



WHERE THE FUTURE IS BUILT



# ULI NEW YORK WELCOMES NEW VOLUNTEER LEADERS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026

We are grateful to have members who are willing to volunteer their time, effort, and expertise to help us grow and expand the District Council's influence in our region. Our volunteers consistently deliver value to fellow members, our industry, and our community.

*Please join us in welcoming this year's incoming leadership and thanking our outgoing leaders for their exceptional service to ULI New York.*

## ULI New York Executive Leadership

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**Incumbent Chair**

**Helen Hwang**

*Meridian Investment Sales, LLC*

**Incumbent Vice Chair**

**Richard Roberts**

*Red Stone Equity Partners*

**Incumbent Chair for Mission Advancement**

**Robin Zeigler**

*MURAL Real Estate Partners*

**Incumbent Governance Chair**

**Vacant**

**Incumbent Treasurer**

**Jessica Ritchie**

*EY*

**DISTRICT COUNCIL COMMITTEES**

**ULI New York Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee**

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**Incoming Co-Chair**

**Kevin Shabazz**

*Greene Developers*

**Incumbent Co-Chair**

**Jessica Elliott**

*Hart Howerton*

**Outgoing Co-Chair**

**Eric Rothman**

*HR&A Advisors, Inc.*

**Membership Committee**

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**Incoming Co-Chair**

**Andrew Filkoff**

*Alchemy Properties*

**Incumbent Co-Chair**

**Layth Madi**

*Lendlease*

**Outgoing Co-Chair**

**Lisa Flicker**

*Jackson Lucas*

**ULI New York Mentor Program**

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**Incoming Mentor Program  
Co-Chair**

**Nathalia Bernardo**

*Rockwood Capital, LLC*

**Incumbent Mentor Program  
Co-Chair**

**Dino Christoforakis**

*AVANI Residential/Vential  
Investments*

**Outgoing Mentor Program  
Co-Chair**

**Lola Bellini**

*Axia Investment Holdings LLC*

**Incoming Mentor Program  
Vice Chair**  
Joseph Stecher  
*Candlewood Investors*

**Incumbent Mentor Program  
Vice Chair**  
Neda Levy  
*Leo Search Partners*

**Outgoing Mentor Program  
Vice Chair**  
Nathalia Bernardo  
*Rockwood Capital, LLC*

## ULI New York Program Steering Committee

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**Incoming Co-Chair**  
Richard Persaud  
*ACRES Capital*

**Incumbent Co-Chair**  
Jason Vesuvio  
*Pavarini McGovern*

**Outgoing Co-Chair**  
Young Ji  
*NYC Economic  
Development Corporation*

## LOCAL PRODUCT COUNCILS

### Housing Council

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**Incoming Co-Chair**  
YuhTyng Patka  
*Adler & Stachenfeld LLP*

**Incumbent Co-Chair**  
Will Innes  
*NYC Department of Housing  
Preservation & Development*

**Outgoing Co-Chair**  
Lesley Lisser  
*Empire State Realty Trust*

**Incumbent Vice Chair**  
Alex Merchant  
*NYC Housing Development Corporation*

### Infrastructure Council

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**Incoming Co-Chair**  
Chi Chi Truong  
*Arup*

**Incumbent Co-Chair**  
Emily Gallo  
*HNTB*

**Outgoing Co-Chair**  
Ignacio Montojo  
*HR&A Advisors, Inc.*

**Incoming Vice Chair**  
Yuxiang Luo  
*James Lima Planning  
+ Development*

**Outgoing Vice Chair**  
Chi Chi Truong  
*Arup*

### Mixed-Use Council (Blue Flight)

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**Incoming Co-Chair**  
**Michael O'Callaghan**  
*Finback Real Estate*

**Incumbent Co-Chair**  
**Terri Gumula**  
*M&T Bank*

**Outgoing Co-Chair**  
**Rashid Walker**  
*First Street Companies*

**Incumbent Vice Chair**  
**Steve Grant**  
*MCRE Partners*

### Mixed-Use Council (Green Flight)

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**Incoming Co-Chair**  
**Sulin Carling**  
*HR&A Advisors, Inc.*

**Incumbent Co-Chair**  
**Ali Sutherland-Brown**  
*Karp Strategies*

**Outgoing Co-Chair**  
**Meredith Lovejoy**  
*Cumming Group*

**Incoming Vice Chair**  
**Kirsten Sibia**  
*Dattner Architects*

**Outgoing Vice Chair**  
**Dan Carr**  
*Alpaca Real Estate*

### Tech and Innovation Council

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**Incoming Co-Chair**  
**Keith Angell**  
*Novele*

**Incumbent Co-Chair**  
**Robert Okpala**  
*Buro Happold*

**Outgoing Co-Chair**  
**Nadine Anderson**  
*Galvanize Climate Solutions*

### Marketing & Communications Council

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**Incumbent Co-Chair**  
**Emmanuelle Slossberg**  
*Connect10Strategy*

**Incumbent Co-Chair**  
**Sarah Berman**  
*The Berman Group*

**Incumbent Vice Chair**  
**Vero Henze**  
*McKinsey & Company*

### Climate & Sustainability Council

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**Incoming Co-Chair**  
**Yasemin Kologlu**  
*Consortium for Sustainable Urbanization (CSU)*

**Incumbent Co-Chair**  
**Cindy McLaughlin**  
*CarbonBuilt*

**Outgoing Co-Chair**  
**Varun Kohli**  
*Corgan*

**Incumbent Vice Chair**  
**Suhail Y Tayeb**  
*NYU Schack Institute of Real Estate*

## COMMUNITY IMPACT COMMITTEES

### TAPs Steering Committee

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**Incoming Co-Chair**  
**Jason Ivaliotis**  
*DBI Projects*

**Incumbent Co-Chair**  
**Kati Chen**  
*Madison Energy Investments*

**Outgoing Co-Chair**  
**Abi Rudow**  
*VHB*

### UrbanPlan Steering Committee

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**Incoming Co-Chair**  
**Christopher Stienon**  
*Urban Matrix Architecture & Planning*

**Incumbent Co-Chair**  
**D'juro Villaran-Rokovich**  
*Akerman LLP*

**Outgoing Co-Chair**  
**Jie Zhu**  
*L + Z Architecture DPC*

## AFFINITY GROUPS

### Women's Leadership Initiative

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**Incoming Co-Chair**  
**Rosalind Tsang**  
*Rosalind Tsang Architect*

**Incumbent Co-Chair**  
**Yasmin Rehmanjee**  
*Buro Happold*

**Outgoing Co-Chair**  
**Kendra White**  
*BXP*

**Incoming Membership Engagement Co-Chair**  
**Lauren Kang**  
*Barclays Investment Bank*

**Incumbent Membership Engagement Co-Chair**  
**Jenn Chen**  
*Five Horsemen Construction*

**Outgoing Membership Engagement Co-Chair**  
**Michelle Greco**  
*BBG Inc.*

**Incoming Communications Co-Chair**  
**Becky James**  
*First American Title*

**Incumbent Communications Co-Chair**  
**Alicia Koledin**  
*AKcelerate/AYON Studio*

**Outgoing Communications Co-Chair**  
**Lindsay Egert**  
*Lockton Companies*

**Incoming**

**Incumbent**

**Outgoing**

**WLI Programming Co-Chair**

**Sara Lev**

*C-III Partners*

**WLI Programming Co-Chair**

**Annie Yan Bailey**

*Two Trees Management Co.*

**WLI Programming Co-Chair**

**Leah Blank**

*The Hardy Group*

**Incoming**

**Scholarship Co-Chair**

**Ariadne Billy**

*Cornell University*

**Incumbent**

**Scholarship Co-Chair**

**Marsella Marsella**

*RBH Group*

**Outgoing**

**Scholarship Co-Chair**

**Jessica D'Alessio**

*SGCH*

**Incoming**

**University Outreach Co-Chair**

**Kendra White**

*BXP*

**Incumbent**

**University Outreach Co-Chair**

**Tzara Peterson**

*Ennead Architects*

**Outgoing**

**University Outreach Co-Chair**

**Carly AuClair**

*RXR Realty*

**Young Leaders Group**

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**Incoming**

**YLG Executive Co-Chair**

**Mayra Juarez Gutierrez**

*Wells Fargo*

**Incumbent**

**YLG Executive Co-Chair**

**Waverly Neer**

*NYC Economic  
Development Corporation*

**Outgoing**

**YLG Executive Co-Chair**

**Frank Futia**

*NYC Dept. of Citywide  
Administrative Services*

**Incoming**

**Communications Co-Chair**

**Stella Marren**

*Tishman Speyer*

**Outgoing**

**Communications Co-Chair**

**Cayla McElwee**

*JP Morgan*

**Outgoing**

**Communications Co-Chair**

**John Morgan**

*The Hudson Companies*

**Incoming**

**Membership Co-Chair**

**Michelle Greco**

*BBG, Inc.*

**Incumbent**

**Membership Co-Chair**

**Ryan McGuirl**

*Avison Young*

**Outgoing**

**Membership Co-Chair**

**Jon Zelnick**

*Princeton University*

**Incoming Professional  
Development Co-Chair**

**Allyson Lisser**

*Praedium Group*

**Incumbent Professional  
Development Co-Chair**

**Marcos Zapata**

*KeyBank Real Estate Capital*

**Outgoing Professional  
Development Co-Chair**

**Chris Hendler**

*Latham & Watkins*

**Incoming**

**YLG Programming Co-Chair**

**Katherine Salvatori**

*BXP*

**Incumbent**

**YLG Programming Co-Chair**

**Josh Koss**

*Herrick Feinstein, LLP*

**Outgoing**

**YLG Programming Co-Chair**

**Alec Ventrice**

*Vornado Realty Trust*

**NEXT New York**

<p><b>Incoming</b> <b>Executive Co-Chair</b> <b>Georgina Lalli</b> <i>Kohn Pedersen Fox Associates</i></p>	<p><b>Incumbent</b> <b>Executive Co-Chair</b> <b>Karl Mittermayr</b> <i>George Comfort &amp; Sons Inc.</i></p>	<p><b>Outgoing</b> <b>Executive Co-Chair</b> <b>Onur Akansel</b> <i>Seal Investments</i></p>
<p><b>Incoming</b> <b>Executive Vice Chair for Membership</b> <b>Grant Takeda</b> <i>Westbrook Partners</i></p>	<p><b>Outgoing</b> <b>Executive Vice Chair for Membership</b> <b>Georgina Lalli</b> <i>Kohn Pedersen Fox Associates</i></p>	
<p><b>Incoming</b> <b>Cohort One Co-Chair</b> <b>Tobi Jaiyesimi</b> <i>Kasirer</i></p>	<p><b>Incumbent</b> <b>Cohort One Co-Chair</b> <b>Jamie Piazza</b> <i>The Piazza Development Company LLC</i></p>	<p><b>Outgoing</b> <b>Cohort One Co-Chair</b> <b>Helen Paul</b> <i>Cushman &amp; Wakefield</i></p>
<p><b>Incoming</b> <b>Cohort Two Co-Chair</b> <b>Seth Fersko</b> <i>Paul Hastings LLP</i></p>	<p><b>Incumbent</b> <b>Cohort Two Co-Chair</b> <b>Eric Selbst</b> <i>Rockefeller Group</i></p>	<p><b>Outgoing</b> <b>Cohort Two Co-Chair</b> <b>Grant Takeda</b> <i>Westbrook Partners</i></p>

**LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR INCOMING LEADERS**



**Allyson Lisser**  
Associate | The Praedium Group  
**YLG Professional Development Co-Chair**

Allyson Lisser is part of the portfolio and asset management team at The Praedium Group. Prior to joining The Praedium Group, she was a Real Estate Valuation Associate at KPMG and holds her BBA in Real Estate and Urban Land Economics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She has been a member of ULI for four years, serving as a committee member on the YLG Professional Development committee for the past two years.



### **Andrew Filkoff**

Development Project Manager | Alchemy Properties Inc.

#### **Membership Committee Co-Chair**

Andrew Filkoff joined Alchemy Properties in 2019 and focuses on managing the firm's pre-development and development phases. Andrew's most recently completed projects include 278 8th Ave and the Woolworth. He is actively working on an Upper East Side 485X rental and two condominium projects in the southeast. Before joining Alchemy Properties, Andrew worked at Hart Howerton. Some of his past projects included an 80-acre resort in Lenox, MA, and a half-mile beach resort in the Cayman Islands. Andrew is a registered architect in New York and a graduate of Syracuse University with a Bachelor of Architecture and a Minor in Real Estate.



### **Becky James**

Account Manger, National Commercial Services | First American Title

#### **WLI Communications Co-Chair**

Becky James is an Account Manager for the National Commercial Services Division at First American Title Insurance Company. With a long history in sales and management, Becky strives to treat each client with respect, while delivering the highest level of service. She embraces the idea that client relationships are built on trust and hard work. As a National Account Manager, Becky assists her clients in closing commercial transactions of all sizes, scopes and geographies. She oversees the origination of title insurance business through hoteliers, REITs, developers, lenders, law firms and private equity and capital market sources.



### **Chi Chi Truong, PE, LEED Green Assoc.**

Senior Civil Engineer | Arup

#### **Infrastructure Council Co-Chair**

With over 16 years of experience in land development, Chi Chi is a leader in civil engineering and resilient infrastructure design, known for his holistic, progressive approaches. He combines technical excellence with a deep commitment to sustainability, climate adaptation, and social justice. His expertise spans all aspects of site development with a passion for stormwater management and coastal resiliency. Chi Chi's designs safeguards communities, particularly disadvantaged communities, against future environmental challenges.

Chi Chi has led multidisciplinary teams through every phase of the project lifecycle, from due diligence and master planning through full engineering design and construction administration. His collaborative leadership style and ability to navigate complex regulatory frameworks have earned him the trust of clients across the public and private sectors.

His portfolio includes high-impact, transformative projects such as the Rue Vendome Pedestrian Plaza (Miami Beach, FL), the Brightline Station (Miami, FL), West Avenue Neighborhood Resiliency Redevelopment (Miami Beach, FL), and The Concoors Club (Opa-Locka, FL). Since moving to New York in late 2021 to join Arup, he has made significant contributions such projects as NYCHA Red Hook Sandy Recovery Project (Brooklyn, NY), NYCDEP Green Infrastructure - Housing (Brooklyn, NY), HHFT Shoreline Trail along the Hudson River (Dutchess County, NY), and Sunrise Hospital (Sunrise, FL).



**Christopher Stienon**

Principal | Urban Matrix Architecture and Planning  
**UrbanPlan Steering Committee Co-Chair**

Christopher Stienon is an architect, an urban designer, and a city planner with a long history designing and managing projects that contribute to the public realm and the design of cities. Prior to founding his own company, Urban Matrix Architecture and Planning, he worked for several renowned architecture and planning firms in New York City including Skidmore, Owings and Merrill, Beyer Blinder Belle, Cooper Robertson and Partners, EDAW, AECOM and Stantec. He is currently teaching a course on Urbanism and the history of the city at Fordham University's School of Visual Arts, and a design studio of architecture and urban design at New York City College of Technology (CUNY). Christopher holds a Master of Science in Architecture and Urban Design from Columbia University, and a Bachelor of Architecture from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. He is a full member of the Urban Land Institute and the Urban Redevelopment Product Council, a member of the American Institute of Architects, the American Planning Association, and the American Institute of Certified Planners. He is also a LEED accredited professional.



**Georgina Lalli**

Senior Associate Principal | KPF  
**NEXT Co-Chair**

Georgina instills a refined process-based approach to project management and leadership, honed through multiple-year experience delivering high-profile real estate projects globally. Her portfolio spans diverse typologies and regions, from Latin America and Europe to East Asia and the U.S. Northeast, highlighting her adaptability and broad capacity to understand the specificity of real estate markets.

Over the past decade, she has established herself excelling in project design and delivery of complex projects in New York City. Currently pursuing an Executive MBA at Columbia University, she is integrating strategic thinking with financial acumen to lead the execution of world-class real estate projects that consistently outperform in the market.

She has led complex, large-scale developments of over \$1.7 Billion of construction cost including mixed-use, workplace, residential, and adaptive reuse projects. Notable work includes the Tisch Cancer Hospital Renovation at Mount Sinai Health System and the T. Rowe Price Headquarters in Baltimore.

With Argentine roots and an Italian upbringing, Georgina brings strong cultural awareness and emotional intelligence to her work. Licensed in New York and Italy, she also teaches at NYIT and is an advocate for equity in architecture through mentorship and organizational involvement. Her MBA studies support her mission to bridge design and real estate development, enhancing architecture's value for stakeholders and communities.



### **Grant Takeda**

Director | Westbrook Partners

**NEXT Vice Chair for Membership**

Grant Takeda is a member of the New York office of Westbrook Partners where he serves as a Director, and participates in acquisition, value enhancement and realization activities. Westbrook Partners is a privately-owned global real estate investment management company that raises and invests capital on behalf of a diverse group of institutional investors, including public and private pension funds, endowments, foundations, financial institutions and other private equity investors. Mr. Takeda received an MBA from NYU Stern School of Business.



### **Jason Ivaliotis**

Senior Project Manager | DBI Projects

**TAPs Steering Committee Co-Chair**

Jason Ivaliotis is a Senior Project Manager for DBI Projects where he manages the development of complex real estate assets for a diverse range of clients. He is responsible for overseeing strategic planning, design management, financial administration, construction activities and project delivery across a variety of building typologies in both local and international markets. Combining his professional expertise as a practicing architect with a history of fostering constructive collaboration among project stakeholders, Jason is dedicated to building strong relationships with his clients, internalizing their goals, and delivering successful projects.

Jason brings over 18 years of professional experience to the DBI team, having previously served as the Design Studio Director at Hill West Architects as well as a Senior Associate and Project Leader for Woods Bagot, Handel Architects and Robert A.M. Stern Architects. As a member of the leadership team within these prestigious design firms, he was responsible for the design and management of a diverse portfolio of projects centered around large-scale urban planning, multi-family housing, civic and educational buildings, transportation infrastructure, and mixed-used development. His professional work has been recognized with several awards by the American Institute of Architects and the Urban Land Institute, including a 2022 ULI Global Award of Excellence for the Essex Crossing Development in New York City. As a practicing architect with a dedication to design excellence and urban sustainability, Jason has a history of delivering successful projects that shape neighborhoods and enhance the lives of their residents.

Jason holds a Master of Architecture from Columbia University where he graduated with an Honor Award for Excellence in Design and a Bachelor of Arts in Architecture from Miami University. While working as a licensed professional in New York, Jason has remained connected to the innovative centers of academic research. He served as an Adjunct Assistant Professor of Architecture at Columbia University GSAPP and a Lecturer in Architecture at the Parsons School of Design. In 2022, he joined the distinguished faculty at Pratt Institute in Brooklyn as a Visiting

Assistant Professor of Architecture. Jason's professional work and academic research has been published internationally and he has participated in numerous events focusing on how contemporary advancements in digital technology and socially sustainable design strategies are shaping the built environment.



**Joseph Stecher**  
Founder & CEO | Candlewood Investors  
**Mentor Program Vice Chair**

Joseph Stecher is the Founder & CEO of Candlewood Investors, a placement agent and proptech advisor.

Candlewood Investors's main business is raising equity for real estate entrepreneurs and proptech venture capitalists who have built big businesses with little or no institutional equity, and now want to gain entry into the institutional tent, or who have raised institutional equity outside the United States and want to gain a toehold here. For the most part

Joseph's clients are at the pre-fund or first-fund stage and want to form a fund or a vehicle with one LP who might be a private equity fund, insurance company, pension fund or endowment, sovereign wealth fund, professional family office, or investment manager.

Joseph also advises real estate technology startups – generally pre-seed through B round, with a focus on product market-fit, finding customers, finding investors, board members, and JV or merger partners.

Joseph has been in Private Equity Real Estate for 30+ years and has invested \$5 billion globally as a principal, first at GM Pension and then at Morgan Stanley and Goldman Sachs, where he founded the real estate fund of funds businesses at both firms. When Joseph started Candlewood Investors he became one of only two people in the world of private equity real estate who has been a GP, an LP, and a placement agent.

Joseph holds a BA with honors in Literature with Philosophy and History from Wesleyan University in Middletown, CT and an MBA in Finance from New York University Stern School of Business.



**Katherine Salvatori**  
Development Project Manger | BXP  
**YLG Programming Co-Chair**

Katherine is currently a Development Project Manager at BXP (Boston Properties) in the New York region where she specializes in commercial office development. Recently, Katherine completed redevelopment projects at 510 Madison Avenue and 360 Park Avenue South. Prior to joining BXP, she was a Development Analyst at JBG SMITH in Washington, D.C..

Katherine holds a Master of Science in Real Estate Development (MSRED) from MIT where she was part of the Young Leaders cohort, and a Bachelor of Science degree in Economics from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania with concentrations in Real Estate and Retail, and minors in Architecture History and Urban Real Estate Development. She holds certifications as a LEED Green Associate and a WELL Accredited Professional. As an active ULI member since 2017, Katherine has been involved in the ULI New York Young Leaders Group on the Programming Committee since 2023.



**Keith Angell**  
Chief Financial Officer | Novele  
**Tech and Innovation Council Co-Chair**

Keith began his professional career in capital markets working for Deutsche Bank, Credit Suisse and Barclays. In 2013, he founded his first company, a buy now, pay later fintech platform called PerPay. Since exiting PerPay, Keith has co-founded and operated at multiple companies including BetterSpaces, Code Green and Engin Capital. His latest company, Novele, is an energy storage technology company that innovates for a world where energy does more than power our lives; it sustains our planet and enriches our communities.

Keith is an alumni of Lafayette College and Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. He is happily married to Ashley Angell and is the proud father of two amazing sons, Trey aged 18 and Colby aged 17 and two dogs Charlotte and Coco.



**Kendra White**  
Manager – Joint Venture Client Relationships | BXP  
**WLI University Outreach Co-Chair**

Kendra White is a Manager of Joint Venture Client Relationships at BXP, focused on joint ventures across the company's six regions. Her role involves being the primary point of contact between BXP and its various JV partners, performing an asset manager role. She also works with the broader JV team to bring in new capital and build relationships with new potential partners. Prior to her JV role, Kendra was a Senior Financial Analyst for BXP focused on the New York Region. She supported the NY regional teams, including leasing, development and acquisitions, along with the executive teams in both New York and Boston. Kendra joined BXP in January 2020 after completing her Masters in Real Estate Development at NYU Schack Institute of Real Estate. Prior to Boston Properties, Kendra spent a combined 8 years working in the real estate tax practices of PwC in NYC & San Juan, PR and Ernst & Young in NYC.

Kendra is stepping into the role of Co-Chair of ULI New York's WLI University Outreach Committee. She has been a member of ULI New York for six years, serving as a committee member and then co-chair on the ULI NY WLI University Outreach Committee for four years and then stepping up to the role of Vice Chair and then Chair of WLI in

FY24 & FY26. She is excited to be rejoining the University Outreach Committee for FY26. In addition to her involvement with ULI, Kendra was a WX Scholar and is a member of CREWNY.



### **Kevin Shabazz**

Founder and Principal | Greene Developers

**DEI Committee Co-Chair**

Kevin Shabazz is the Founder and Principal of Greene Developers, a mission-driven real estate development firm focused on sustainable design, affordable housing, and master-planned communities. Rooted in community impact and drawing inspiration from his Bronx upbringing in subsidized housing, Kevin brings a unique blend of entrepreneurial experience and social purpose to his work. He holds a degree in Entrepreneurial Studies from Norfolk State University and is also President of the New Leadership Academy, a Bronx-based nonprofit dedicated to community development and economic empowerment. At Greene Developers, he leads innovative paid internship programs in land investment and real estate development, partnering with CUNY and Lehman College, and has trained over 40 students from underserved backgrounds.

Kevin is an active UrbanPlan volunteer with ULI, serves on ULI New York's Climate and Sustainability Council, and is a member of ULI NEXT, contributing to sustainability and leadership in the real estate industry. As Co-Chair of the DEI Committee, Kevin is committed to advancing equity in the built environment by fostering inclusive leadership, empowering emerging professionals, and ensuring that all communities have a voice in shaping the future of our cities.



### **Kirsten Sibilia**

Managing Partner | Dattner Architects

**Mixed-Use Green Vice Chair for Membership**

Kirsten Sibilia is a vocal advocate for the important role design plays in addressing issues of social justice, environmental equity, and civic life. As managing partner of New York City's largest Women-Owned Architecture Firm — Dattner Architects— she is focused on the firm's continued health and vitality. Her design training and entrepreneurial spirit have allowed her to approach the business side of the practice as a design project; with each initiative, she reflects the firm's commitment to improving public life, through the creation of resilient and sustainable urban density.

Her enthusiasm for supporting architectural practice manifests in involvement with several leading industry organizations in addition to ULI-New York, where she has been on Mixed-Use Green Council and served as Design Awards Juror for several years. She is also on the board for Habitat for Humanity (New York & Westchester), AIA New York, and New York Building Congress Foundation. Kirsten holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Parsons School of Design and a Bachelor of Arts from the New School.



**Lauren Kang**

Corporate Banking Analyst | Barclays Investment Bank

**WLI Membership Engagement Co-Chair**

Lauren is a Corporate Banking analyst in the Financial Institutions Group (FIG) at Barclays, where she supports clients across Broker Dealers, Supranationals, Sovereigns, and Agencies (SSA), and Global Affiliates. She brings a diverse background across blockchain research at a proptech startup, M&A advisory at Deloitte, hotel & hospitality asset valuation at JLL, and corporate finance at AIG. Lauren holds a bachelor's degree in Finance and Data Science from NYU Stern. Outside of work, she enjoys playing and watching sports—including golf, basketball, and volleyball—and is a fan of classic sit-coms.



**Mayra Juarez Gutierrez**

Vice President | Wells Fargo

**YLG Executive Co-Chair**

Mayra Juarez Gutierrez is a Vice President in the Community Lending & Investment group at Wells Fargo, where she focuses on Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) equity investments in affordable housing developments nationwide. With a strong commitment to creating more equitable communities, Mayra's long-term goal is to play a key role in supporting real estate projects that generate long-term social and economic impact. Mayra is an active member of the ULI, where she has served on the YLG Professional Development Committee for four years, helping to shape the cohort program. However, her involvement with ULI really began as a mentee in the mentorship program. She credits her mentor from the program, Terri Gumula, for consistently encouraging her to deepen her involvement with ULI. Now as she steps into her new role as co-chair of YLG she hopes to give back to the organization by helping to strengthen its vibrant young professionals community and meet the organization's larger goals.



**Michael O'Callaghan**

President | Finback Real Estate

**Mixed-Use Blue Council Co-Chair**

Michael O'Callaghan is the President of Finback Real Estate, an advisory firm that provides structured capital solutions for owners and investors in large commercial real estate projects throughout the US.

Previously he was a Senior Managing Director at Savills overseeing US Capital Markets platform and Cross Border Investment teams. Michael served as a member of the senior management team Rubenstein Partners, a private equity real estate fund manager, where he was responsible for sourcing and executing value-added office investments in Eastern US markets. Michael co-founded and served as CEO of Union, a full-service advertising agency located in New York City. He also served as a senior officer and member of the Management Committee for publicly traded transportation company, Carey International, Inc. over seeing mergers and acquisitions and legal matters.

Michael was appointed Associate Special Counsel to the United States Senate's Special Committee Investigating Whitewater Development Corporation and Other Related Matters. Upon graduating law school, he served as a Staff Attorney for the US Securities and Exchange Commission's Division of Enforcement.

Michael began his career working on a Presidential Campaign in 1987, where he served as a principal on the campaign's debate preparation team, and co-authored the campaign's standard briefing book provided to select campaign surrogate speakers, including: members of the House and Senate; Governors; the Cabinet and other senior government officials.

Michael earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from Duke University in Political Science and his Juris Doctor from Fordham University School of Law.



**Michelle Greco**  
Managing Director | BBG  
YLG Membership Co-Chair

Michelle Greco is a Managing Director at BBG, a nationally recognized valuation and assessment firm known for its personalized service, deep industry expertise, and proactive approach to meeting client deadlines. She previously served as Co-Chair of the Women's Leadership Initiative (WLI) Membership Committee and holds a B.S. in Business Management from the University of Miami.



**Nathalia Bernardo**  
Associate General Counsel, Real Estate | Rockwood Capital, LLC  
Mentor Program Co-Chair

Nathalia Bernardo has represented clients in a broad range of real estate transactions, including joint ventures, ground leases, acquisitions and dispositions, and complex development and management agreements for properties in multiple asset classes. Nathalia has advised real estate investment trusts (REITs), private equity firms, institutional real estate investment advisers, family offices, high net worth individuals, and closely held real estate owners, developers, and investors in domestic and international transactions involving residential, commercial, industrial, gaming/hospitality, and mixed-use assets. Among her notable work, Nathalia represented VICI Properties Inc. in multiple transactions, including a definitive agreement with an affiliate of MGM Resorts to lease the real estate assets associated with 15 Class A entertainment resort properties upon VICI's acquisition of MGM Growth Properties LLC. She also represented a high net worth individual in her sale of minority membership interests in a portfolio of New York City office properties. The sale was complicated by seller financing, which was secured by the membership interests acquired by the

purchaser, and by a rarely seen right of first refusal, which was partially exercised by the remaining partners in the property-owning ventures. Nathalia has also counseled nonprofit organizations on real estate and other transactional matters. Her notable work includes advising the Intrepid Museum Foundation in its acquisition of the space shuttle Enterprise from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. Nathalia serves as an adjunct professor of law at Cornell University Law School and an adjunct assistant professor at Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation. She is also a member of the Center for Real Estate Studies (CRES) Advisory Board at The George Washington University, and a member of the Board of Directors of CREW (Commercial Real Estate Women) New York.



**Richard Persaud**

Chief Financial Officer | ACRES Capital  
**Programming Steering Committee Co-Chair**

Richard Persaud currently serves as the Chief Financial Officer of ACRES Capital where he is responsible for leading the financial team in the accounting, financial reporting, servicing, tax and treasury functions. He also provides key strategic and operational support. ACRES Capital is a private commercial real estate lender and SEC-registered investment advisor dedicated to nationwide middle market lending with a focus on Class A multifamily, student housing, hospitality, office, and industrial property in top U.S. markets.

Earlier in his career, Richard served as a senior manager at Ernst & Young LLP where he coordinated and managed audits of private and public real estate companies. Richard is a Certified Public Accountant and a Certified Internal Auditor. He received a Bachelor of Business Administration in Accountancy from the Bernard M. Baruch College of the City University of New York and is an active member of the Urban Land Institute.

Richard lives on Long Island, NY with his wife Yogi and two children. When he is not working, you can find him volunteering, reading, writing and watching films.



**Rosalind Tsang**

Principal | Rosalind Tsang Architect  
**WLI Co-Chair**

Rosalind Tsang is an architect, leader, and mentor with over two decades of experience shaping transformative projects and studio cultures in New York City and beyond. A passionate advocate for sustainable and socially driven design, she brings a global perspective and a deep commitment to collaboration, cultural exchange, and team empowerment.

Rosalind's career spans leadership roles at premier architecture firms, including Co-Founder and Studio Director of Building Design Partnership (BDP) New York, and Senior Associate at RAMSA, where she managed award-winning residential, mixed-use, commercial, hospitality and urban revitalization projects across the U.S., China, India, and Europe. Most recently, she led the team behind Claremont Hall, a 2025 ULI NY Excellence in Market-Rate Housing Development Award finalist.

Rosalind is a licensed architect in New York, a LEED AP (BD+C) and holds degrees in Architecture and Environmental Studies from the University of Waterloo. An active ULI New York member for five years, she serves on the District Housing Council and formerly on the WLI University Outreach and Awards for Excellence in Development committees. Beyond ULI NY, Rosalind is Co-Chair of the AIA New York Women in Architecture Committee where she advocates for women and minorities in leadership. A 2022 Fellow of the Urban Design Forum, Rosalind helped shape citywide dialogue on health equity in design and development.



**Sara Lev**

Senior Vice President, Real Estate Asset Management | C-III Capital Partners

**WLI Programming Co-Chair**

As a Senior Vice President in the Equity Asset Management group at C-III Capital Partners, Sara manages a portfolio of multifamily, office and hotel properties on behalf of the firm's investment funds. She also leads environmental initiatives on behalf of C-III, working to implement sustainability objectives throughout the real estate portfolio.

Ms. Lev is a graduate of Stanford University and holds an M.B.A. from Columbia Business School with a focus on Real Estate and Finance. She is a member of the Environmental, Social & Governance steering committee for C-III Capital Partners and is also a member of ULI New York's Mixed-Use Council.



**Seth Fersko**

Of Counsel | Paul Hastings LLP

**NEXT Cohort 2 Co-Chair**

Seth Fersko is Of Counsel in the Real Estate practice of Paul Hastings LLP, a premier global law firm, and a member of the firm's Real Estate Development group. Seth's practice focuses on real estate development, redevelopment and construction, joint ventures and preferred equity investments, acquisitions and sales, financings and refinancings, ground leasing and commercial leasing, and restructurings, recapitalizations and workouts. He represents developers, operators, asset managers, major financial institutions, private equity funds, owners, tenants and investors on virtually all real estate asset classes, including office, retail, hospitality, multifamily, mixed use, data centers, self-storage, condominiums, biotechnology and cannabis. While Seth's practice is national in scope, he regularly counsels clients on the most sophisticated and high-profile real estate transactions in New York City.



### **Stella Marren**

Marketing Director | Tishman Speyer

**YLG Communications Co-Chair**

Stella is a Marketing Director at Tishman Speyer, where she leads marketing strategy across the East Coast and Midwest Regions and the Residential Platform. She is currently focused on the Enterprise Research Campus in Boston, a mixed-use development designed to foster innovation through residential, lab, hospitality, and public space. Stella joined Tishman Speyer in 2022, bringing experience from 3 years at Skidmore, Owings & Merrill, where she led marketing for the Interiors practice. Stella holds a degree in Urban Studies with a minor in Architecture from Washington University in St. Louis.



### **Sulin Carling**

Principal | HR&A Advisors

**Mixed-Use Green Council Co-Chair**

Sulin Carling is a Principal at HR&A Advisors, an economic development and public policy consulting firm. Sulin's practice focuses on place-based economic development. She advises public and private sector clients across the country on adapting to economic shifts in the interest of equitable growth – including supporting commercial corridors and small businesses in a shifting retail landscape, ensuring the continued vitality of downtowns, and planning for the future of urban industrial areas. Prior to rejoining HR&A in 2020, Sulin served as Senior Economic Development Planner at the New York City Department of City Planning where she led the agency's efforts to update industrial land use policy for 21st century industry and to track evolving retail trends on commercial corridors across the city. Sulin is a member of the ULI New York Metro Chapter's Mixed-Use Council and a Board Member of the Urban Manufacturing Alliance. She holds a Masters in Urban Planning from the Harvard Graduate School of Design and a Bachelor's from the University of Chicago.



### **Tobi Jaiyesimi**

Vice President, Real Estate | Kasirer

**NEXT Cohort 1 Co-Chair**

As Vice President of Real Estate at Kasirer, Tobi works with a range of clients on advancing residential and mixed-use development projects across New York City. Prior to joining Kasirer, Tobi was Assistant Vice President of Real Estate

and Community Relations at Empire State Development (ESD). Tobi helped ensure the successful approvals of the World Trade Center Site 5 development project leading the business team and public engagement efforts. She also managed the Atlantic Yards Project, the Queens West Development Project, and liaised with the Boards of Directors for the Atlantic Yards Community Development Corporation and the Queens West Development Corporation.

Earlier in her career, Tobi was Chief of Staff for NYS Assembly Member Walter T. Mosley, and Deputy-Chief of Staff for Assembly Member Hakeem Jeffries.

Tobi holds a Bachelor's degree in Political Science and a Master's in Urban Affairs from Hunter College. She was selected as a 2021 Council of Urban Professionals (CUP) Fellow, and has volunteered with Brooklyn high school students through the Women-In-Government Mentoring Program for over a decade. Tobi has been recognized on City & State's 2024 Trailblazers in Economic Development list and was awarded a 2025 Women In Power Fellowship with the Belfer Center.



**Yasemin Kologlu**

President | Consortium for Sustainable Urbanization (CSU)

**Climate and Sustainability Council Co-Chair**

Yasemin Kologlu is the President of Consortium for Sustainable Urbanization (CSU), Founder of Futureeq LLC, a Senior Fellow with Architecture 2030 and a recognized leader in building design and construction. She has 20+ years of experience in sustainable design, innovation and net zero energy/carbon strategies. She has proven expertise in sustainability policy/strategy to generate scalable solutions for net zero carbon developments and businesses.

As an expert in sustainability and climate change, Yasemin serves on juries and advisory boards shaping low carbon/energy practice and policies across New York and nationally. She is the co-chair of AIA's Committee on the Environment in New York, founding board member of MEP2040.

Yasemin holds a B.Arch degree from Cornell University and an Executive MBA from IE Business School and Brown University.



**YuhTyng Patka**

Partner | Adler & Stachenfeld LLP

**Housing Council Co-Chair**

YuhTyng “Tyng” Patka is a partner at the law firm Adler & Stachenfeld where she is Co-Chair of the NYC Real Estate Tax & Incentives Group, PACE Finance Group, and Impact Group, as well as a member of the Real Estate Practice Group. Tyng represents NYC real estate owners and developers on all aspects relating to real estate taxes, such as challenging their property taxes (certiorari), applying for tax & zoning incentive programs such as 421-a, 485-x, 467-m, ICAP, IDA PILOTs, inclusionary housing (VIH/MIH/UAP), and not-for-profits in obtaining real estate tax exemptions.

Additionally, Tyng is a leading expert on Local Law 97 and also counsels clients on PACE financing and its interconnection with LL97 compliance and property taxes. Tyng is an active member of ULI New York. She is on the ULI Housing Product Council and part of the ULI mentorship program. Tyng earned her B.S. from Cornell University and her J.D. from Hofstra University School of Law.



## Yuxiang Luo

Principal | James Lima Planning + Development

**Infrastructure Council Vice Chair for Membership**

Yuxiang Luo is Principal at JLP+D, where he guides urban and economic development strategies for public, private, and non-profit clients across North America. A certified urban planner (AICP), Yuxiang is committed to making cities and regions more competitive through economics, policy, and design. At JLP+D, Yuxiang has worked on projects spanning 20 cities and counting, including infrastructure-led economic development initiatives in Boston, Atlanta, and Austin; workforce development strategy for Long Island; and large-scale open space and district planning in New York, Indianapolis, San Jose, Jacksonville, and beyond. Prior to joining JLP+D, Yuxiang worked at the New York City Mayor's Office of Management and Budget, overseeing the City's budget for constructing and maintaining parks and open spaces.

Yuxiang holds advanced degrees from the London School of Economics and Harvard. A published author of several articles, reports, and monographs, he has been invited to speak at the American Planning Association, ULI, United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network, Harvard University, University of Hong Kong, and MIT.

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