

# Sharon Blackman

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INDUSTRY: FINANCIAL SERVICES



### What is the best part of your job?

Definitely the diversity of the organisation. It is diverse in every sense, people, background, thought, jurisdiction, opportunity, interest ... the scale and reach of Citi is awe inspiring. One day I'm working with a legal colleague in China trying to figure out a solution for a CNY trading issue, then I'm speaking with our chief country officer in South Africa about some regulatory analysis, maybe a risk question from someone in NY or being pulled on to a call in light of developing issues in Argentina, then I could be brainstorming fundraising ideas for a charity or researching crypto currencies.

When I first joined my boss said to me - there are really very few reasons to leave, we do everything here, that means you can do anything and everything right here.

### Biggest learning moment of your career?

Everyone expects people to be productive and get things done; what is mind-blowing is the impact of how you say and do things - are you moody and difficult or relaxed and easy to talk to? Who would you prefer to spend your working day alongside?

### What does Black history month mean to you?

Celebration. Celebration of Diversity. As well as trying to learn something new each time, I really enjoy observing and being part of the discussion.

### Why is being a positive role model important to you?

Being around young people is invigorating. I love the vibrancy of young curious minds, that opportunity to observe the lightbulb moment of 'I could do that' or 'that's interesting, I'll try that', it's very fulfilling. I always leave feeling inspired.

### What is your top tip to success?

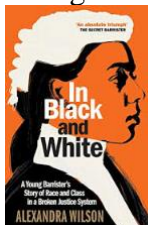
Offer to help, then help with energy and positivity.

### What is your greatest achievement?

Personally and outside my kids (I have 2 boys and a girl), the knowledge that I once performed a full violin concerto - I'm just disappointed I didn't record it. I am blown away every time I listen to a famous recording - I did that once!

Professionally, making Managing Director was a really big deal for me - it didn't represent a single big piece of work, but it felt like an acknowledgement of my collective achievements throughout my career.

What are you listening to?



Favourite food to boost your mood?

*Flying Fish*



Biggest change since lockdown?

*Cycling as a family and play more board games*

Ideal Mentor?

*Trust is a big thing for me so it doesn't work if I haven't made an effort to build some trust and some connection.*

Role Model growing up?

*My parents*