

# Growth and Giving Back: Forté's New Member Education Series

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The E-Series at Forte is meant to equip students with the basic tools necessary to succeed in the business world. No matter what workplace one ventures into, it's important to have certain key skills down pat, such as interviewing techniques, resumes, and networking. The E-Series program for new members allows members to build on their previous accomplishments and knowledge by working together with other members to improve their breadth of skills. For example, members will work together in groups to deliver a presentation on key industries of interest. This will allow new members to get exposure to different industries, which is a key goal of the E-Series.

We also help new members develop some core skills in PowerPoint and Excel- we know that new members come from all majors at Cornell and it is our job to help them succeed in whatever field they pursue using these core skills. The E-Series culminates in a case presentation where new members can practice applying all the skills and knowledge to analyze a problem and create a coherent solution. Through initiatives such as this, we try to get a sense of collaboration and communication going- which will be handy for new members as they progress to the capstone project the next semester.

A big part of their education is also getting to know other Forté members. Not only does this foster a community of support whom they can rely upon throughout their Cornell journey, but it also teaches them key networking skills which will be useful as they progress in their career. Our Coffee Chat program helps new members develop these bonds organically and formally. Lastly, Forté is a community where members can feel safe to make mistakes and grow throughout their membership. Discussions surrounding prominent themes in today's world and womxn's place in those is also a key part of the education process as it helps build their awareness and prepares them for wider discussions that g-bodies have.

It's so rewarding to see new members grow so much by the end of E-Series and use their gained knowledge and skills to give back to other new members of Forte and the wider Cornell community. It's been especially gratifying to be able to bring my own experiences as an upperclassman and mold the E-Series to emphasize skills that I know are important to succeed at Cornell and in the wider workforce