

Business

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Cooper recognized for her works in art

Excellent example: Stamford consultant receives award for entrepreneurial success as president of Picture That, launched in 2002 after years at Goldman Sachs

Richard Lee
Staff Writer

Valerie Cooper, the former Wall Streeter and current owner of a fine-art consultancy in Stamford, now can hang a national award on her wall along with all those paintings.

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perseverance, said Betty Spence, president of the national association.

"What impressed us was the way she built the business, and the difference it has made in diversity," said Spence, adding that early in her career at Goldman Sachs, Cooper had curated exhibits of African-American art for the company. "Her clients love her. Valerie swept us away."

The business, which seeks to promote the careers of women and people of color, is based on relationship building with companies throughout the region, Cooper said.

A key factor in her company's growth was recognizing the need to expand her expertise in art. She went back to school, earning a certificate in art appraisal from New York University.

"It came out of the idea that in a down economy art is sold. Before you sell it, you have it appraised. The appraisal side of the market was quite lucrative," said Cooper, who has advised private corporate clients.

She credits her supporters with helping keep the business afloat during the economic downturn.

"Had it not been for my key constituents, it would have been very tough," Cooper said.

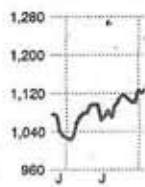
Cooper, 48, a summa cum laude graduate of Morgan State University, has provided services to corporate clients including Diageo Plc, Bank of America, General Electric Co., Genworth, IBM, Northeast Utilities, Pitney Bowes and UBS AG.

Health-care facilities, realizing the therapeutic value of art, also are among her clients.

Dow Jones In
Close: 11,573
Change: 14.0



S&P 500
Close: 1,256.7
Change: -2.07



Stocks of Local

Name	52-Week High	Low	Last
AT&T Inc	29.55	23.76	29
ATM Inc	22.05	12.13	20
ArcmU	13.04	8.55	9
Astra	25.96	25.00	30
Agilent	41.06	29.68	41
Arcastle	12.28	7.45	10
Alexion	53.62	44.88	51
AstrCh	37.66	27.30	38
Abrona	18.30	12.00	18
AveBurg	16.85	8.57	14
Baylor	60.88	24.67	62
Basch	1.60	1.00	1
Beckm	19.86	13.81	13
BMYMil	32.65	23.78	30
Barnes	22.40	14.95	21
Berkley	28.50	23.42	27
Beckins A	160771	92705	195
BeH B n	65.66	64.72	79
Biodet	6.25	1.50	1
BoltTech	15.35	8.09	13
Bevks	29.68	18.30	27
BMYSp	28.00	22.24	26
CIGNA	38.25	28.12	36
CampSp	37.59	32.15	34
CardTech	43.24	36.66	41
Carvco	10.00	4.80	5
Chevron	80.96	68.83	80
Colchard	26.60	12.41	20
CompOut	18.15	11.00	17
ComWedy	27.82	20.00	27
ConEd	51.00	41.52	48
Coaling	21.10	15.45	18
CoastGen	52.48	35.12	51
Conne	41.67	28.69	40
Cyto	61.42	35.27	63
Delcath	16.45	4.05	10
Diageo	76.37	55.99	74
DocuCom	34.47	22.42	34
DuPont	10.00	31.88	49
EMCOR	29.89	22.06	29
Easton	102.79	60.83	101
EdgeCst	2.12	0.75	1
ElmF n	22.58	21.05	22
EmersonI	58.74	41.22	57
EthankU	25.40	12.35	20
ExxonM	73.00	55.62	71
FacesR	66.86	61.15	65
FortuneR	63.51	37.05	60
FrontierCn	8.52	8.95	8
FuelCell	4.52	3.88	4
GenCst	50.45	33.65	49
Gartner	34.00	17.50	33
GenElec	19.70	13.75	19
GenesWyo	50.73	38.41	52
Genentec	9.28	4.84	8
GlaxoSh	43.13	32.15	39
Guafach	21.11	11.68	19
Hallibur	41.73	21.10	40
Harsco	53.26	30.19	50
HealthP	30.48	18.81	28
HealthNet	20.75	12.90	27
Hecla	19.53	9.66	19
IBM	147.53	116.00	145
InfPap	29.25	19.32	27
Intrepid	53.74	36.88	53
Hubbell	58.15	36.39	58
HubbBS	61.63	37.09	60
IBM G.125	22.45	10.19	15
Indevco	10.00	5.24	7
InfoSec	3.86	1.31	1
InterAct	19.49	15.32	17
ISI	147.53	116.00	145
JPMorgCh	48.29	35.16	42
JuliusB	7.20	4.84	6
Karman	28.67	20.97	28
Kellogg	58.00	47.28	51
Kirtick	67.24	58.25	63
L-1 Ident	11.90	6.30	11
LGI. Gp	34.71	3.05	18

Most Actively Tr

Name	NYSE Volume	Last C
Clgpp	1964741	4.68
BksAm	1800241	13.06
SP500ETF	645902	125.60