of Asia21, a network of emerging global leaders sponsored by the Asia Society.
- Charles Patton is Partner of Oak Hill Capital Partners. Mr. Patton serves on the board of directors of AccentCare, Vantage Oncology, Ascension Health Care Network, and RainTree Oncology Services. Mr. Patton has also served on the board of directors of Butler Schein Animal Health Supply and Metrika and is on the board of the Ralph Lauren Center for Cancer Care and Prevention.
- David Perez is Managing Director of Palladium Equity Partners. Mr. Perez is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, serves as the President of the Board of Directors of Ballet Hispánico and as the Chair of the Board of Directors of the National Association of Investment Companies (NAIC).
- Theresa Gaow Ranzetta is Partner at Accel Partners. Ms. Ranzetta serves as a Trustee on Brown University's Corporation Board, on the board of directors of DonorsChoose.org and is a member of The Stanford GSB Trust and DAPER Investment Fund.

- Wayne A. Seaton is Managing Director, Head of Sustainable Public Infrastructure, at Wells Fargo Securities. Mr. Seaton serves on the U.S EPA's Environmental Financial Advisory Board, the Harlem YMCA, and Jamaica College Old Boys Association.
- Robert F. Smith is Founder, Chairman and CEO of Vista Equity Partners. Mr. Smith is engaged in the community through his Zoelimax Foundation. Mr. Smith is Vice Chair of the RFK Center for Human Rights, a Member of the Cornell Engineering College Council, and a Trustee of the Boys and Girls Clubs of San Francisco.
- Jose Tavaréz is Managing Director, Head of Emerging Markets FICC Sales for the Americas Regions at Bank of America - Merrill Lynch. Mr. Tavaréz is a member of the acquisitions committee for the Studio Museum of Harlem and a board member of Credit Where Credit is Due. Mr. Tavaréz is also the National Co-Leader for Merrill Lynch's Hispanic Professional Network.
- Anré Williams is President, Global Merchant Services, at American Express Company. Mr. Williams serves on the Board of Illinois Tool Works Inc. Mr. Williams also serves on the board of Junior Achievement of New York and the board of trustees at Kent Place School.
- Mona S. Williams is Executive Vice President of Progress Investment Management. Ms. Williams is a board member of the National Association of Securities Professionals and volunteers with Cinnamon Girls, a high school mentoring organization focusing on financial literacy.

CUP developed **CUP Catalysts: Change Agents 2012 | Finance** to highlight and celebrate diverse leaders, role models, and heroes among us. Executives and entrepreneurs who are selected for **CUP Catalysts: Change Agents 2012 | Law** will be recognized at **CUP's 3rd Annual Lawyer's Forum** on October 25th and those selected for **CUP Catalyst: Change Agents 2012 | Media & Entertainment** will be recognized at **CUP's 4th Annual Media & Entertainment Forum** on November 15th.

#### **ABOUT THE COUNCIL OF URBAN PROFESSIONALS:**

Founded in 2007, the Council of Urban Professionals (CUP) is an energetic 21st century leadership development nonprofit organization whose mission is to connect, empower, and mobilize the next generation of diverse business and civic leaders. With 1,500 individual members, a national network of 20,000 partners, and 51 corporate members, CUP provides professional development, access to powerful decision makers and institutions, civic engagement, and service opportunities for emerging leaders. CUP's constituents span industry sectors across New York, California, and Washington, DC.

For more information about CUP, visit [www.nycup.org](http://www.nycup.org).

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