



Fall Newsletter

Since the beginning of the school year, the students at the Academy of Finance have been incredibly active. They have completed their summer internships, initiated their mentee program, explored various careers, welcomed guest speakers, participated in academy days and business week activities, attended business plan workshops and resume workshops, engaged in board meetings, and organized an AOF Career Fair. Read here!



Her Honor Mentee Program

Her Honor Mentoring was developed by Nicole Sheindlin and Judith Sheindlin, as an innovative way to boost self-confidence in young women in the workplace and everyday life. This year there are fourteen students participating in the program from our school. In September there



was a kickoff luncheon at the Larchmont Shore Club where mentees were able to meet their mentors. Students had an opportunity to visit Regeneron in October. In December students will visit Montefiore. The purpose of these visits is to expose students to the variety of careers available within these organizations. "Joining the program gave me an opportunity to explore different perspectives, network, and develop long-term connections."

—Merelyn De La Cruz, AOF Senior



Summer School Internships

Wow this summer was amazing! I was able to make money, learn, and network all in one. During my summer internship at Yonkers High, I had the opportunity to work with Mr. Sherman. I learned the ins and outs of working in a professional setting. This experience allowed me to build valuable relationships, not only within the office but also with the teachers, inspiring my interest in pursuing an office job. My time as a summer school intern reinforced the importance of effective organization and communication, underlining the value of record-keeping and timely parent/guardian correspondence. During this internship I was able to provide classroom support to teachers highlighting the importance of adaptability and the ability to assist students in various ways. This experience also emphasized the necessity of teamwork and flexibility when handling diverse duties and projects assigned by educational authorities/authorities in general, all while recognizing the importance of building strong relationships with colleagues and students to foster a positive and collaborative atmosphere.

—Skyla Nicholas, AOF Senior



Law Internship



Thanks to the Academy of Finance Coordinator, Mr. Drilon Gojani, I was presented with a paid internship opportunity during the summer. The Academy of Finance partnered up with the Westchester Bar Association of White Plains, NY. I got placed up with the private law firm, Keane and Beane, PC. They welcomed me with warmth and comfort. When I arrived, the staff was instructive and guided me through my five weeks there. I was tasked with multiple jobs. Such jobs included, printing, translating documents, putting together closing statements, making and organizing red wells (folders), and attending meetings with the lawyers about technical issues. I came to this internship with the thought of becoming a lawyer, at the end some of my opinions changed yet my path to study criminal law remains. I would love for this opportunity to be presented and offered to other students, so their career path becomes clearer and for them to gain useful experience.

-Dayana Rivera Cruz, AOF Senior

Inspiring Others Assembly

Things that people are scared to do, are the things that stop you from becoming the person you want to become. Participating in the Inspiring Others Assembly was



was a significant turning point in overcoming the obstacles that were preventing me from living my life the way I dreamed it. It is an honor to have the opportunity to share my experience and to show how I have conquered those obstacles. I used the experience to to build upon my morals. Being able to step outside of my comfort zone is a crucial part of my professional career building, along with a long awaited jump over a mental hurdle. To those who wish to branch out and step out of their comfort zone, you have to do it. Take the time to be uncomfortable and you will learn to be confident in any situation.

- Emmett Tucker, AOF Junior

Guest Speaker: Maria Alfaro Founder of Que Paso Latinx



A graduate of the AOF, Maria transitioned from developing business plans in Mr. Mulqueen's class, to becoming the CEO at Que Paso Latinx, a non-profit mental health foundation helping communities overcome obstacles. In October, she opened a new facility in Yonkers. Maria generously shared her journey with the AOF and LHS communities, shedding light on common misconceptions about non-profits and the path to entrepreneurship. -AOF

Student-Preneur Shoutout

IG: Menaa.Crochets

Brenda Quintero, an AOF student, recently launched her crochet business. She specializes in creating various beautiful crochets.



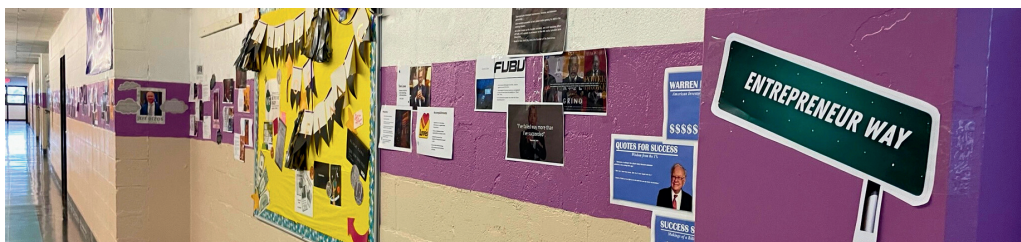
AOF College Credit Expansion:

AOF has broadened its college credit offerings, allowing students to earn 6 credits from Westchester Community College through the Early College Experience program. Students will receive transcripts from WCC. We hope to expand to 9 credits for the 2024-25 school year.

Course Offerings:

Mr. Mulqueen - Entrepreneurship

Mr. Gojani - Personal Finance





Career Exploration



Career Fair



Exploring business careers as a group in our class, we worked together to research different business careers. We then had the opportunity to present our findings to the rest of the school during our mini Career Fair. Each group got to showcase the ins and outs of various business careers, giving us a glimpse into what our future work lives could be like. Rondo Moses, a Harvard graduate & Partner of Insurgence Group, visited and provided valuable feedback to the presenters. It was an engaging and informative way to learn more about potential career paths.

-Nycole Popa, AOF Sophomore



Dual Academy Day: Successful Collaboration for a Cause

Last year, the AOF and ASR worked in tandem with One World to host the Staff vs. Student basketball game. Our aim was to offset LHS's carbon emissions, and we are pleased to report that we accomplished this goal. We want to express our gratitude to the LHS administration team, our sponsors Joseph Carvin/One World, and the teachers/collaborators who put in their best efforts to make the event a success. Moreover, we want to give a special shoutout to the students who volunteered their time to fundraise, upload data into Excel, set up, manage concessions/ticket sales, and help recruit teachers for the event. Your contributions were invaluable!

-AOF



Business Week



Business Week

Throughout the week, students participated in a Career Fair, Money Tree Financial Goals activity, Business Plan Workshop, Guest Speaker sessions, Advisory Board meeting, and Academy Day. These events provided valuable insights into various aspects of the business world, including career opportunities, financial planning, entrepreneurship, and real-world application of business concepts. The week was an enriching opportunity for students to engage with professionals, develop 21st Century skills, and gain inspiration for their future endeavors in the field of business.

-Ms. Swanson AOF Assistant Principal

Business Planning Workshop

The senior class is preparing for the Junior Achievement Social Innovation Challenge, which is a national competition in which high school students are invited to submit their innovative ideas for improving and making an impact on their communities. Mr. Lawrence Berger, a former banker with experience in raising money for businesses, is our volunteer coach. He facilitated five sessions introducing the elements of a Lean Canvas and will provide individual feedback for each business. From there we will have to prepare an Executive Summary, Business Plan and Elevator Pitch. "I find it interesting that you can outline all the key aspects of your business into a one page business model." I chose a sustainable Event Planning business that will recycle event waste.

-Joy Williams AOF Senior



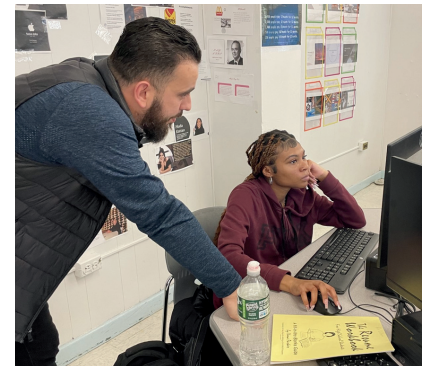
Vision Lite Conference



Students from the Academy of Finance, Gabrielle Rowe, Savanna Green, and Isaiah Jones, had the opportunity to attend the Vision Lite Conference in New York City, this was an opportunity designed for Black and African American professionals, empowering the next generation of diverse talent in financial services and wealth management. They heard from experts in the financial services industry and discussed career opportunities available for individuals who fit certain skill sets.

-Gabrielle Rowe AOF Senior

Guest Speaker, Resume Workshop: Rafael Nacaj, Talent Acquisition



A graduate of the AOF, Rafael provided practical guidance on resume building and essential skills, helping us prepare for future careers. The interactive nature of the coaching allowed us to engage and ask questions, resulting in a valuable learning experience. Students were able to get feedback from an experienced professional.

-Aila Williams AOF Junior