



## **YWCA honors women leaders from JPMorgan Chase**

Two rising JPMorgan Chase executives were recently honored for their leadership – at work and in the community. Catherine Flax of the Investment Bank and Thasunda Brown Duckett of Mortgage Banking were inaugurated into the [YWCA of New York City's Academy of Women Leaders](#).

This honor recognizes outstanding female leaders in business who support diversity, help the community, and excel in their professional endeavors. In other words, women who are true role models for the next generation.

### **Champion of diversity**

A managing director in IB Global Commodities, Flax has actively recruited and mentored women and people of color and has spearheaded several groundbreaking diversity initiatives. Among them is an effort to recruit promising candidates from Baruch College, voted the most diverse university in the U.S. JPMorgan Chase became the first bank to reach out to the school. Flax is also leading a global effort to better educate colleagues on the benefits of having a diverse workforce.

Flax is a member of the EMEA Leadership and Inclusive Leadership councils, and participates in the Investment Bank Women's Network.

Outside the office, she serves on the board of Part of the Solution, a social services agency in the Bronx.

### **Nurturing top talent**

As manager for Mortgage Banking's eastern region, Duckett manages more than 900 sales professionals who will originate close to \$10 billion in home loans this year. She has accelerated the representation of diverse individuals in management and sales, and advocates for an inclusive work environment as a member of Chase's Diversity Advisory Group and co-chair of the Mortgage Banking Advisory Group.

She championed the concept of Chase Diversity Open Houses, which have attracted 6,000 attendees to date, and is currently working on launching a Women's Top Talent Forum for the company.

In the community, Duckett serves on the board of the Women's Business Enterprise National Council and on the Council of Urban Professionals. She was also recognized by *Ebony* magazine as a young African American leader.

Both women received their awards at the YWCA's Salute to Women Leaders, a fundraising luncheon held on Oct. 28 in New York City.