

VALERIE A. COOPER - BIOGRAPHY

Valerie A. Cooper founded *Picture That Art Consultants* in 2002 resulting from her passion for the fascinating world of art. Her art consulting practice sources framed artwork, photography and sculpture to provide the “finishing touch” for a facility’s décor. The firm also offers curatorial services, art appraisal, and art collection management. Clients include corporations, hospitals and academic institutions.

Prior to forming Picture That, Valerie completed a 15-year Wall Street career with **Goldman Sachs**. As Vice President of Risk Technology, Valerie led software development teams in the Americas, Europe and Asia. She also created the Technology Division’s Diversity & Inclusion program which included curating diversity-themed art exhibitions throughout the firm’s facilities. Before joining Goldman Sachs, Valerie held technology positions with Travelers (Hartford, CT) and PepsiCo (Purchase, NY).

Valerie holds an MBA from **Columbia University Business School**, a Fine Arts Appraisal Studies Certificate from New York University, an Executive Entrepreneur Certificate from Tuck School of Business-Dartmouth College, and a BS from **Morgan State University**. Valerie is also an accredited member of the Appraisers Association of America with a specialty in African American Fine Art.

A native of Stamford, Valerie is a board member for Inspirica, Inc., a Commissioner for Stamford, CT’s Arts and Culture Commission, and an Adjunct Professor for Norwalk Community College. She is also a member of Fairfield County’s Community Foundation’s Community Impact Committee; Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and The Links, Incorporated. Past board memberships include Norwalk Community College Foundation, CTE and A Better Chance of Darien, CT.

Since 2004, her firm has sponsored a Cultural Arts and Literary Program for Stamford Public Schools to promote awareness of diversity and inclusion using art as a vehicle. This program has positively impacted students, teachers and the Fairfield County community at large over the past 16 years.