

## Career Spotlight:

Kelly Smolenski

Architect & MS in Real Estate  
Development NYU



“ My desire to shape space and positively impact the built environment is intrinsic to my very nature. It is something I have identified with since childhood and immediately sought to pursue as a young adult. Earning a Bachelor of Architecture degree from Pratt Institute further reinforced this passion. I decided to further my education so that I could bridge a gap between responsible design and what is actually being developed and realized in physical form. I intend to merge my intrinsic design sensibilities as well as the language and style I have established while practicing in

the field of architecture, with the capability of developing projects and managing a portfolio. My matriculation at New York University, in pursuit of a Master of Science in Real Estate Development, has added to the skills I've acquired, so that I am capable of making the intentional, sensitive and innovative impact that this industry demands of us. Being involved with and engaging organizations such as WX New York Women Executives in Real Estate, Commercial Real Estate Women (CREW) NY, Construction Management Association of America CMMA Metro NY/NJ Chapter, as well as NYU SPS REISA and the Women in Real Estate Society (WRES), has dramatically enhanced my ability to navigate my own career path and develop relationships within the industry. These organizations along with NYU alumni, foster mentorship and leadership. They provide a greater perspective on what is important and the relationships we are cultivating. It is this type of engagement and investment that is more rewarding than any professional accolades.