2015 Alumni Career Panelists

Lex Haris ’88
Mr. Haris is the 2015 recipient of Browning’s Class of 1938 Alumnus Achievement Award, the Alumni Association’s highest distinction. He is executive editor of CNNMoney and began working for Time Warner (CNNMoney’s parent company) in 1999 as a senior editor for Money Magazine’s website. In 2011, he joined CNNMoney for the site’s launch. Previously, he worked for Individual Investor, ultimately serving as executive editor.

He holds a B.A. from Lake Forest College and an M.A. from Fordham University. Mr. Haris was born and raised in Manhattan and attended Browning for nine years. He and his wife, Helen, live in the same apartment in which he grew up (and walked to Browning from each day!). When not working, he can be found on the Central Park softball fields or at a poker table.

Harold Lehr ’85
Mr. Lehr is chief investment officer of Aithon Capital Management. He has over 24 years of experience in financial markets. He has served as managing director and global head of cross-commodity trading at Deutsche Bank. Prior to that, he was a senior managing director and portfolio manager for Harbert Management Corporation. Over the course of his career, he has worked for top investment firms including Morgan Stanley, Caxton, Soros and The Carlyle Group.

He is an active volunteer and former council member of the Fresh Air Fund, as well as an active volunteer with the Mary Manning Walsh Nursing Home. In addition, he is a tutor of history and mathematics for at-risk youth and is heavily involved with several charities focused on abandoned and mistreated animals. He holds a B.A. from Lehigh University and an M.B.A. from Northwestern University’s Kellogg School of Business.

Graig Springer ’98
Mr. Springer is a compliance manager at OppenheimerFunds. He oversees institutional sales operations from a compliance perspective and determines the adequacy with which the institutional sales channel abides by securities regulations as well as internal policies and procedures. Prior to working at OppenheimerFunds, he spent nearly seven years working for financial institutions in a variety of capacities ranging from compliance to consulting. Some of the notable companies for which he has worked are Citi, Deutsche Bank, Skadden Arps and Lehman Brothers.

He attended Browning for 13 years, received his B.A. in English from Columbia University and earned his J.D. from Fordham Law. At Fordham Law, he was an editor on the Journal of Corporate & Financial Law. He also founded and chaired Fordham’s Committee on Diversity in Business Law. In addition, he mentors Columbia College and Fordham Law students and volunteers at Prep for Prep.

Nicholas Versandi ’01
Mr. Versandi is an investment banking associate within the leveraged finance group at Barclays, where he originates and markets leveraged loans and high yield notes primarily within the consumer and retail industries. Recent transactions include Staples’ $7.25 billion acquisition of Office Depot, BC Partners’ $8.7 billion leveraged buyout of PetSmart and Post’s $2.45 billion acquisition of Michael Foods. Prior to Barclays, he was a due diligence analyst at Capstone Business Credit, LLC, where he spent over two years working on private equity and asset-based lending transactions.

He earned his B.A. from Hobart and Williams Smith Colleges and is a graduate of The Browning School where he serves on the Alumni Council and several committees. He frequently volunteers in a number of philanthropic organizations, including the Alzheimer’s Association, and participates in mock interviews with veterans from American Corporate Partners. In his spare time, he can be found on the waves surfing in Montauk, playing tennis or running in Central Park.