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New York Minute

February 2025

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Uncertainty Reflected in the Market's Volatility

Dear NIRI NY Members,

February may be the shortest month of the year, but it brimmed with energy and anticipation. As winter begins to loosen its grip, there's a whisper of spring just around the corner—longer days and the promise of fresh opportunities. Let's recap these past 28 days and dive right in!

Global stock markets experienced a turbulent February, with the S&P 500 slipping 2.4% as persistently high bond yields and mixed corporate earnings weighed on investors. Concerns over inflationary pressures reignited after oil prices surged above $92 per barrel, driven by OPEC+ supply cuts and geopolitical uncertainties. Adding to the unease, President Donald Trump made daily headlines by imposing aggressive trade tariffs on Canadian, Mexican and Chinese goods. Markets reacted accordingly, fearing renewed trade tensions could dampen global economic growth and further disrupt supply chains.

The ripple effects of Trump's economic policies have destabilized the market and the ongoing uncertainty

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 12

Navigating the Landscape of Earnings Communications in the Age of AI

Virtual

Register

March 19-20

Two-Part Masterclass on Compelling Investor Presentations and Investor Days

Virtual

Register

March 25

Q4 IR Masterclass: Leveraging AI & Tech for Success

surrounding trade policies, inflation, and high borrowing costs kept investors on edge throughout the month. This article from Forbes here provides color on the current environment, and Bank of America economists aptly captures the sentiment, "Trumponomics 2.0 [has] brought a lot of uncertainty and confusion to the table." The article continues, "And if there's a single buzz word that markets and financial models despise, it's uncertainty, which has pervaded much of Trump's tariff rollout, with constantly shifting dates of implementation."

This article from MarketWatch states, "History shows, however, that investors shouldn't get too spooked by the selloff. February has been one of the worst months of the year in terms of stock-market performance, especially in a postelection year." While uncertainties remain, the broader economy continues to show signs of strength and adaptability, offering investors reasons for cautious optimism moving forward.

Upcoming Events

NIRI NY NextGen is excited to host its next event on Thursday, March 27th at 5:30pm ET. The event, in partnership with S&P, will feature a panel of IR professionals sharing insights from their first five years in the industry by offering real-world perspectives, lessons learned, and career advice. Stick around afterward for a networking event to connect with peers and industry leaders. Be on the lookout for more information and a formal invitation soon.

Save the date and be sure to register for upcoming virtual events as well to learn and connect with colleagues!

- Wednesday March 12, 2025 12:00pm-1:00pm ET
  - ***Navigating the Landscape of Earnings Communications In the Age of AI***
  - Register here
- March 19-20, 2025 12:00pm – 2:00pm ET
  - ***Two-Part Masterclass on Compelling Investor Presentations and Investor Days***
  - Register here

Member Spotlight

This month's Member Spotlight features **Alex Pelzar**, who recently joined NIRI NY in November 2024. Alex was most recently appointed Head of Investor Relations at Atlas SP

Join Q4 for an exclusive half-day Masterclass designed to equip IRSs with the insights and tools to leverage data and enhance efficiency

New York, NY

Register

March 27 - Save the Date!

NIRI NextGen event, in partnership with S&P will host a panel of IR professionals sharing insights from their first 5 years in the industry. Networking event to follow

New York, NY

Formal invite with details to come!

June 1-3

NIRI Annual Conference

Boston, MA

Register

See entire calendar

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Bill Wright, **Enfusion, Inc.,**
Emily Haynes, **Essential Properties Realty Trust, Inc.,**
Emily Barker, **Freedom Capital Markets**
Kristen Kelleher, **Geron Corporation**
Brendan Bernstein, **Gladstone Place Partners**
Mark Becks, **La-Z-Boy**
Kiera Bridges, **Moody's Corporation**
Jessica Lawson, **Remarkable**

Partners, after senior roles at Athene and Apollo. Beginning his career in equity research, Alex was drawn to the investor relations field after recognizing the significant impact strong IROs can have on a company's market perception. Alex advises aspiring investor relations professionals to focus on mastering financial analysis, market understanding, and corporate strategy, while also developing relationship-building and storytelling skills.

As always, I would encourage you to stay connected with the NIRI NY chapter by following us on Twitter, LinkedIn, and checking out the latest information on our website.



All the Best,
Laura Kiernan
President, NIRI New York Chapter
president@niriny.org

Find us here: NIRI NY Board and NextGen Committee

Ventures
Julia Merz, **SAP SE**
Alexandra Steiger, **SAP SE**
Michaela Pewarski, **Unisys Corporation**

PARTNER PERSPECTIVE

OpenExchange

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OpenExchange is partnering with companies to future-proof their communications with its solution, OE Passport for Earnings.

Are you ready to take the first step in reimagining your earnings?



Member Spotlight

Alex joins us for this month's **Member Spotlight!** Here are a few snippets from our conversation. Please read the complete profile here!

"One of the most important things is to understand the landscape of the IR profession, then make sure you're aligned with the strategic attributes of the role."

"To succeed over the long term, I think it's important to have a strong interest in mastering the skills that will help make a strategic impact: financial analysis, understanding of markets, and corporate strategy."

"…the toughest days of your career are likely be some of your best learning experiences."

Please let us know if you'd like to be featured in the **Member Spotlight**.

NIRI NextGen

NIRI NY NextGen is excited to announce its next event on Thursday, March 27th at 5:30pm ET. The event, in partnership with S&P, will feature a panel of IR professionals sharing insights from their first five years in the industry by offering real-world perspectives, lessons learned, and career advice. Stick around afterward for a networking event to connect with peers and industry leaders. Be on the lookout for more information and a formal invitation soon.

If you are interested in helping the NIRI NextGen committee or have program ideas for this year, please contact Emily Mohr, President, NIRI NY NextGen at nirinextgen@niriny.org. If you know a potential NextGen member, please reach out to Ailsa Wells (ailsa@getirwin.com).

Your NIRI National Profile Data

Please review/update your profile data (company, title, email, phone number) in the NIRI National portal by clicking here.

Do you know someone who should be a NIRI NY member?

Please share their information with the NIRI NY Membership team!

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