

2025 Agenda

Wednesday, June 25

7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.	Lakeview Terrace	Registration, Breakfast and Networking		
8:00 a.m. – 8:05 a.m.	Aon Grand Ballroom	Welcoming Remarks	Emcee, Ollie Smith	
8:05 a.m. – 8:35 a.m.	Aon Grand Ballroom	Cutting Through the Noise: Rick Rieder on What Matters Now The financial industry generates so much research and commentary that it's impossible to digest it all. Against that backdrop, Rick Rieder, BlackRock CIO for global fixed income, has distinguished himself as an essential source for original and analytical thinking. Join us for this session in which he'll share insights on the current landscape of government fiscal and monetary policy, plus its implications for the global economy and financial markets.	Rick Rieder, BlackRock	Keynote Session
8:40 a.m. – 9:10 a.m.	Aon Grand Ballroom	Today's Thoughts on Tomorrow's AI Industry AI-related stocks were on an absolute tear for the last several years, but the AI theme has seemingly stalled out. Is the upside in AI stocks over, or just starting a new phase? Join us as several of our key thought leaders from equity research share how they see AI technology developing over the next several years, what clues they see regarding demand and which relevant stocks they think provide the best risk/reward. This session should answer some of your questions on this important investment topic.	Eric Compton, Morningstar Brian Colello, Equity Strategist at Morningstar Dave Sekera, CFA, Chief US Market Strategist at Morningstar	Keynote Session
9:15a.m. – 10:15a.m.	Festival Hall Theater 1	Early Access Experience: Expert Insights and A Free Signed Copy of How to Retire	Christine Benz	Book Signing
9:30a.m. – 10:20a.m.	Festival Hall Breakout A	Gatekeepers at the Convergence of Public and Private Markets	Jack Shannon, Morningstar moderator Sage Lincoln, Wells Fargo Kristen Griffin, UBS Anna Snider, Bank of America	Breakout Session

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9:30a.m. – 10:20a.m.	Festival Hall Morningstar Theater	Mo Knows Advisor Software: Transforming Workflows, Elevating Outcomes		Morningstar Theater Session
9:30a.m. – 10:20a.m.	Festival Hall Breakout B	Future of Healthcare: Revolutionary Innovations Poised to Drive Sector Growth	Karen Anderson, Morningstar Debbie Wang, Morningstar	Breakout Session
9:30a.m. – 10:00a.m.	Festival Hall Podcast Studio	Animal Spirits		Podcast
9:30a.m. – 9:55a.m.	Festival Hall Theater 2	Eagle Capital Management Rethinking Your Equity Allocation		Meet the Manager
10:05a.m. – 10:30a.m.	Festival Hall Theater 2	Gabelli Gabelli Funds PMs Review Commercial Aerospace and Defense and Financial Services Opportunities		Meet the Manager
10:30a.m. – 11:20a.m.	Festival Hall Theater 1	Your Story, Your Edge: Personal Branding for Growth-Minded Advisors		Wealth Session
10:35a.m. – 11:35a.m.	Festival Hall Morningstar Theater	Voice of the Investor: Evolving Investor Preferences & Values in 2025		Morningstar Theater Session
10:30a.m. – 11:20a.m.	Festival Hall Breakout A	Buffer ETFs Under the Microscope Buffer ETFs have grown from a niche offering to over \$60 billion in assets over the past five years. These ETFs use options to restructure risk, giving investors downside protection in exchanges for some upside. Join this panel as we decode buffer ETFs, dig into their nuances, and discuss how they best fit in portfolios.	Zachary Evens, Morningstar moderator Jeff Chang, CFA, Vest Matthew Kaufman, Calamos Investments Tim Urbanowicz, CFA, Innovator ETFs	Breakout Session

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10:30a.m. – 11:20a.m.	Festival Hall Breakout B	Pulling Back the Curtain on the Magnificent Seven Let's face it: these stocks dominate the market. We know why we like their products and services—but what makes them special as businesses? Experts on these stocks will lend their unique insights to explain why the Magnificent Seven have been so successful. Our panelists will also explore whether these stocks remain as dominant over the next decade as the last.	Tony Thomas, Morningstar moderator Chris Lin, Fidelity Dan Davidowitz, Polen Capital Aziz Hamzaogullari, Loomis, Sayles & Co.	Breakout Session
10:40a.m. – 11:05a.m.	Festival Hall Theater 2	Principal International Investing Through Market Cycles: Insights From Principal AM CIO George Maris		Meet the Manager
10:50a.m. – 11:20a.m.	Festival Hall Podcast Studio	The Morning Filter		Podcast
11:15a.m. – 11:40a.m.	Festival Hall Theater 2	Nuveen Filter the Noise, Find the Opportunity: Five Investment Themes for 2025 (and Beyond)		Meet the Manager
1:15a.m. – 2:05a.m.	Festival Hall Breakout A	Global Mid-Year Outlook : Where to Invest Today Join Philip Straehl, Americas Chief Investment Officer, and Dominic Pappalardo, Chief Multi-Asset Strategist, for a discussion of the best investment ideas from Morningstar across global equity and fixed income markets. Learn how to position your clients' portfolios to take advantage of the best opportunities in today's market environment.	Philip Straehl, Morningstar Dominic Pappalardo, Morningstar	Breakout Session
1:15a.m. – 2:05a.m.	Festival Hall Breakout B	ETFs and CLOs: Risk and Opportunities The popularity and rapid growth of collateralized loan obligations and strategies dedicated to this asset class have enticed investors with the promise of higher yields and limited credit risk. This session aims to help investors better understand how these instruments work, assess opportunities and latent risks, and discuss what's next for CLOs.	Paul Olmsted, Morningstar moderator Jessica Shill, Portfolio Manager at Janus Bryan Whalen, Portfolio Manager at TCW Edwin Wilches, PGIM	Breakout Session
1:15a.m. – 1:45a.m.	Festival Hall Podcast Studio	PIMCO		Podcast
11:15a.m. – 11:45a.m.	Festival Hall Morningstar Theater	Analyzing the Active/Passive Divide		Morningstar Theater Session

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1:15p.m. – 2:05p.m.	Festival Hall Theater 2	Capital Group How High-Performing Teams Can Use AI		Sponsor Session
1:15p.m. – 3:05p.m.	Festival Hall Podcast Studio	Fintech Showcase		Fintech Showcase
1:55p.m. – 2:25p.m.	Festival Hall Podcast Studio	The Long View		Podcast
2:00p.m. – 2:25p.m.	Festival Hall Morningstar Theater	Take a (Morningstar) Direct Approach to Holistic Portfolio Analysis		Morningstar Theater Session
2:30p.m. – 2:55p.m.	Festival Hall Morningstar Theater	Meet Direct Advisory Suite: Revolutionizing Financial Advisory Services		Morningstar Theater Session
2:15p.m. – 3:05p.m.	Festival Hall Breakout A	ETF 2.0 Long synonymous with indexing, ETFs have entered a new phase characterized by active management, derivatives, crypto, and individual stocks. Morningstar Manager Research explores how ETFs have changed and what investors need to know.	Dan Sotiroff, Passive Strategies Senior Analyst, Morningstar Lan Anh Tran, Passive Strategies Analyst, Morningstar David Carey, Equity Strategies Analyst, Morningstar	Breakout Session
2:15p.m. – 3:05p.m.	Festival Hall Breakout B	Emerging Markets: Value Trap or Value Play With current valuations far lower than US stocks, emerging markets tempt investors with bargains. But given geopolitical tensions and China's uncertainties, what value traps should investors be on the lookout for? Join our panel of experts as they break down the biggest opportunities and risks in emerging markets.	Robby Greengold, Morningstar moderator John Dance, Fidelity Emerging Markets Funds Rohit Chopra, Lazard Asset Management Lisa Thompson, Capital Group	Breakout Session
2:15p.m. – 3:05p.m.	Festival Hall Theater 2	Capital Group Building a World Class Practice: A Guide to Creating Growth and Opportunity		Sponsor Session

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2:35p.m. – 3:05p.m.	Festival Hall Podcast Studio	HerMoney		Podcast
3:15p.m. – 3:30p.m.	Aon Grand Ballroom	Kunal Kapoor Keynote		Mainstage Session
3:35p.m. – 3:55p.m.	Aon Grand Ballroom	Lasting Legacies: The Evolution of Investing Icons As Vanguard marks a half century of serving investors, a new captain has taken the helm. In many respects, the firm has remained true to its roots and stayed the course. But it is also plotting new headings, as it looks to build its advice offering and expand access to private markets. In this interview with Vanguard CEO Salim Ramji, we will look back on how far the firm has come over 50 years and look forward to what might lie over the next horizon.	Salim Ramji, Vanguard Ben Johnson, Morningstar	Mainstage Session
4:00p.m. – 4:20p.m.	Aon Grand Ballroom	Lasting Legacies: The Evolution of Investing Icons Since its 1930 founding, Dodge & Cox has never followed the herd. Its focused, low-turnover strategies have been staples among institutional portfolios for decades and have delivered enviable performance while most actively managed peers have struggled. In this session, we will chat with CEO and Chair Dana Emery as she prepares to hand the reins at yearend to Dodge & Cox's next generation of leaders. We'll discuss why the Dodge & Cox model has worked, whether its moat is enduring, and what changes may be coming at the firm and in the industry.	Dana Emery, Dodge & Cox Laura Lutton, Morningstar	Mainstage Session
4:25p.m. – 5:05p.m.	Festival Hall Morningstar Theater	Geopolitics, Leadership, and High Performing Teams: Strategic Insights from General Stanley McChrystal Join retired General Stanley McChrystal for an exclusive keynote session where he brings his unparalleled leadership experience to bear on the challenges facing financial advisors today. Drawing from his vast experience in high-stakes environments, McChrystal will discuss how today's shifting geopolitical landscape affects global markets and what advisors need to understand to navigate uncertainty. He'll also dive into the principles of leading teams in complex, high-pressure situations—crucial lessons for financial advisors managing their business. Gain actionable insights on how to build resilient teams, make strategic decisions under pressure, and stay ahead of global risks, all while helping clients achieve their financial goals in a rapidly evolving world.	General (Ret.) Stanley McChrystal, Former Commander of US and International Forces in Afghanistan, Best Selling Author, Co-Founder of McChrystal Group Daniel Needham, Morningstar	Morningstar Theater Session

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7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.	Lakeview Terrace	Registration, Breakfast and Networking		
8:00 a.m. – 8:05 a.m.	Aon Grand Ballroom	Welcoming Remarks	Emcee, Ollie Smith	
8:05p.m. – 8:35p.m.	Aon Grand Ballroom	Investors First: Converging Public and Private Markets with Marc Rowan Public and private markets are converging. As a result, advisors are faced with an expanding menu of options to diversify clients' portfolios into previously inaccessible corners of private markets. In this discussion, Apollo Global Management CEO Marc Rowan and Morningstar CEO Kunal Kapoor will explore the challenges and opportunities facing advisors as they navigate this new territory.	Marc Rowan, CEO of Apollo Global Management Inc. Kunal Kapoor, CEO of Morningstar	Mainstage Session
8:40a.m. – 9:10a.m.	Aon Grand Ballroom	How to Retire: The Advisor's Guide to Retirement Planning for Women This expert panel will dive into the critical retirement questions we're all asking, offering clear, actionable strategies on longevity, intergenerational wealth transfer, and other key planning areas—with a special emphasis on considerations for women clients. Learn how women can navigate unique retirement challenges, how to manage healthcare and long-term care, and how to make the shift from saving to spending with confidence.	Christine Benz, Director of Personal Finance at Morningstar Jean Chatzky, Founder and CEO of HerMoney.com Carolyn McClanahan, MD, CFP at Life Planning Partners Inc	Mainstage Session
9:30a.m. – 10:20a.m.	Festival Hall Breakout A	Harnessing Behavioral Science to Put AI to Work in Your Practice Discover how behavioral science can help you navigate the growing role of AI in financial advising. In this session, we'll dive into the psychological factors that influence client acceptance of AI and explore pitfalls to avoid when integrating it. You'll walk away with actionable insights and a clear understanding of how AI can be put to work in your practice—whether you're just getting started or looking to refine your approach.	Danielle Labotka, Morningstar Samantha Lamas, Morningstar	Breakout Session
9:30a.m. – 10:20a.m.	Festival Hall Breakout B	Making Money in the Muni Markets Severe weather events, alongside debates over taxes, tariffs, and the future of tax-exempt status, have added new layers of volatility to the municipal bond market. Join the world's leading municipal bond managers as they share their proven methods for assessing risk, uncovering high-potential investments, and maximizing your returns in the municipal bond sector for 2025 and beyond.	Elizabeth Foos, Morningstar moderator Courtney Wolf, Capital Group David Hammer, PIMCO Curtis White, JP Morgan	Breakout Session

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9:30 a.m. – 10:20 a.m.	Festival Hall Theater 1	Learn from the Pros: The Trends Analysts Are Watching		Wealth Session
9:30a.m. – 10:00a.m.	Festival Hall Podcast Studio	Big Picture in Practice		Podcast
9:30a.m. – 11:00a.m.	Festival Hall Morningstar Theater	Peer to Pier: All Aboard		Morningstar Theater Session
10:05a.m. – 10:30a.m.	Festival Hall Theater 2	Baird Welcome to “Normal”		Meet the Manager
10:10a.m. – 10:40a.m.	Festival Hall Podcast Studio	Sponsored Podcast: Capital Group		Podcast
10:30a.m. – 11:20a.m.	Festival Hall Breakout A	Beyond Bonds: Yield and Stability Outside Core Fixed-Income While bonds are traditionally viewed as the primary source of income, investors have access to attractive yield opportunities through multi-asset, equity, and alternative strategies as well. Learn from some of the industry's top portfolio managers how incorporating diverse asset classes and approaches can generate income and stability, where they are seeing opportunities, and how they effectively manage the unique risks and challenges involved.	Nour Al Twal, Morningstar moderator Adam Kramer, Fidelity Tony DeSpirito, BlackRock David O'Donohue, Calamos Investments	Breakout Session
10:30a.m. – 11:20a.m.	Festival Hall Breakout B	Do Hedge Funds Work Outside of Hedge Funds? It's been more than 15 years since the global financial crisis spurred a movement to bring hedge fund strategies to the masses through liquid alternative funds. Liquid alternatives span a wide range of investment types—including global macro, merger arbitrage, and managed futures—that provide a diversifying exposure to traditional market risk factors. Hear from asset managers versed in liquid alternatives on the opportunities, challenges, and limits of translating the complexities of alternatives into a liquid structure and what the future could hold for liquid alternatives.	Janet Yang, Morningstar moderator Andrew Beer, DBi Pete Hecht, Managing Director & Head of North America Portfolio Solutions Group, AQR Capital Management David Ben-Ur, Blackstone	Breakout Session
10:30 a.m. – 11:20 a.m.	Festival Hall Theater 1	Economic Moats: Uncovering Durable, High-Quality Investments		Wealth Session

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10:30 a.m. – 11:20 a.m.	Festival Hall Theater 2	Gabelli Tracking the Trillion Dollar Gen AI Buildout		Meet the Manager
10:50a.m. – 11:20a.m.	Festival Hall Podcast Studio	Investing Insights		Podcast
11:10a.m. – 11:40a.m.	Festival Hall Morningstar Theater	The Art of Advice: Turning Insights into Moments that Matter		Morningstar Theater Session
11:15a.m. – 11:40a.m.	Festival Hall Theater 2	Invesco Real-Talk Discussion Behind Today's ETF Headlines		Meet the Manager
1:00p.m. – 1:30p.m.	Aon Grand Ballroom	From Schwab to Space X: Ron Baron's Lifetime of Bold and Patient Investing Starting with its 1982 founding, Baron Capital has developed its reputation through a long-term, fundamental, active approach to growth investing. Decades of data show that their approach has paid off, with consistent performance decade over decade. In this conversation, Baron Capital founder and CEO Ron Baron will share key insights about his unique investment approach, explore some of his top stock ideas, and reveal stories from his over 40 years of investing.	Ron Baron, CEO and Portfolio Manager, Baron Capital Adam Sabban, Morningstar moderator	Mainstage Session
1:45p.m. – 2:35p.m.	Festival Hall Breakout A	Taking the US Economy's Pulse The Economics and Fixed Income Research team from Morningstar speaks about what is changing in the economy and the impacts, risks, expected returns, and choices investors could face. This session is designed to help you frame your investment decision making in the context of the US economy and explain the key drivers of current economic conditions to your clients.	Preston Caldwell, Morningstar Hong Cheng, Morningstar	Breakout Session
1:45p.m. – 2:35p.m.	Festival Hall Breakout B	Do Private Assets Make Sense in an ETF? Private investments in public funds are the new frontier of investing, but do they ultimately serve the end investor? ETFs are particularly susceptible to the liquidity mismatch between public and private investing. We bring together industry experts to discuss the hurdles facing the ETF industry to get private assets in ETFs and whether they're surmountable.	Bryan Armour, Morningstar moderator Dave Nadig, ETF Expert Tony Kelly, BondBloxx ETF	Breakout Session
1:45p.m. – 2:35p.m.	Festival Hall Theater 1	Outsourcing for Growth: How Advisors Are Redefining Success		Wealth Session

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1:45p.m. – 2:35p.m.	Festival Hall Theater 2	Capital Group A Leader's Guide to Succession Planning		Sponsor Session
1:45p.m. – 2:30p.m.	Festival Hall Podcast Studio	Alt's Goes Mainstream		Podcast
1:45p.m. – 2:10p.m.	Festival Hall Morningstar Theater	Transitioning Seamlessly to Direct Advisory Suite		Morningstar Theater Session
2:15p.m. – 2:40p.m.	Festival Hall Morningstar Theater	How to tackle a Bear (market)		Morningstar Theater Session
2:45p.m. – 3:05p.m.	Festival Hall Morningstar Theater	Make the "Mo"st of Direct Advisory Suite's Smart Support Tools		Morningstar Theater Session
3:10p.m. – 3:35p.m.	Festival Hall Morningstar Theater	Streamlining Your Direct Advisory Suite Workflow		Morningstar Theater Session
2:45p.m. – 3:35p.m.	Festival Hall Breakout A	How Active Got its Groove Back Active ETFs are the fastest-growing segment of the funds business. Find out why with two dynamic managers of active equity funds. Where are they investing, and how do ETFs impact their strategies?	Russ Kinnel, Morningstar moderator Natalasha Kuhlkin, Jennison Associates Sonu Kalra, Fidelity Greg Spiegel, Neuberger Berman	Breakout Session
2:45p.m. – 3:35p.m.	Festival Hall Breakout B	Unlocking the Future: Integrating Cryptocurrency into Your Investment Portfolio Explore the potential of cryptocurrency as a valuable asset class in modern portfolios. Learn how to assess risk, balance your exposure, and leverage digital currencies for long term growth. This session will provide actionable insights on navigating the crypto landscape to enhance portfolio diversification and performance.	Steve Margaria, Morningstar moderator Erin Garrett, T. Rowe Price Associates Robert Mitchnick, Head of Digital Assets at BlackRock Juan Leon, Bitwise	Breakout Session
2:45p.m. – 3:35p.m.	Festival Hall Theater 1	Grow Your Own Way – Top Producers Share How They Boost Their Business		Wealth Session