



# Forté's Inclusivity of All 8 Cornell Colleges

By Maya Mischke, Co-President (SP23 - FA23)

Senior in Industrial and Labor Relations (msm324@cornell.edu)

When I first arrived on Cornell's campus in the peak of the pandemic when everything was online, I struggled to navigate Cornell's many student organization offerings. As a non-business major, I was looking to join a student organization that could provide me with a business education and industry knowledge that my coursework lacked. However, because I was unsure of my potential career path at the time, I didn't want to restrict myself to an industry-specific business club. I discovered Forté and it was one of, if not the most transformative involvement of my college career.

Forté welcomes women from all schools and majors across campus. In the Spring 2024 semester, our membership includes a wide range of majors including Healthcare Policy, E&S, Fashion Management, Computer Science, Hotel Administration, Architecture, Biological Sciences, English, Global Development, Animal Science, ILR, Anthropology, Economics, Psychology, among many others. Forté focuses on honing transferable skills that are applicable regardless of industry, such as networking, interviewing, collaboration, public speaking, analytical thinking, etc. Our New Member Education curriculum is tailored toward each individual's industry of interest. For example, each new member presents an industry-specific current events deliverable, and topics in the past have ranged from a marketing analysis of ELF cosmetics to a healthcare analysis of HSA feasibility. Personally, I am going into consulting post-grad, and Forté not only provided my first exposure to the case interview and case presentation, but aided me in nurturing soft skills central to the consulting industry.

Beyond career development resources, Forté has provided me with a community of inspiring and uplifting women from a diverse array of backgrounds whom I otherwise wouldn't have met. Forté's supportive and mentorship-oriented culture is what kept me involved for all four years of my college career. When I was an underclassman, older members in Forté helped me navigate everything from internship recruitment to what to minor in. Throughout the years, from having roundtable discussions during G-Body about our role as women entering male-dominated fields to having informal game night socials, Forté has cultivated a true sense of community grounded in professional development, career-interest diversity, and comradery.