Department of Commercial Accounting Alumni Spotlight





Gift Somakwabe

Senior Associate 1 in Governance, Risk & Internal Audit ~ PwC

Department of <u>Comm</u>ercial Accounting



Navigating Success in Audit and Education

In the bustling corridors of corporate hallowed and the halls corridors of academia. Gift Somakwabe stands as a beacon of inspiration, seamlessly blending academic excellence with professional With a journey prowess. marked by dedication, mentorship, and a commitment to growth, Gift's story is a testament to the transformative power of education and the limitless potential within each of us.

From Tutor to Senior Associate: A Journey of Growth

Gift's journey began at the University of Johannesburg, where she not only excelled academically but also forged meaningful connections with fellow students and university staff. Her passion for auditing was evident from the start, as she delved deep into the intricacies of the field and emerged as a top achiever in her class.

But Gift's journey didn't stop at graduation. Fuelled by a thirst for knowledge and a drive for continuous improvement, she pursued further studies, earning her BCom Honors in Internal Auditing. Alongside her academic pursuits, Gift remained deeply engaged with her alma mater, serving as a tutor, head tutor, and peer mentor, and later becoming an Academic Trainee for Internal Audit postgraduate students.

A Rising Star in Corporate Auditing

Armed with a solid educational foundation and a wealth of experience gained through her university involvement, Gift embarked on her professional career at PwC. Here, she found her niche in Governance, Risk & Internal Audit, where her sharp analytical skills and dedication to excellence quickly propelled her up the ranks.

Gift's professional journey has been nothing short of remarkable. From conducting audits across diverse industries, including healthcare, mining, banking, and entertainment, to spearheading projects and initiatives aimed at advancing the field of internal audit, she has consistently demonstrated leadership and innovation in her role.

Beyond the Boardroom: Making a Difference in Education and Youth Empowerment

Yet, Gift's impact extends far beyond the boardroom. As a passionate advocate for education and youth empowerment, she has dedicated herself to mentoring students and sharing her knowledge with the next generation of auditors. Through initiatives like starting a mentorship program for auditing students and creating educational content on social media platforms, Gift -









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-continues to inspire and uplift others on their academic and professional journeys.

Her efforts have not gone unnoticed, earning her prestigious accolades such as the IIA SA Young Internal Auditor of the Year 2022 and recognition as one of the Top 200 Mail and Guardian Young South Africans in 2023. Most recently, Gift was honored as the Youth Empowerment Ambassador 2024 by the Emerge Africa Awards, further cementing her status as a trailblazer in her field.

Looking Ahead: A Commitment to Growth and Giving Back

As Gift continues to chart her course in the world of auditing and education, she remains steadfast in her commitment to growth and giving back to her community. With plans to pursue further studies and actively engage with the University of Johannesburg, Gift's journey is far from over. With each step forward, she continues to inspire others to reach for their dreams and embrace the transformative power of education.

Gift Somakwabe's story serves as a reminder that with passion, perseverance, and a dedication to lifelong learning, anything is possible. As she continues to

make her mark in the world, Gift stands as a shining example of what it means to turn dreams into reality and to leave a lasting legacy of excellence and empowerment.

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Connect with Gift on the following social media platforms:

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- 👩 soma_kay
- **d** gift_theauditor



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