

Exploring Downtown



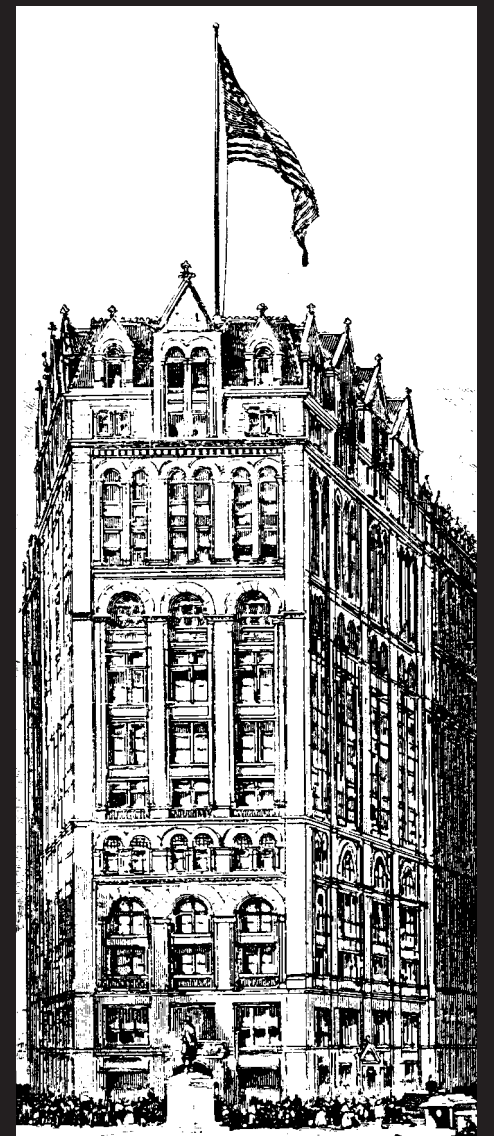
Pace University

One Pace Plaza



Pace University

Founded in 1906 as a small private accounting school—its first class including just 13 students, meeting in a rented room—Pace has grown into a major university that prepares students for a wide range of professions. Although it boasts a law school in White Plains, an environmental center in Pleasantville, and international programs on four continents, Pace has never lost sight of its roots: a school offering innovation and opportunity to a student body drawn from the strivers among each new generation of New Yorkers.



Since 1951, Pace has owned and occupied 41 Park Row, a handsome, early skyscraper built for the *New York Times* in 1889.

On “Newspaper Row”

Pace University has been located near Park Row—once known as “Newspaper Row” because of the many newspaper headquarters there—since the Pace brothers rented their first classroom at 154 Nassau Street, home of the old *New York Tribune*.



Homer St. Clair Pace



Charles Ashford Pace

The Pace Brothers

Homer St. Clair Pace, preparing for a certified public accountant exam, found “very little and very poor instruction along these lines”—an extraordinary lack here in the country’s financial center. Seeing an opportunity, Homer and his brother Charles borrowed \$600 to open a one-classroom business school. Pace University—that classroom’s descendant, now expanded into multiple campuses, not to mention Pace global centers in China, Brazil and Italy—recently celebrated its hundredth anniversary.



Student Body

Pace’s student body has been effortlessly diverse from its beginnings. The first class of 13 included three women—17 years before the constitutional amendment granted women the vote in 1920—and students of color joined the Pace community early in its history. Over the decades, countless Pace students—including newcomers from across the country and around the world—have been the first in their family to attend college.



City Council Member
Kathryn E. Freed,
1st Council District, Manhattan

Also in the Neighborhood



For more information, refer to the large map on the other side of this panel.

The Woolworth Building

Across City Hall Park rises downtown’s great Gothic terra-cotta-clad skyscraper, once the world’s tallest (Cass Gilbert, architect, 1910-1913). “What shall I say of a city that builds the most beautiful cathedral in the world and calls it an office building?” —British Prime Minister Arthur Balfour

Brooklyn Bridge

Just north of Pace Plaza, a pedestrian pathway leads out onto the world’s most beautiful bridge, inspiration of tributes by poets from Walt Whitman to Hart Crane, and by painters from Joseph Stella to John Marin. The world’s longest suspension bridge when it opened in 1883, John and Washington Roebling’s engineering masterpiece spans almost 1600 feet between its majestic, twin Gothic-arched towers.



The mission of the Alliance for Downtown New York is to be the principal organization that provides Lower Manhattan’s historic financial district with a premier physical and economic environment, advocates for businesses and property owners and promotes the area as a world-class destination for companies, workers, residents and visitors. The Downtown Alliance manages the Downtown-Lower Manhattan Business Improvement District (BID), serving an area roughly from City Hall to the Battery, from the East River to West Street.

Alliance for Downtown New York, Inc.
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www.DowntownNY.com

For more information about Downtown, please visit our information kiosks located at City Hall Park, World Financial Center, PATH station and the Staten Island Ferry Terminal. And stop at our Heritage Site Markers situated throughout the neighborhood.

Also, don’t miss our FREE Wall Street Walking Tour! This 90-minute guided walking tour weaves together the history, events, architecture and people of Downtown. The tour meets every Thursday and Saturday at noon at the front steps of the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian, One Bowling Green. For more information, please call (212) 606-4064.