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CRAIN'S NEW YORK BUSINESS 2020

## NOTABLE LGBTQ

LEADERS & EXECUTIVES

With New York continuing to be at the vanguard of LGBTQ demographics and achievement, *Crain's New York Business* expected the 70 honorees on its inaugural Notable LGBTQ Leaders and Executives list would be an equally attention-grabbing—not to mention, eclectic—bunch. And so they are.

To find the honorees, *Crain's* consulted with trusted sources in the LGBTQ and general business communities and carefully vetted the nominations submitted by firms or individuals headquartered in the metropolitan area or having a major influence or presence there. Ultimately the LGBTQ leaders and executives were selected for their career accomplishments, mentorship of others, and involvement in community and industry organizations, representing all manner of industries and occupations, including media, finance, government, health care, professional services, tech and the arts.

To understand the ways members of this diverse professional cohort deliver for New York City, please read their profiles below. In addition, be sure to click [HERE](#) to learn how you can help through a selection of nonprofit organizations that are making a real impact in the New York community.

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## LEADERS & EXECUTIVES



**Arthur Fitting**

***LGBT Program Manager, Visiting Nurse Service of New York***

After losing his partner during the AIDS crisis, Arthur Fitting decided he was going to use his health care experience to support the LGBTQ community. To do that, he realized he needed a health care model that would achieve the highest quality of care while bringing value to patients. Now his team at Visiting Nurse Service of New York is dedicated to doing just that. Fitting has spent his career at VNSNY working with community-based organizations to help identify gaps in care for LGBTQ community members and developing community access to a high-quality home health program—one that protects health care rights and allows patients to age with dignity.



**Shannon Whittington**

***Clinical Director, Gender Affirmation Program, Visiting Nurse Service of New York***

In developing the Gender Affirmation Program at her longtime place of employment, Shannon Whittington was instrumental in the Visiting Nurse Service of New York becoming a preferred provider for transgender patients. Whittington has been especially effective at coaching clinicians in caring for patients who undergo gender affirmation surgery—efforts that led to her receiving the Quality and Innovation Award from the Home Care Association of New York State. Whittington, who speaks at various conferences across the nation and serves as a board member for Trans New York, holds a master's degree in nursing from Walden University and lobbies for transgender equality in New York City and state.