



**CFA Society
Nashville**

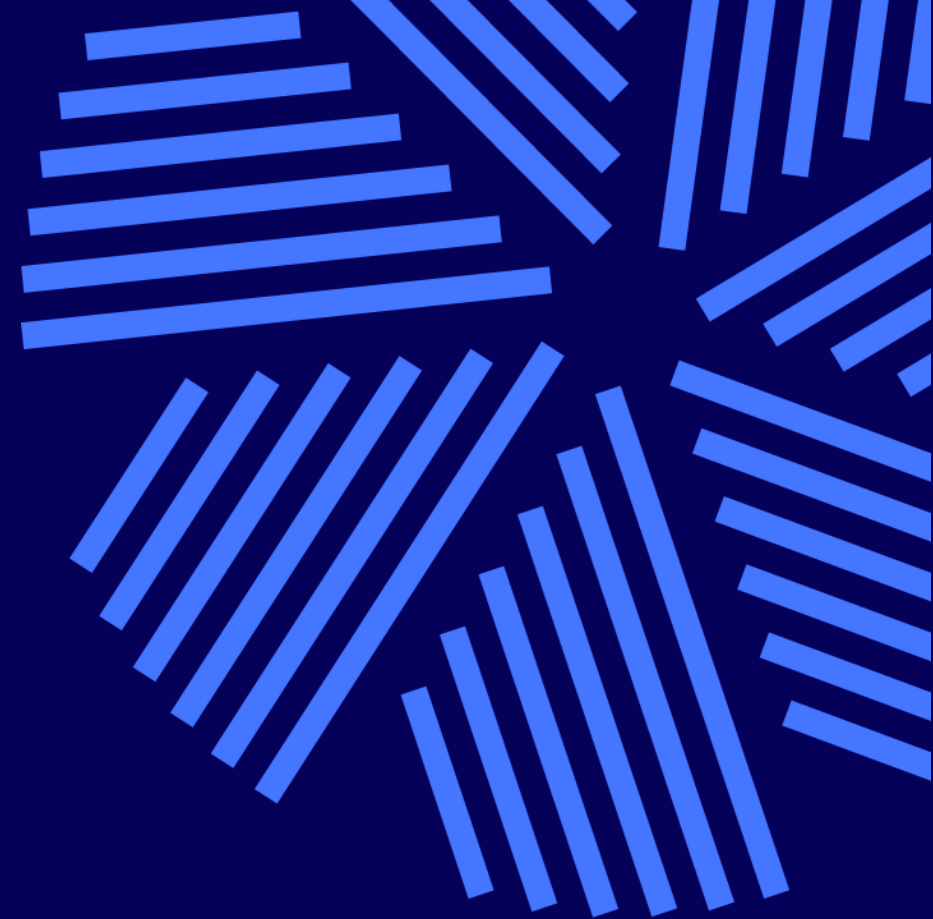
Annual Meeting

Society Year 2024 - 2025

Wednesday, June 11, 2025

WELCOME

Austin Branstetter, CFA



AGENDA

Welcome – Austin Branstetter, CFA

Programming – Grace Bennett, CFA

Membership & Candidate Engagement – Russ Barnard, CFA, CFP

Advocacy & Community Outreach – Ben Flox, CFA

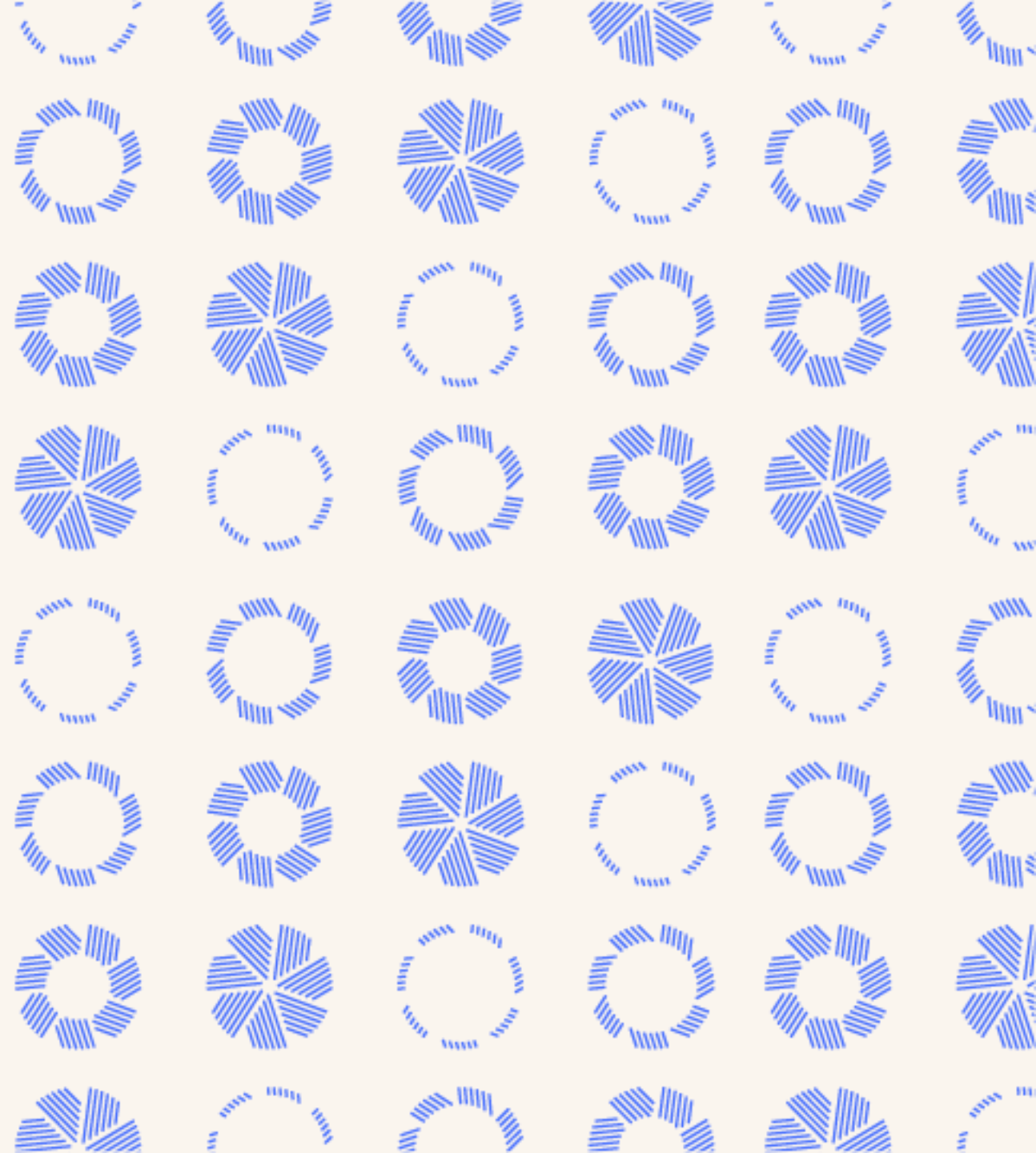
Greater Tennessee Research Challenge – David Harkins, CFA

Treasurer – Sam Carden, CFA, CAIA

Governance – Michell Bosch, CFA, CTP

New Business – Austin Branstetter, CFA

Our mission is to equip members
to be leaders in our community by
promoting the value of the CFA
designation and facilitating the
exchange of ideas and resources
for the ultimate benefit of Middle
Tennessee.



Strategic Objectives



Member Value

Provide professional learning opportunities and member networking events



Advocacy & Community Outreach

Engage our community and increase awareness among local institutions and universities



Membership & Candidate Engagement

Facilitate renewal of current and lapsed members in both CFA Institute and CFA Society Nashville and support candidates through their journey

STAFF



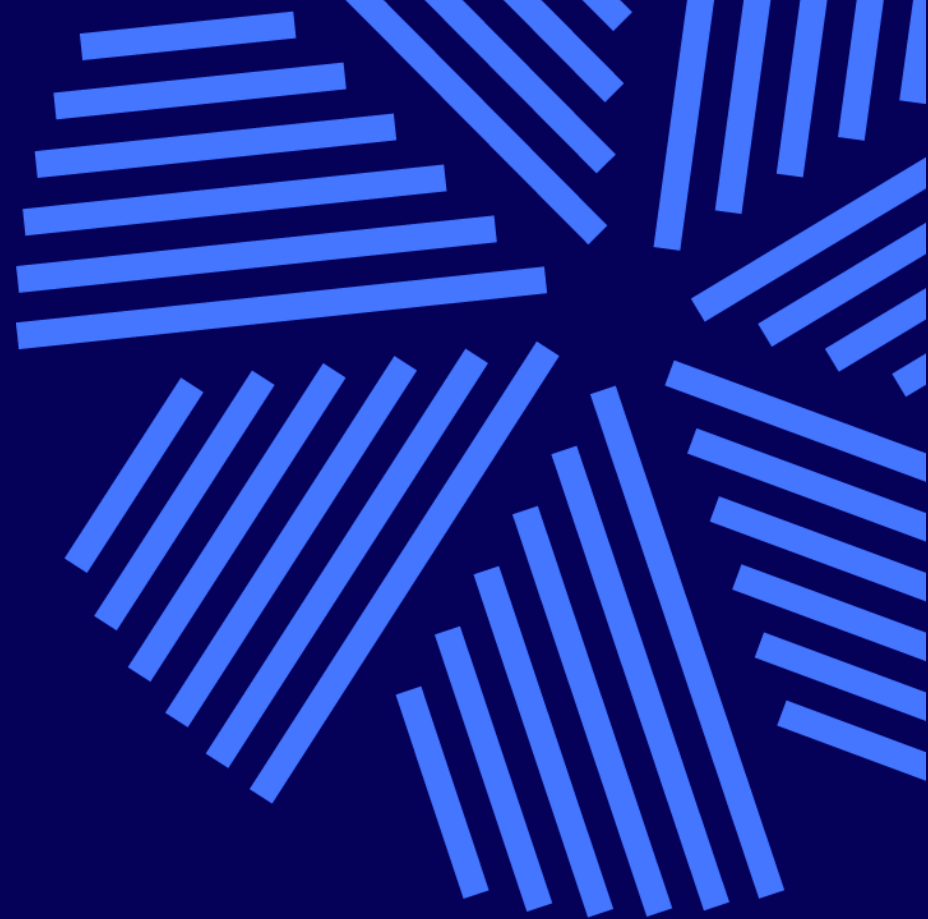
Angie Brown
Executive Director



Claire Hudson
Technology & Events
Marketing Coordinator

PROGRAMMING

Grace Bennett, CFA



2024 – 2025 Programming Year in Review

August 20 – *Hear from the Fed and a Chief Economist.* Ellen Zetner and Laurel Graefe, at the Virgin Hotel.

September 30 – *NABE Happy Hour*

November 8 – *TBill Party is Over.* Panel with Ronit Walny from Northern Trust, Carrie Green with TCRS – moderated by Anders Hall CIO Vanderbilt Endowment.

January 29 – *Annual Forecast Dinner.* Keynote speaker Dan Clifton at the Westin Hotel.

March 27 – *Passive Flows / Fundamental Investing,* Michael Green with Simplify ETF.

2024 – 2025 Programming Year in Review Continued

April – *Revolutionizing Finance: Harnessing AI and Big Data for Asset Management Success* with Andrew Chin, Chief Artificial Intelligence (AI) Officer at AllianceBernstein.

May 7 – *Securitization is Not a Four-Letter word*, webinar w/ Jessica Leoncini, Head of Fixed Income at Janus Henderson

Upcoming:

June 24 - Navigating Uncertainty: Tariffs, Fed Policy, and Market Volatility at the Tempo Hotel

July TBD - Carlyle Public Policy webinar

2024 – 2025 Programming Year in Review - Numbers

Date	Event - Official Name	Register	Attended	Non Members	Members	Board Members	Net Cost	Cost/Person
8/20/2024	Hear from the Fed and A Chief Economist	75	64	18	53	5	-\$5,000.00	-78.13
9/30/2024	NABE Happy Hour	34	8	23	13	2	-\$4,952.00	-66.03
11/8/2024	TBill Party is Over - Panel	50	45	12	36	9	-\$600.00	-13.33
1/29/2025	AFD	223	211			9	-\$14,000.00	-66.35
3/27/2025	Simplify ETF	64	57	22	42	8	-\$1,774.00	-31.12
4/23/25	AI - AB Speaker	287	190			1	\$0.00	0
5/7/25	Securitization: Janus Henderson						\$0.00	0
6/24/2025	Tariffs, Fed, Etc.							
July	Notes from DC							
8/14/2025	Energy Panel							

2024 – 2025 Programming Year in Review

Wins

- Reintroducing webinars – successful turnout and partnership with other societies
- Biggest AFD turnout yet!

Opportunities

- Streamlining Corporate Partnership
- Navigating keynote speaker fees
- Additional Program Committee Members

MEMBERSHIP & CANDIDATE ENGAGEMENT

Russ Barnard, CFA, CFP

Metrics

- 432 Active Members
- +31 Members y/y or +7.7% growth
- 92% retention
- 230 candidates registered for exams in FY25 (+4%)
- 109 LV1 candidates registered in FY25 (-16%)

Goals Achieved

- Launched Mentorship Program
 - 9 mentors participating in the first six months
- >89% (global historical average) retention
- >5% membership growth
- 16 other certificate courses purchased by the membership

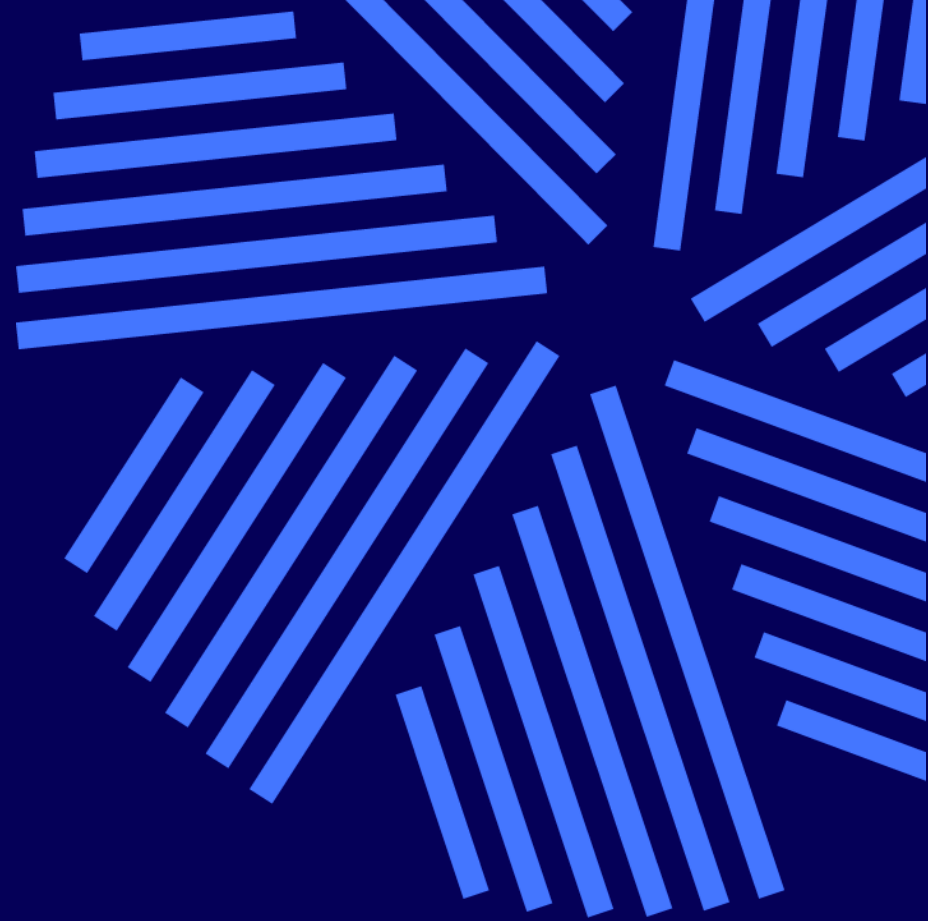
Preliminary FY2026 Goals

- 5%=20 Mentors participate in the new Mentorship Program
- 2%=8 Certificate courses purchased by the membership
- 25% of members attend at least 1 event
- >89% (global historical average) retention
- >5% membership growth

>5% LV1 candidate growth – Focus for committee

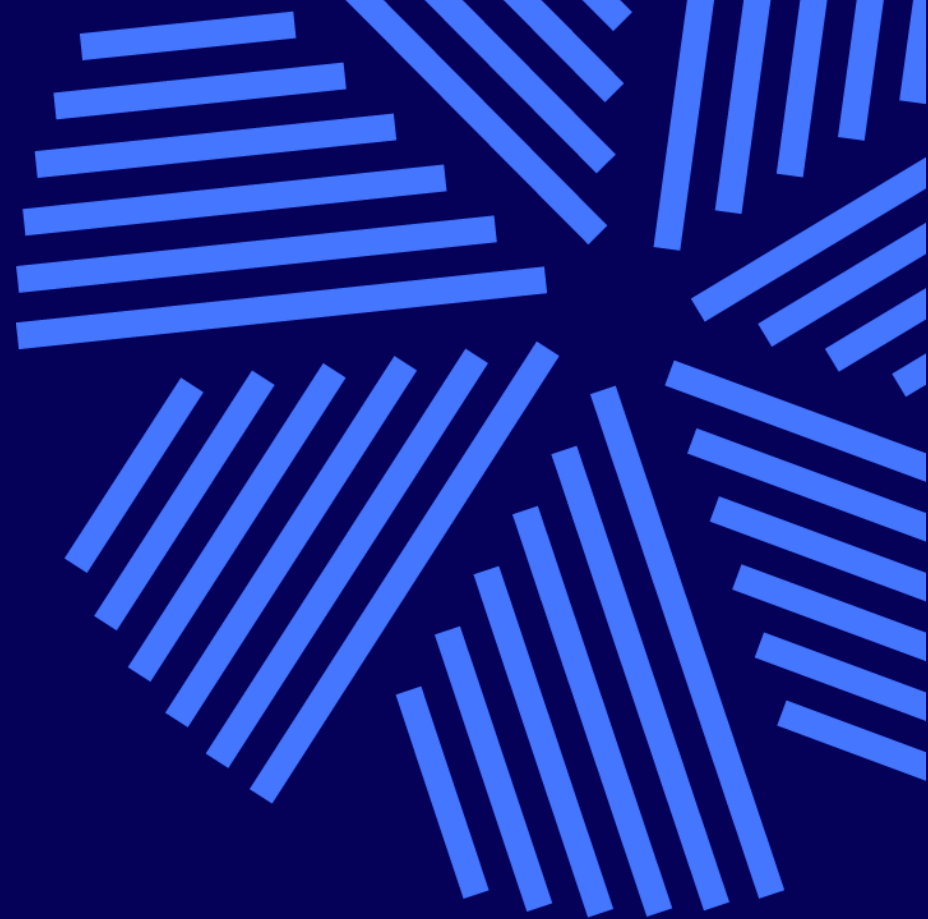
ADVOCACY & COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Ben Flox, CFA



GREATER TENNESSEE RESEARCH CHALLENGE

David Harkins, CFA, ABV



7 PARTICIPATING UNIVERSITIES

Belmont University

Chattanooga – University of Tennessee

Knoxville – University of Tennessee

Lipscomb University

Middle Tennessee State University

Southern Adventist

Vanderbilt University

2025 CFA Institute Research Challenge

**GREATER TENNESSEE LOCAL
COMPETITION WINNER**
UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE
AT CHATTANOOGA

HUNTER M. HOLZHAUER, PHD
Faculty Advisor

RAY RYAN, CFA
Industry Mentor



Justice Cardenas



Caden Christenson



Breonna Gandhi



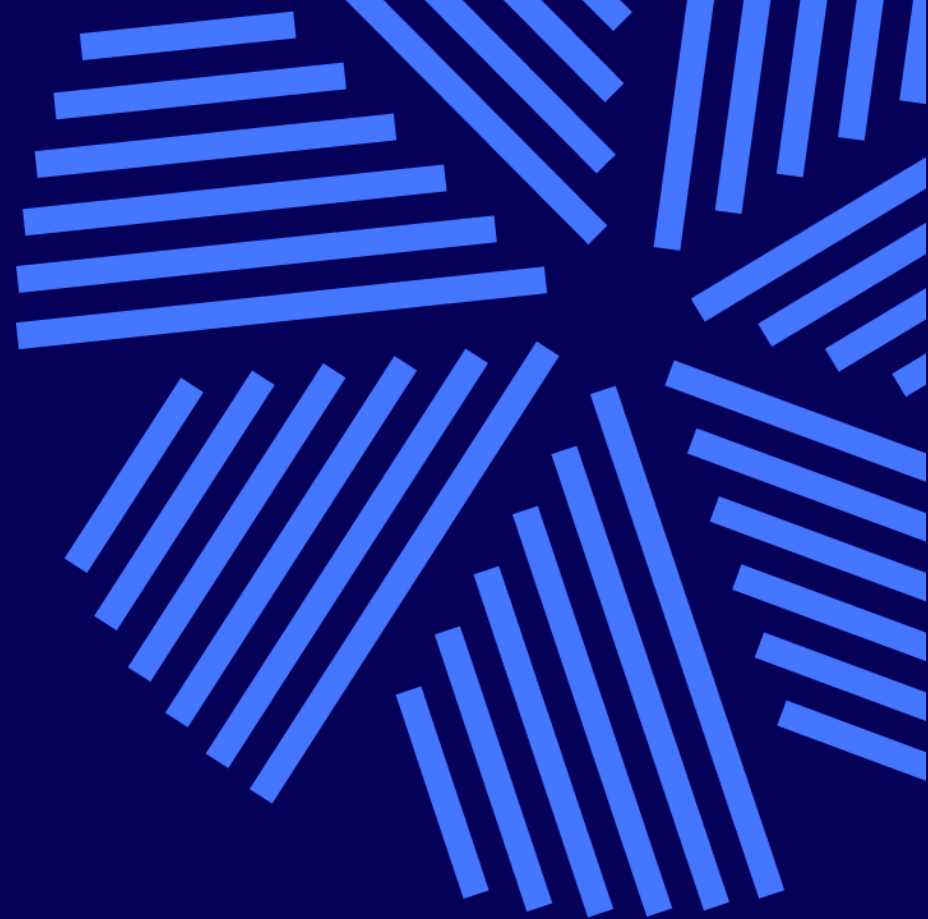
Daniel Goodman



Kyle Leivas

TREASURER

Sam Carden, CFA, CAIA

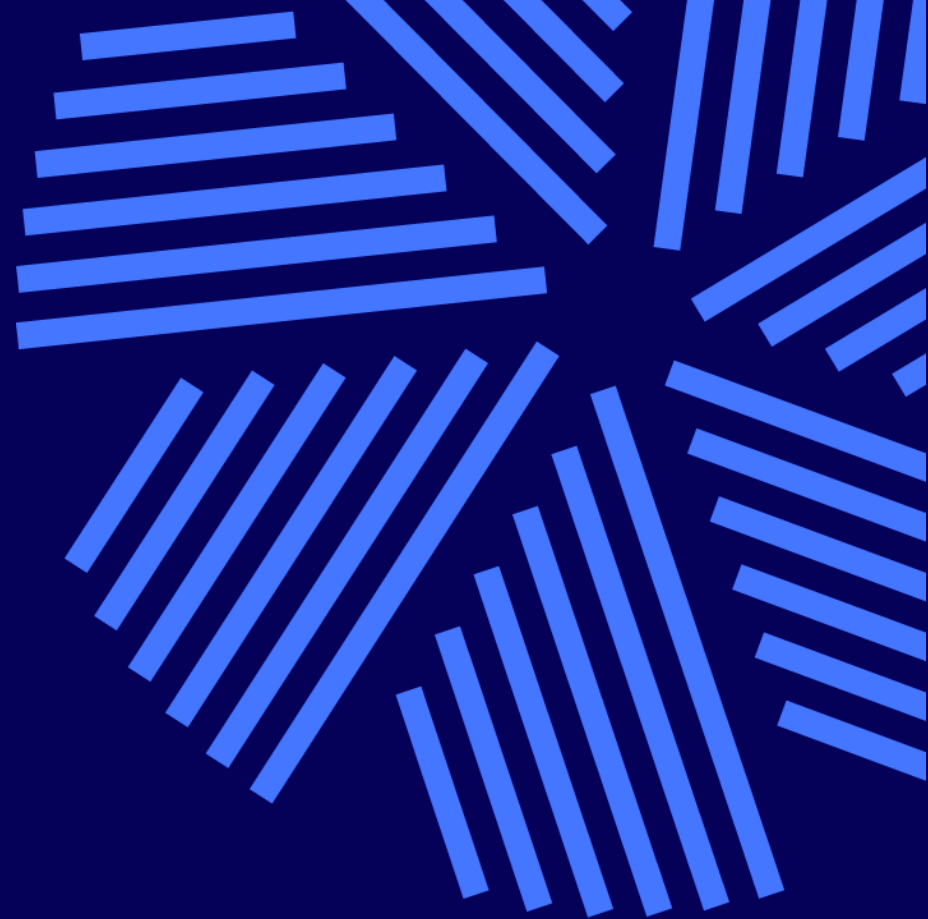


2025 Fiscal Year Financials (estimated as of 5/25/25)

- Estimated FYE Cash Balance: \$146k, down \$17k from FYE2024
- Estimated Year End Cash Inflows: \$198k, up 45% from FY2024
 - CFAI Operational Funding: \$31k, down 5%
 - CFAI Grant for NABE: \$11.5K
 - Event Sponsorship & Tickets: \$105k, up 100%
 - Budgeted CFASN Member Dues: \$40k, up 9%
 - Includes ~\$7k in forthcoming reimbursement for the Greater TN Research Challenge
- Estimated Expenses: \$215k, up 31% YoY
 - Estimated Programming & Events: \$160k, up 87%
 - Estimated Staffing: \$55k, flattish compared to 2024
- All legal, regulatory, and tax filings current and up-to-date

GOVERNANCE

Michell Bosch, CFA, CTP



Strengthening Governance – Key Milestones

Updated Board Manual

- Streamlined structure
- Clearer role descriptions

Established a Compliance Officer Role

- Ensures adherence to legal, ethical, and regulatory standards
- Serves as a resource

Revamped Governance Policies

- Removed policy language from the manual in favor of dedicated documents
- Improved clarity, relevance, and accountability mechanisms

Governance Policies – What's New & Why It Matters

New Policies Introduced

- Board Attendance Policy
- Data Protection Policy
- Code of Conduct and Conflict of Interest Enhancements
- Whistleblower Protection Policy

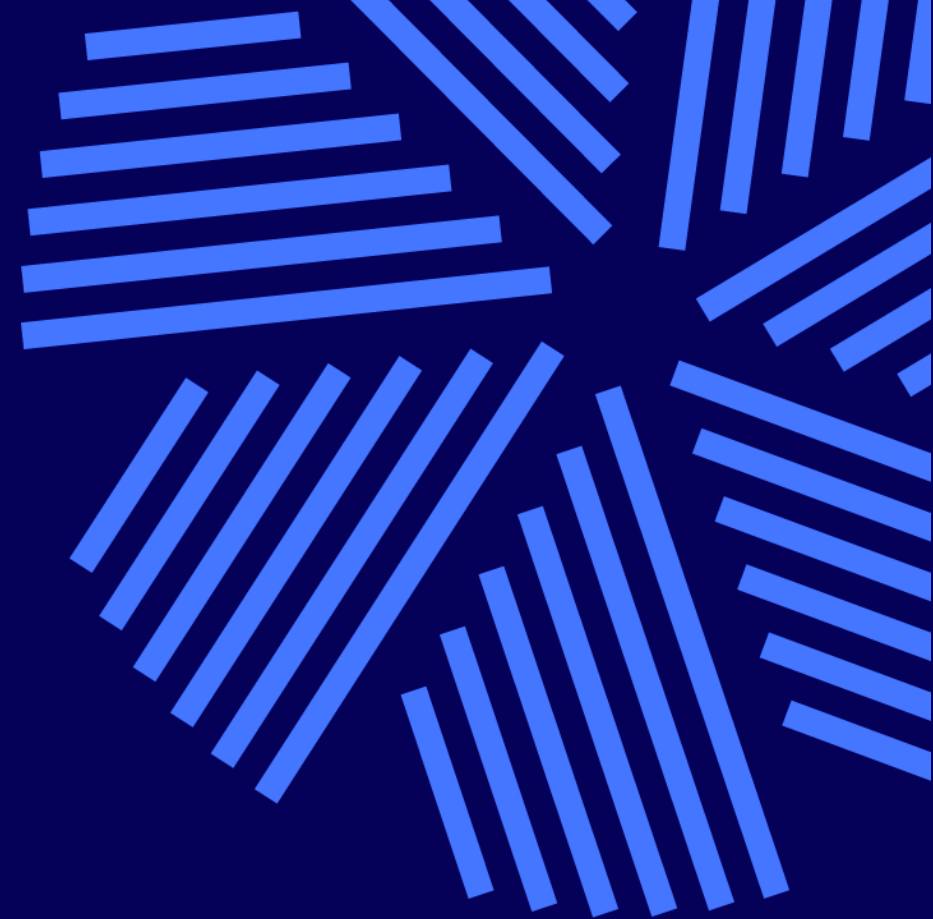
Why It Matters

- Promotes ethical leadership and trust
- Enhances board effectiveness and accountability
- Aligns governance with sector best practices

Good Governance: Accountability Transparency Fairness Responsibility

NEW BUSINESS

Austin Branstetter, CFA



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE



Elliott Brewer, CFA



Alice Campbell, CFA



Johnny Garrison, CFA

NEW DIRECTORS



Ralph Birchmeier, CFA
Independent



**Mauricio Cortes, CFA,
CFP, MBA**
Investment Director, Head of Fixed
Income
The Mather Group, LLC



Nathan Grant, CFA
Senior Fixed Income
Portfolio Manager
Barksdale Investment Management

THANK YOU!

Questions or Feedback? info@cfanashville.org

