

Alumni Spotlight: Anna Occhino

by Jana Clark

One of Manhattan College's more recent graduates from the Class of 2019, Anna Occhino, graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Communication with a concentration in Public Relations and a minor in Music. She came to MC with a Performing Arts scholarship where she continued to explore and further her passions for the arts and music. Throughout her college career, Anna participated in Jazz Band, Jazz Band small ensemble, MC Singers, Manhattones Acapella, and Music Ministry. To say the least, getting involved and joining campus organizations is one of the best ways to make the most of your college experience.

Occhino did not wait long before entering the professional world of public relations. Only two months after graduation, she started at FleishmanHillard, a global public relations firm in the New York City office. Her role as a Graduate Development Professional involved spearheading an internship program for recently graduated students that guarantees full time hire after a few months. More recently, Occhino moved to the healthcare team where she assists on the firm's largest healthcare account, Foundation Medicine.

During her time at Manhattan, Occhino enjoyed learning from her peers and understanding what direction she wanted her career to go.

"My professors really helped shape my knowledge of ethics and teamwork," said Occhino.

Her senior research paper was accepted to the Eastern Communications Association Conference (ECAC) where she got the opportunity to present her research in Providence, Rhode Island. When she first came to MC, Anna originally planned on entering the School of Business with a focus on Finance. However, she switched when she realized it wasn't what she was passionate about.

"I knew I wanted to do PR as soon as I switched, and I have been certain since," said Occhino.