



50 LEADING WOMEN IN HEDGE FUNDS 2026

Freya Maynard

Head of Business Development for International Equities, Citadel, London



Freya Maynard is the Head of Business Development for International Equities (IE) in Europe and Asia. Based in London, she leads talent acquisition for investment and supporting central functions across all seniority levels. Freya oversees a global team, navigating regional nuances in the talent landscape to meet local business needs, while maintaining Citadel's standards for talent excellence across geographies. She works closely with Nabeel Bhanji, Head of International Equities, playing an integral role supporting the firm's long-term growth. The business is comprised of equity long/short and event driven investment teams across Europe and Asia. Freya joined Citadel's business development team in 2023 and was promoted to her current role in March 2026. At 29, she became one of the youngest people in the firm's history to assume the position, reflecting Citadel's meritocratic culture and commitment to developing exceptional talent from within. She has played a central role in building out investment teams across the IE Europe and Asia business while strengthening the core investment infrastructure that supports both regions. Freya began her career in Morgan Stanley's Prime Brokerage Capital Introductions team in London, following an internship in Sales & Trading. During her tenure, she transferred with the firm to New York, where she led the Capital Introductions effort for European hedge funds marketing to the US allocator base. She graduated from the University of Cambridge with a first-class degree in history.



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Natalie Rastin

Chief Compliance Officer for Enterprise, Citadel and Citadel Securities, New York



As Chief Compliance Officer for Citadel and Citadel Securities' Enterprise teams, Natalie Rastin drives compliance strategy and upholds the highest standards across Citadel and Citadel Securities' central functions. She leads the global enterprise compliance programs for both firms while serving as a trusted adviser to leaders across the firm, providing strategic counsel on complex, cross-jurisdictional regulatory matters and helping the business navigate an evolving global regulatory landscape. Since joining the firm in 2021, Natalie has transformed the enterprise compliance operating model. She designed and implemented a centralized compliance framework that streamlined processes, strengthened governance, and established a consistent, coordinated approach across jurisdictions. She also created a unified, end-to-end employee compliance lifecycle spanning pre-hire screening, onboarding, ongoing certifications, and annual compliance training for employees globally. Natalie's technology-forward approach further advanced the firms' approach to compliance oversight by introducing data-driven employee compliance dashboards and performance metrics that provide business leaders, business COOs, and internal compliance teams with greater visibility into trends, emerging risks and program effectiveness. Natalie also serves as Citadel's principal subject matter expert on the US Investment Advisers Act. She provides trusted guidance on complex issues, helping the firm navigate the evolving regulatory landscape while delivering practical solutions that support business objectives. Beyond her technical expertise, Natalie cares deeply about developing talent. She identifies opportunities to align roles with individuals' strengths, enabling colleagues to maximize their potential. Natalie began her career as a lawyer, spending a decade specializing in regulatory enforcement and litigation. She served as Counsel at WilmerHale before joining AQR Capital Management as Head of Core Compliance and Regulatory Counsel.



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Gabriella Skirnick

Chief Operating Officer, Surveyor Capital (Citadel), New York



As Chief Operating Officer of Surveyor Capital, one of Citadel's four fundamental equities businesses, Gabriella Skirnick plays a central role in supporting the business's long-term growth. She partners closely with Phillip Lee, Head of Surveyor Capital, to drive strategic priorities across business management, long-term planning, talent and organizational development. Since her appointment in March 2026, Gabriella has focused on positioning Surveyor's operating platform as a strategic advantage, enhancing its ability to scale, execute and deliver sustained performance. Gabriella joined Citadel in August 2023 as Head of Strategic Incentives with a mandate to further evolve the firm's incentives function into a strategic enabler of business objectives across both Citadel and Citadel Securities. She more than doubled the team, building a multi-disciplinary capability to support the function's expanding remit. In her role, Gabriella collaborated

closely with Citadel's senior leaders to develop innovative incentive strategies and employee programs supporting the firm's talent and business objectives. In addition, Gabriella and her team worked in close partnership with Business Development to support the firm's efforts to attract exceptional talent and enable its continued growth. Under her leadership, the team also developed technology-enabled solutions to strengthen the firm's incentives infrastructure and enhance the employee experience. A hands-on leader, Gabriella is committed to fostering collaboration, innovation and continuous improvement. She empowers her team members to take on new challenges and build rewarding long-term careers at Citadel. Prior to Citadel, Gabriella spent over 15 years at Goldman Sachs, first as a TMT investment banker and later as an operating executive. She most recently served as Managing Director and COO of Goldman Sachs' Private Credit business before becoming COO of GSAM's Private Alternatives platform, spanning six private alternatives businesses.