

NOTABLE BLACK LEADERS

As one enters the Big Apple through the Midtown Tunnel, the words “E Pluribus Unum” — “Out of many, one” — greet every visitor. This storied phrase well encapsulates the spirit of a city where diversity and unity increasingly coexist.

But challenges persist, especially in business. A 2023 Pew Research Center study found that nearly 3 in 10 Black workers believe their employers pay too little attention to diversity, equity and inclusion. And roughly half of Black workers feel that their race makes it harder for them to succeed professionally.

The 100 honorees on our list of 2024 Notable Black Leaders undoubtedly know both sides of this coin. In honoring them, Crain's celebrates Black New Yorkers' success and advancement, spanning industries from law and finance to nonprofits and the arts. Read on to learn more about these pacesetters and their remarkable achievements.



Demetrius Warrick

Partner, Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP

Scope of work: Demetrius Warrick is a partner at the law firm Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom and is counsel of choice in complex transactions. Clients he has represented on mergers and acquisitions and private equity transactions include Fed-Ex, Mars Inc. and Dentsply Sirona.

Biggest career win: Warrick is the first Black partner in Skadden's mergers and acquisitions group. He assists colleagues from historically underrepresented backgrounds, both at Skadden through participation in an affinity network for Black lawyers and in the broader legal industry.

Skadden

Other contributions: Warrick identifies and invests in the next generation of Skadden attorneys, working with partners to create and teach mergers and acquisitions programs to law students at multiple universities.