

Amir Ismail

Bank of America/AIC Mindset, Senior Financial Analyst/CEO

Age: 28

WHERE WERE YOU BORN?

Maracaibo, Venezuela

HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN CHARLOTTE AREA?

2 Years

TELL US A LITTLE BIT MORE ABOUT YOU?

Amir Ismail is currently a process improvement lead at Bank of America and the CEO/Founder of AIC Mindset. Having worked at multiple Fortune 100 companies, he developed extensive experience in consulting and strategy functions, supporting high impact teams and business units across enterprise-wide initiatives and industries such as Banking, Public Accounting, Private Equity and Health Care.

Amir started AIC Mindset because of his desire to engage and assist people create compelling narratives that give them direction and pride in their story. AIC Mindset has helped 100+ young and experienced professionals across 15+ industries to create and refine career paths, transition jobs, re-enter the workforce, pursue higher education, start businesses and so much more. At AIC Mindset, we believe that everyone has a story to tell. We are here to help individuals craft and tailor that message through individualized career strategy sessions, professional branding exercises, job search optimization development and leadership training workshops.

Amir is a first-generation college student, first-generation American and comes from a very humble background. He is the oldest of 3 siblings and had to navigate the educational, financial, and professional world with little oversight and guidance. Having grown up with limited resources and mentorship, he is on a mission to paying it forward by motivating and inspiring the next generation of leaders. Amir believes that 'mindset determines success' and that with the right approach anyone can pursue, achieve, and succeed more.

Outside of his professional and entrepreneurial pursuits, he is extremely involved in pro-bono efforts, leadership boards, mentorship and volunteerism including ALPFA, America Needs You Program, World Economic Forum Global Shapers, Hispanic Scholarship Fund and Sigma Lambda Beta International Fraternity Inc. He thoroughly enjoys giving back to his community and motivating hundreds of professionals and students every year through his work. He is a proud Rutgers-Newark graduate, speaks 3 languages (Arabic & Spanish), has traveled to 17 countries world-wide and to 24 states in the United States.

DURING YOUR TIME VOLUNTEERING FOR A COMMUNITY ACTIVITY OR PROJECT, WHAT IS YOUR MOST MEMORABLE MOMENT?

Recently, Amir put together a professional development virtual webinar with his team of 5 interns titled “Virtual Networking: Landing Your Next Job”. He was incredibly proud of this project because of the impact that it created and the reach it had. By August, we understood that people might be “zoom fatigued” or tired of virtual events so we wanted to make this event highly interactive and different with the types of questions we asked. For this event we had a panel of 4 professionals from JPMorgan, Citi Bank, Bank of America, and Microsoft. Amir was the moderator for this event, and it generated 130+ registrations and 80+ live attendees. The event attracted student and professional participants from all over the country and gave everyone that attended the opportunity to network with the panelist at the conclusion of the discussion. Post event, Amir challenged everyone to take to LinkedIn and post about the event and their key takeaways to help enhance their personal brand. Amir also created a ‘Mindset Determines Success’ community on LinkedIn for folks to share their stories and stay connected.

IN YOUR OPINION, HOW DO YOU CONTRIBUTE TO THE COMMUNITY? PLEASE BE AS DETAILED AS YOU CAN.

Amir has held numerous workshops and keynote discussions for young professional that have resulted in monumental impacts. As soon as he moved to Charlotte, he wasted no time to plug into the community and show what he can do. He has partnered with El Camino in Charlotte and Duke Energy to host a ‘Resume Building’ for individuals ranging from 2-20 years of professional experience. He did this workshop on a volunteer basis in the efforts of giving back to an underserved community that would have not been able to receive this kind of research. Additionally, Amir hosted numerous leadership activities and keynotes in conjunction with Wingate diversity departments. He participated in an all-day leadership team building course with 20+ Wingate students and helped them navigate complex scenarios that required teamwork skills. He also hosted a workshop titled “Beyond the Resume” for Wingate University for 40+ students. Amir has been instrumental in the leadership world and has been helping to build the confidence and tactical skills of hundreds of students. He has been able to gather countless testimonials of how his direct actions and leadership has help students and experienced professional land competitive positions.

Noteworthy accomplishments include facilitating a bridge between numerous Charlotte Universities (i.e., UNCC, Wingate University, Queens University) and offer workshops, networking opportunities and leadership building events in conjunction and collaboration with Bank of America and his business AIC Mindset. Amir has been responsible for providing a platform for underserved students that attend ‘non-target’ Universities and completely change their lives by providing them exposure to large companies that have

hired these students into their companies. Amir has changed the lives of dozens of students and young professionals through his professional, entrepreneurial, and non-profit leadership efforts.

Currently, he serves as the Executive Vice President of ALPFA Charlotte which is a non-profit organization that serves more than 92,000 professional and student members across the country. He is responsible for a board of 10+ officers with a membership size of 3K+ in Charlotte. ALPFA serves Latino and diverse communities all around the country and Amir has been a board leader for the last decade with the organization. He was asked to be the opening speaker at the Women of ALPFA Power Summit to 100+ attendees as well at the Wells Fargo Keynote Diversity Expo in 2019. Amir was also involved in putting together an inaugural Diversity Expo in 2019 which brought out 15+ companies and organizations, 100+ participants and a keynote speech by the CEO of ALPFA. Amir has only been in Charlotte for 2 years and has impressively made his impact and mark and has been well known and recognized for his efforts

In addition, he was admitted to the World Economic Forums Initiative Global Shapers in Charlotte which is a competitive and selective group of leaders under 30 years old that are tasked with providing solution to some of the most complex problems in Charlotte (i.e., economic empowerment, homelessness, civic engagement etc.). He is responsible for putting together events across Charlotte that will bring light to some of this issues and rally communities across the different efforts (i.e., civic engagement).

Lastly, Amir partners with Universities to employ students to work at AIC Mindset as a part of a professional development opportunity. In the virtual environment, he created a summer 2020 internship opportunity for 5 students representing 4 Universities and is on track to finalizing his fall 2020 internship program.

PLEASE LET US KNOW ANY AWARDS OR RECOGNITIONS YOU'VE RECEIVED IN YOUR PROFESSIONAL CAREER:

- 2020 Standout Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Honoree
- 2020 Real Men Wear Pink American Cancer Society Initiative Participant
- 2020 Amir was asked to keynote a workshop at Rutgers University during Access Week which is designed to support and cater to first-generation, low-income students and to enhance their academic, social, and professional development skills
- 2019 - Admitted to the World Economic Forums Initiative Global Shapers in Charlotte which is a competitive and selective group of leaders under 30 years old that are tasked with providing solution to some of the most complex problems in Charlotte (i.e., economic empowerment, homelessness, civic engagement etc.)

- 2019 - Asked to represent Bank of America at the National ALPFA Convention in Nashville, TN
- 2019 Diversity & Inclusion Award Nominee at Bank of America

WHAT ARE YOUR HOBBIES OR INTEREST?

Traveling, Trying New Foods, Basketball, Dancing Bachata & Community Involvement

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE QUOTE THAT YOU STAND BY?

Strive not to be a success, but rather to be of value – Albert Einstein

WHERE DO YOU SEE YOURSELF IN 5 YEARS? 10 YEARS?

In 5 Years – Being promoted to a manager or senior manager, possibly going back to school to earn an MBA, become a homeowner, travel to 30+ countries, and seeing exponential growth in my consulting business.

In 10 Years – Married with a family, traveled to 50+ countries, possibly have done an assignment abroad, become an accredited and world acclaimed motivational speaker.

CAN YOU SHARE ONE THING THAT IS ON YOUR BUCKET LIST?

Skydiving

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU USED YOUR PASSPORT?

February 2020 to Switzerland

WHAT IS A FUN FACT ABOUT YOURSELF THAT NO ONE KNOWS?

I was Homecoming King at Rutgers University

WHO IS YOUR HERO?

My Mother

WHAT WAS THE LAST BOOK YOU READ?

No Limits: Blow the Cap of Your Capacity by John C. Maxwell

WHAT WAS THE LAST MOVIE YOU SAW?

Interstellar

WHAT WAS THE LAST CONCERT YOU SAW?

Jordan Davis in Atlanta

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