



2023 Women in CRE: Maria Elefante, Arbor Realty Trust

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Maria Elefante
Managing Director, Treasury

Arbor Realty Trust

What recent project, transaction, or accomplishment are you most proud of? While I'm proud to have grown Arbor's banking relationships significantly over the last 20 years, I'm even more proud to be a Commercial Real Estate Women New York (CREWNY) member, where I have the opportunity to help create a strong pipeline of women leaders in our industry. I'm currently helping the organization develop a mentor program for young women professionals, and in 2022, I was honored with CREWNY's Star of the Year Award.

Who inspires you most? What qualities do they possess that inspire you? My mother came to this country with only her four-year-old son holding her hand. With her courage, determination, and intelligence, she lived the American dream.

Why should this nominee be recognized in our Women in Commercial Real Estate Spotlight? "Maria is incredibly dedicated and we're fortunate to benefit from her leadership every day at Arbor. This recognition from NYREJ acknowledges many of the same skills that have led to her success here. We're so proud of her!" - John Natalone, Executive Vice President, Treasury and Servicing at Arbor Realty Trust.

What are the most important factors women in your industry should consider when choosing a firm to build their career with? Find a forward-thinking firm that aligns with your goals and ethics. I've grown with Arbor because I believe in this firm's ethics and integrity.

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