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# Forté Fellow Lookbook



Class of 2020



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**The Forté Fellows Program** was created with the intention of increasing the number of women applying to and enrolling in MBA programs by offering fellowships to women. Rotman School of Management is a sponsor school of Forté Foundation and a strong supporter of women in business. To date, Rotman has given nearly \$2 million to over 90 Forté Fellows. For the Class of 2020, Rotman has awarded Forté Fellowships to 25 talented women.



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# Adesola Oladipupo

ROTMAN MBA, 2020

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## Education

Bachelor of Science in Economics  
(Honours)

**BABCOCK UNIVERSITY, NIGERIA**

## Prior Work Experience

Investment Analyst

**SIGMA PENSIONS, LAGOS, NIGERIA**

Financial Auditor

**PWC, LAGOS, NIGERIA**

Adesola is passionate about helping young women to have a quality balanced lifestyle while excelling in their own chosen field of expertise. She leads by example - tutoring CFA Level I and Level II candidates (she is a CFA charterholder herself), mentoring secondary school students in the "Students in Finance" initiative which was launched in 2015, volunteering as a tutor at an adult education center and being a Fitness and Nutrition coach at the gym - all at the same time.

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# Ana Perez

ROTMAN MBA, 2020

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## Education

Bachelor of Business Administration  
**UNIVERSIDAD DE COSTA RICA,  
SAN JOSE, COSTA RICA**

## Prior Work Experience

Senior Associate, M&A and Strategy  
**ERNST & YOUNG (LATAM NORTH)**

Ana enjoys working with local farmers transforming their raw materials into value-added consumer goods. This interest spanned after she was awarded a third place in an entrepreneurial competition in Costa Rica for developing products and empowering local producers to grow their family businesses. Since then, she has developed organic products such as a Chlorophyll-based drink, a tea made from the coffee pulp and a diverse number of honey products. One of her goals is to empower women to achieve their full potential.

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# Andrea Aramayo Balboa

ROTMAN MBA, 2020

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## Education

Bachelor of Economics  
**TECNOLÓGICO DE MONTERREY,  
MEXICO**

## Prior Work Experience

Deputy Director, Credit Solutions  
**SCOTIABANK, MEXICO CITY**

Manager, Credit Solutions  
**SCOTIABANK, MEXICO CITY**

Andrea was one of the youngest Deputy Directors of the Commercial Banking Department at Scotiabank, and was a member of the LGBT Ally group at Scotiabank, driven by her passion for inclusion and diversity. She also took care of the elderly and special needs orphans in a volunteer program as part of her commitment to society in her home country of Bolivia and later in Mexico. In her spare time, she sings solo and in vocal group arrangements.

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# Aviva Pratzer

ROTMAN MBA, 2020

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## Education

Bachelor of Arts,  
Honours in Political Science (Major),  
and Economics (Minor)

**BARNARD COLLEGE, NEW YORK, USA**

## Prior Work Experience

Analyst, Analytics

**TRACKDDB, TORONTO, CANADA**

Analyst, Data & Analysis

**DIGITASLBI, BOSTON, USA**

Aviva founded and organized the Professional Development Series for the Analytics team at her last employer, TrackDDB. She was also the Co-Chair of United Jewish Appeal (UJA) Under 40 Executive Division for the 2018 community fundraising campaign. As for her interest, she participated in an 8-week improvisation class at Second City in Toronto.

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# Bryana Rahkola

ROTMAN MBA, 2020

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## Education

Bachelor of Kinesiology  
**UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA,  
VANCOUVER, CANADA**

## Prior Work Experience

Operations Manager  
**CHANGEPAIN, VANCOUVER, CANADA**

Clinic Supervisor  
**CHANGEPAIN, VANCOUVER, CANADA**

Bryana is passionate about healthcare management and helping others. She was an award-winning volunteer first responder with the Canadian Ski Patrol. She is also an avid rock climber, skier, dancer, surfer, and outdoor enthusiast. She has had the privilege to live in five incredible cities: Vancouver, Victoria, Penticton, San Francisco, and Toronto.



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# Carolina Morales

ROTMAN MBA, 2020

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## Education

Bachelor of Actuarial Science  
(High Distinction)

**UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL AUTÓNOMA  
DE MÉXICO, MEXICO CITY**

## Prior Work Experience

Investment Manager

**SEGUROS Y PENSIONES BANORTE,  
MEXICO CITY**

Global Markets Controller

**BANK OF AMERICA MERRILL LYNCH,  
MEXICO CITY**

Growing up in the countryside for many years made Carolina be conscious of the narrow circumstances in rural areas but also of the beauty in landscapes outside big cities. These factors have encouraged her to actively volunteer with low-income people and environmental programs, and to travel in her home country and abroad (she has visited 29 out of the 32 states of Mexico and four countries). She strongly believes that balance between professional goals and lifestyle is possible with discipline, motivation and extra effort. She loves learning, running and spending time with her loved ones.

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# Cindy Li

ROTMAN MBA, 2020

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## Education

Bachelor of Arts,  
International Studies,  
Economics, and Anthropology  
**UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO**

## Prior Work Experience

Senior Consultant,  
Technology Risk, Advisory  
**KPMG, TORONTO, CANADA**

Cindy lived and worked in a Hungarian refugee camp where she founded an English literacy program for 300 refugees from 20 countries and diverse cultural groups. She is a passionate advocate of youth leadership, and currently serves as a board member of a global youth leadership organization.

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# Deniz Maden

ROTMAN MBA, 2020

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## Education

Bachelor of Science,  
Manufacturing Systems Engineering  
**SABANCI UNIVERSITY,  
ISTANBUL, TURKEY**

## Prior Work Experience

Brand Manager  
**DANONE, ISTANBUL, TURKEY**

Assistant Brand Manager  
**DANONE, ISTANBUL, TURKEY**

Deniz is passionate about brand marketing in the consumer products sector. At Danone, she managed baby food brands and led the new food portfolio and category launch in Turkey. What drives her the most in a hectic day at work is observing the interaction between the consumers and the brand through digital platforms. In her spare time, she loves baking chunky chocolate chip cookies and brownies.

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# Kristina Roderos

ROTMAN MBA, 2020

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## Education

Bachelor of Science, Honours in  
Management Engineering (major)  
and Financial Management (minor)

**ATENEO DE MANILA UNIVERSITY,  
MANILA, PHILIPPINES**

## Prior Work Experience

Senior Rates Trader

**MAYBANK PHILIPPINES INC.  
MANILA, PHILIPPINES**

Fixed Income Trader

**BDO PRIVATE BANK INC.  
MANILA, PHILIPPINES**

Kristina is passionate about feminism and diversity in Finance. She has worked for female empowerment in the Philippines through financial education and public speaking programs. She also loves the beach (scuba diving, surfing) and plays competitive team sports.

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# Leah Stemeroff

ROTMAN MBA, 2020

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## Education

Bachelor of Science,  
Major in Environment - Biodiversity  
and Conservation

**MCGILL UNIVERSITY,  
MONTREAL, CANADA**

## Prior Work Experience

Consultant

**SHARED VALUE AFRICA,  
TORONTO, CANADA**

Business Process Manager

**VITALITE ZAMBIA, LUSAKA, ZAMBIA**

Driven by her passion for clean energy, Leah lived in Zambia for over three years and worked with a start-up specializing in micro-financed solar home systems to enable access to modern, clean energy for the majority of the population still off-grid.

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# Leonora Dalipi

ROTMAN MBA, 2020

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## Education

Bachelor of Science in  
Human Resources Management  
(Suma Cum Laude, Honours)

**SAINT MARY-OF-THE-WOODS COLLEGE,  
USA**

## Prior Work Experience

Internship Program Lead,  
HR Operations

**WORLD RESOURCES INSTITUTE  
WASHINGTON D.C., USA**

Leonora is passionate about creating opportunities for people and making companies run more efficiently, especially using technology. As the Internship Program Lead, she worked closely with managers to design a program that met their needs by attracting the brightest cohorts of interns. The program grew rapidly and became an integral part of the organization and a pipeline for fulltime talent. In her spare time, Leonora spends time connecting with the local communities through dance.

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# Marita Winslade

ROTMAN MBA, 2020

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## Education

Bachelor of Civil Engineering  
and Applied Mechanics (distinction)

**MCGILL UNIVERSITY,  
MONTREAL, CANADA**

## Prior Work Experience

Structural Engineer

**ENTUITIVE, TORONTO, CANADA**

Preconstruction Manager

**FARES DEVELOPMENTS,  
HALIFAX, CANADA**

Marita is passionate about athletics and developing teamwork, leadership, responsibility, and self esteem in children and adolescents. She has been figure-skating for over 20 years, most recently finishing third at Canadian Nationals with the Gold Ice Synchronized Skating Open team in 2018. She has volunteered as a soccer coach; skating instructor; and is currently training to bike 200 km to Muskoka, raising funds to help establish the 1st Paediatric Exercise Medicine room and Cardiac Rehab Program for kids and adolescents in Canada at The Hospital for Sick Children.

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# Maggie Yun

ROTMAN MBA, 2020

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## Education

Bachelor of Business and  
International Finance

**FU JEN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY,  
TAIPEI, TAIWAN**

## Prior Work Experience

Relationship Manager,  
Commercial Banking

**STANDARD CHARTERED BANK,  
KAMPALA, UGANDA**

Director

**MICRO EMPIRE SME ACCELERATOR  
YANGON, MYANMAR**

Having new adventures in emerging markets always makes Maggie feel excited, especially working with the entrepreneurs there. After years working in Uganda, Myanmar and visited many emerging countries, she realized that SMEs and young start-ups, which are often under-served by risk-averse traditional banks, are the most powerful driving engines for economic development. Therefore, she sees promoting early stage investments in emerging markets as her life mission.



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# Mimi Shih

ROTMAN MBA, 2020

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## Education

Bachelor of Science in  
Business Administration (major)  
and Psychology (minor)

**UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA  
LOS ANGELES, USA**

## Prior Work Experience

Investment Advisor

**CIBC WOOD GUNDY,  
VANCOUVER, CANADA**

Mimi lived and worked in three different countries, as well as ran marathons on two different continents. She is at the intersection of being a POC, LGBT, and female in a diverse business environment.

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# Nadine Dinh

ROTMAN MBA, 2020

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## Education

Bachelor of Economics  
**FOREIGN TRADE UNIVERSITY, VIETNAM**

## Prior Work Experience

Head of Data Collection &  
Partnerships Management for APAC  
**UNIVERSUM, SINGAPORE**

Business Developer & Employer  
Branding Advisor for Vietnam  
**UNIVERSUM, SWEDEN**

Before joining Universum in Sweden, Nadine spent over three years working for AIESEC in Vietnam (an international NPO whose goal is to develop youth leadership through exchange programs) and sent hundreds of Vietnamese students abroad for community development projects and internships. At Universum, she was responsible for the data collection and marketing of the world largest talent research in Asia, and her accomplishments through various initiatives earned her the Global Innovation Star award.

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# Rachel Taylor

ROTMAN MBA, 2020

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## Education

Bachelor of Arts, Honours,  
Major in History (First Class)

**DURHAM UNIVERSITY, DURHAM, U.K.**

## Prior Work Experience

Senior Account Manager  
(Innovation)

**POSTERSCOPE (TRADING ENTITY OF THE  
DENTSU AEGIS NETWORK)  
LONDON, U.K.**

Rachel is an accomplished volunteer. Her community involvement includes helping to coordinate the WACL Gather (an annual networking and inspirational event for women in advertising and communications in London), chairing a fundraising initiative for The Princes Trust (supporting young people from disadvantaged backgrounds), and serving as a Sport Information Team Member for the Aquatics team during the London 2012 Olympic Games. In her spare time, Rachel is a keen swing dancer and has 'swung out' on social dance floors across Europe, Asia and North America. She loves swing dancing as a way of being active while forming connections through the internationalized language of dance.

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# Rakiya Sambo

ROTMAN MBA, 2020

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## Education

Bachelor of Science - Business Administration, Major in Accounting (Magna Cum Laude)

**BIOLA UNIVERSITY, CALIFORNIA, USA**

## Prior Work Experience

Accounting Director and Owner

**WRAP IT NIGERIA LTD.  
KADUNA, NIGERIA**

Audit in Charge, Audit and Enterprise Risks Services

**DELOITTE, CALIFORNIA, USA**

Rakiya has worked and schooled in two continents and is passionate about learning from people of different cultures. She looks forward to utilizing her financial skills in a multicultural and inclusive country like Canada. In her spare time, she loves to eat and cook food from different cultures.

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# Rashi Sharma

ROTMAN MBA, 2020

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## Education

Bachelor of Business Administration,  
Honours/Summa Cum Laude

**LOYOLA UNIVERSITY, NEW ORLEANS, USA**

## Prior Work Experience

Senior Consultant - People Advisory  
Services

**ERNST & YOUNG, TORONTO, CANADA**

Staff Consultant - People Advisory  
Services

**ERNST & YOUNG, ATLANTA, USA**

Rashi has lived in 4 countries: India, Germany, USA, and Canada. Her multicultural experience drives her passion for fostering diverse and inclusive environments, as demonstrated by her involvement with the Professional Women's Network and a local community center that serves immigrants.

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# Rosemary Williamson

ROTMAN MBA, 2020

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## Education

Bachelor of Arts, Dean's List 2012  
**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY, USA**

## Prior Work Experience

Incentive Communications Manager  
**FIAT-CHRYSLER AUTOMOBILES  
DENVER, COLORADO, USA**

Chrysler Brand Marketing Manager  
**FIAT-CHRYSLER AUTOMOBILES  
DETROIT, MICHIGAN, USA**

Passionate about Brand Management and Design Thinking, Rosemary is a Fellow of StartingBloc (a New York City Institute for Social Innovation) and an Alumni Fellow of Challenge Detroit (a leadership and social impact fellowship program). In her spare time, she is an accomplished trumpet player and a former board member of Remix: Young Professionals of the Colorado Symphony, as well as Detroit Passport to the Arts. Rosemary is creatively driven to cultivate the next generation of music and arts patrons.

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# Sofia Gomez de Silva Sosa

ROTMAN MBA, 2020

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## Education

Bachelor of Science in  
Business Informatics (honours)

**TECNOLOGICO DE MONTERREY,  
MEXICO CITY, MEXICO**

## Prior Work Experience

Information Technology Supervisor

**CONSAR (GOVERNMENT SUPERVISOR  
AND REGULATOR OF PENSION FUNDS),  
MEXICO CITY, MEXICO**

Sofia loves teaching; she taught introduction to programming in high school, tutored volunteer teachers at high school program for adult learners, and was a Teaching Assistant for over three years in financial programming courses at the university level. Sofia was also the assistant professor of Tai Chi, Qigong, and Meditation. She also volunteered in teaching computer skills to senior citizens while she was only an undergraduate student.

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# Sophia Duncan

ROTMAN MBA, 2020

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## Education

Bachelor of Arts

**WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY,  
CONNECTICUT, USA**

## Prior Work Experience

Youth Programs & Food Access  
Coordinator

**MILTON COMMUNITY YOUTH COALITION,  
VERMONT, USA**

Marketing & Communications  
Assistant

**FARMERS TO YOU, VERMONT, USA**

Sophia speaks Moroccan Arabic and spent a year living in Morocco, researching traditional foods while she was on a Fulbright research grant. She is also an avid paddler – she and her partner spent their honeymoon on a 25-day canoe trip in Wabakimi Provincial Park.



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# Tamara Teofanovic

ROTMAN MBA, 2020

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## Education

Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering (Dean's Scholar)

**QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY,  
KINGSTON, CANADA**

## Prior Work Experience

Project Manager

**IMPERIAL OIL, CALGARY, CANADA**

Project Controls Advisor

**IMPERIAL OIL, CALGARY, CANADA**

Tamara has a passion for connecting with people through travel, outdoor activities, and food. In this pursuit, Tamara has visited 27 countries and enjoyed exploring her own country through hiking, skiing, and camping in the Canadian Rockies.

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# Uju Nwobu

ROTMAN MBA, 2020

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## Education

Bachelor of Engineering in  
Mechanical Engineering  
**UNIVERSITY OF BENIN, NIGERIA**

## Prior Work Experience

Business Development Manager/  
Lead Strategist  
**DEEFRENT LIMITED, LAGOS, NIGERIA**

Technical Assistant  
**MALIN MARINE CONSULTANTS,  
LAGOS, NIGERIA**

Uju is a fashion enthusiast and she runs a fashion/lifestyle blog and YouTube channel, UrsulaSebastine.com. She is a lover of gorgeous and antique cars and also loves dancing. She is passionate about volunteering especially pertaining to child education including her community involvement for the past six years with Slum2School Africa.

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# Vamika Bajaj

ROTMAN MBA, 2020

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## Education

Bachelor of Science in Economics  
and Mathematical Science

**UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN, USA**

## Prior Work Experience

Business Analyst

**MCKINSEY & COMPANY, CHICAGO, USA**

Having lived in five countries, Vamika is excited about language and culture. She enjoys being in environments where there is an intersection of quantitative thinking and creativity & innovation. Vamika is also passionate about non-profit engagements and recently spent a month working for the Samarpan Foundation in Delhi.

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# Ximena Bravo

ROTMAN MBA, 2020

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## Education

Bachelor in Industrial and  
Commercial Engineering  
**UNIVERSIDAD ESAN, LIMA, PERU**

## Prior Work Experience

Brand Activation Coordinator  
**CASTROL (SUBSIDIARY OF BP),  
LIMA, PERU**

Consumer Marketing Manager  
**NESTLÉ, LIMA, PERU**

Ximena enjoys travelling, getting to know new cultures, and trying different kinds of food. Her favourite places were Monastery of Santa Catalina (Arequipa, Peru), Tayrona National Park (Santa Marta, Colombia), and Maui (Hawaii, USA). She is passionate about education for women and young people and volunteered as part of the Nestlé Youth Initiative in Peru, helping young people to develop skills to become more employable.