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## The rising stars of Wall Street: Meet 25 outstanding young investors, traders, and dealmakers at firms like Blackstone, JPMorgan, and Bridgewater

Alex Morrell

As Wall Street navigates volatile markets, fewer deals, and plummeting company valuations, we take a look at the players rising up despite the challenges and grasping opportunities as they see them.

Insider has pinpointed the young professionals on the runway to success even as banks and money managers brace for cutbacks. One invests in space ventures, another executes multibillion-dollar trades. Some up-and-comers are pushing their teams to the top of industry rankings, and many are immigrants climbing the ranks at major institutions infusing diverse ideas into their decision-making.

We scoured our contacts for ideas about individuals to include and received recommendations from bosses, colleagues, recruiters, and financial-industry peers. To be eligible, we asked that nominees be based in or around New York City, be 35 or under, and be distinguished in some way from the pack. The editors made final decisions.

Insider talked to these rising stars from leading firms like JPMorgan, Blackstone, and Citadel Securities, to reflect on their successes, challenges, and best career advice.

Vahe Musoyan has spent the past decade building and growing the systematic-trading capabilities at the industry juggernaut Citadel Securities, where he's now a lead quantitative researcher. He's among the most influential young quants on Wall Street, according to conversations with several industry experts.

"Vahe is definitely a badass," one senior quant recruiter familiar with his work said.

Musoyan, the son of two engineers, grew up in Armenia. He started coding by age 11, creating a flash-card computer tool in middle school to help memorize English vocabulary words. He started university in Armenia and transferred to Stanford, where he graduated in 2010 with a degree in computer science. After ruling out academic research — he preferred "faster feedback loops" — he noticed many people with similar backgrounds were flocking to high-frequency trading. He joined up with Getco, which at the time



CITADEL SECURITIES

### Vahe Musoyan, 33, Citadel Securities.

was among the largest-market makers in US equities.

A couple years later, Citadel Securities approached him, and in the interview process, he became taken with the company's scientific approach to markets.

"I got the impression the people in charge of the business were approaching the markets like a physicist approaches the natural world: formulate hypotheses and learn fundamental truths about the market," Musoyan said.

He joined in 2013 and got to work building fully automated market-making systems — testing hypotheses about the market and harvesting the novel insights that hold predictive-trading power. He and a colleague spearheaded a trading effort that quickly gained traction, and they eventually scaled it up globally across multiple asset classes, Musoyan said, declining to specify in which markets it traded.

"Being able to bootstrap an effort that eventually became one of the largest in its space was a big point of personal pride," Musoyan said.

**The last book he read:** "River out of Eden: A Darwinian View of Life" by Richard Dawkins

**Go-to takeout order:** Sushi and beef bibimbap from Sushi-San in Chicago.