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2019 Women in Building Services: Sonya Verny, IA Interior Architects

February 19, 2019 - Spotlights

Name: Sonya Verny

Title: Director of Client Services

Company Name: IA Interior Architects

How many years have you been in your current field? 8+ years

List up to three CRE organizations that you are currently a member of:

CoreNet

IFMA

IAMC

What was your greatest professional achievement or most notable project in the last 12 months?

Joining IA Interior Architects as director of client services for the New York office is my greatest professional achievement in the last 12 months. I moved to New York over eight years ago with little knowledge of the real estate industry. Since then, I have focused on developing my real estate expertise and expanding my network. On LinkedIn alone, I now have over 15,000 connections. To be entrusted with the business development of a global leader in interior architecture and design is an achievement I could not have envisioned eight years ago and speaks to my strong/sustained professional growth.

What trend(s) do you predict to dominate your industry in 2019?

The human experience in the built environment and the role of AI will dominate in 2019. The confluence of neuroscience, design, and technology, with wellness and sustainable agendas as significant motivators, will impact the industry, driving innovative design solutions and work environments we have not seen before.

Which of your philanthropic endeavors are you most proud of?

In August, I was recognized as a Woman of Valor by the St. Francis Food Pantries and Shelter for being a leader in my career and community. I am also deeply committed to St. Jude Children's

Research Hospital and serve as co-chair on the board of the Kids for Kids Foundation, which has raised over \$10 million for the hospital.

What does it mean to you to be a team player?

Being a team player means you are engaged and always working as a team. You help, support, and encourage your teammates; you respect their contributions. You keep your commitments, think creatively and ahead and, most importantly, go above and beyond to achieve the best outcome. As a team player I joined IFMA. At the IFMA Awards for Excellence Gala in January, I was humbled to receive the Distinguished Chapter Volunteer Board Member Award for my participation with the IFMA New York City Chapter as secretary of the executive board.

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