



Cornell University and the Baker Program in Real Estate are pleased to announce the 2016 Real Estate Industry Leader Award recipient: MaryAnne Gilmartin, President & CEO of Forest City Ratner Companies. MaryAnne's leadership in the real estate industry has made a powerful and positive impact on society as a driving force behind several of the highest-profile, largest-scale additions to the urban landscape of New York City.

MaryAnne Gilmartin joined Forest City Ratner Companies (FCRC) in 1994, and has led the company as President and CEO since succeeding founder Bruce Ratner in April 2013. Gilmartin has led some of New York City's most iconic projects, including the *New York Times* building in Manhattan, 8 Spruce Street (New York by Gehry) in Lower Manhattan, and currently, the later phases of the Barclays Center/Pacific Park development in Brooklyn.

Born in Queens, Gilmartin grew up in Woodstock, NY, and returned to the city to attend Fordham University, where she earned a scholarship. Working two jobs during all four years was an early sign of the way in which Gilmartin thrives when faces with challenges.

Gilmartin began her real estate development career as a New York City Urban Fellow in 1986 at the Public Development Corporation, and later served as Assistant Vice President for Commercial Development at the New York City Economic Development Corporation (EDC) during the Koch and Dinkins administrations. She played

a key role in managing the corporate retention program, which worked with companies considering relocation from New York City, including Bear Stearns, Morgan Stanley and Chase Manhattan Bank. Soon after, she joined the Consulting Services group at Grubb & Ellis Companies as Managing Director, advising corporations and developers on real estate and relocation needs.

After moving to FCRC, Gilmartin made waves by locking down the New York *Times* as the occupant for a choice site on 8th Avenue in Midtown West, where the namesake 52-floor skyscraper sits today. Among other projects, she subsequently negotiated and assembled the deal for 8 Spruce Street, a Frank Gehry-designed icon in the Lower Manhattan that was the tallest residential building in North America at the time of its completion. The complex mixed-use project underwent intense pressure, as it was constructed during the global financial crisis, being one of the few projects still being built in Manhattan at the time. The building opened to broad acclaim, and stands as a benchmark for successful mixed-use skyscrapers, incorporating 904 residential apartments, a school, a hospital center, ample public space, and street-level retail.

FCRC is currently in the process of developing the 22-acre Pacific Park project, and the corporate co-location Bridge building at Cornell Tech's new campus on Roosevelt Island in New York City.



MaryAnne Gilmartin

