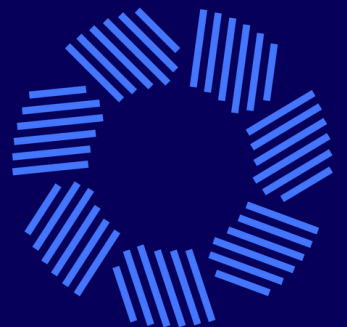


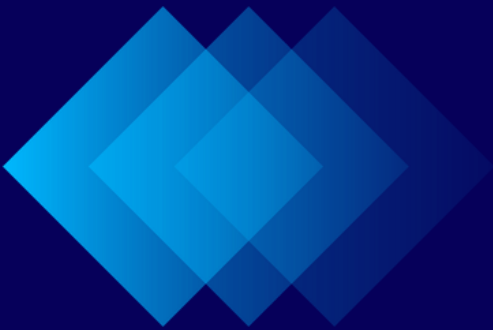


**CFA Society
West Michigan**

2025-2026 ANNUAL REPORT

CFA Society West Michigan





MISSION, VISION & OBJECTIVES

Objectives

Our society is an association of local investment professionals. Consisting of portfolio managers, security analysts, investment advisors, and other financial professionals, we promote:

- ethical and professional standards within the investment industry,
- encourage professional development through the CFA Program and continuing education,
- facilitate the exchange of information and opinions among people within the local investment community and beyond, and;
- work to further the public's understanding of the CFA designation and investment industry.

As one of CFA Institute member societies, our society connects members to global network of investment professionals.

Mission

To lead the investment profession locally by setting the highest standards of ethics, education, and professional excellence.

We envision a CFA Society that:

- All serious investment professionals in West Michigan aspire to be part of;
- Investment professionals go to when seeking continuing education;
- Leads the financial community's thinking and practice in the area of ethics;
- Supports local candidates in their quest to become CFA charterholders; and
- Partners with other local institutions and organization to deliver on the mission.



CFA Society West Michigan



President
Steve
Doorn, CFA



Vice President
Martin
Axelrod, Esq., CFA,
CFP®



Secretary
Greg
Barshied, CFA



Treasurer
Anthony
Chun, CFA



Tyler Alvord,
CFA



Brandon
Bajema, CFA



Jacob Barker, CFA,
CFP®



Ryan Gorman,
CFA, CMT



Len Harrison,
CFA



Chuck
Knoll, CFA



Sahana
Madhanagopal, CFA



Peter
Rabeda, CFA



Thuy
Simpson, CFA



Jim
Ward, CFA, CFP

COMMITTEES

Programming

- Brandon Bajema
- Greg Barshied
- Thuy Simpson

Brand Awareness

- Martin Axelrod
- Steve Doorn
- Ryan Gorman
- Pete Rabeda
- Jim Ward

Membership

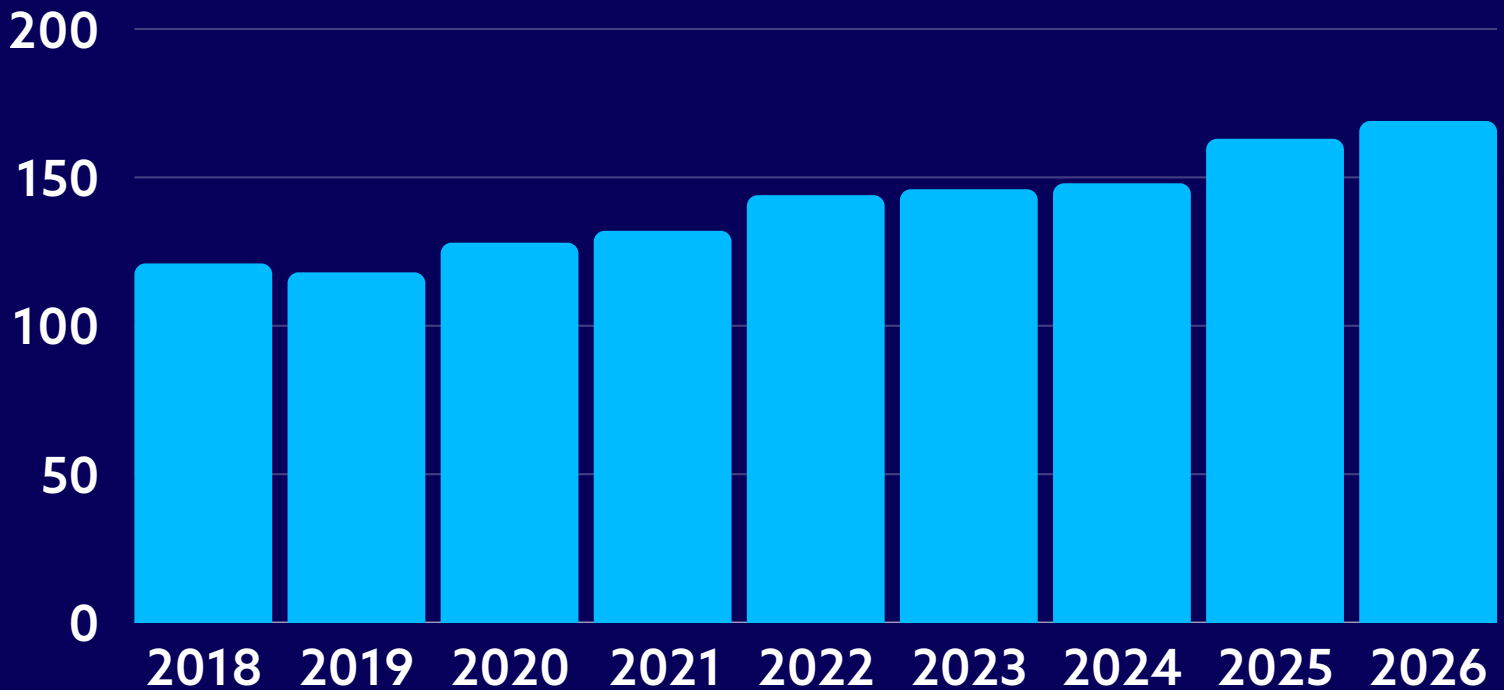
- Martin Axelrod
- Anthony Chun
- Ryan Gorman
- Chuck Knoll
- Sahana
Madhanagopal
- Jim Ward

Research Challenge

- Tyler Alvord
- Jacob Barker
- Chuck Knoll
- Sahana
Madhanagopal

MEMBERSHIP

CFA Society West Michigan Membership



Forecasting Challenge

The CFA Society West Michigan Forecasting Challenge was held again this year. The winners were selected based on the average of three forecast items – The ending S&P 500 Level as of market close on 12/31/25, The 10-year US Treasury ending rate as of market close on 12/31/25 and the S&P 500 stock with the highest total return for the full year 2025 as of the market close on 12/31/25. Bob Polchow won the Year end S&P 500 forecast; Benjamin Pagett won the Year end 10-year US Treasury Forecast and Sam Niewiek won the Best performing S&P 500 Stock.

PROGRAMS & EVENTS

- *Are Interest Rates At the Right Level?* | Jim Bianco
- *Bloomberg Intelligence: Global Equity Outlook* | Christopher Cain
- *Ex US Marks the Spot: Where Future returns are Heading* | Apurva Schwartz
- *Member Holiday Gathering* | Lumber Baron Bar
- *Caveat Emptor 2026 & New Charterholder Recognition Event* | Mitch Stapley
- *Counterintelligence in West Michigan* | Peter Jolliff
- *Communicating to Connect* | Brian Briggs
- *June 2026 Member Social* | Knoop Rooftop Bar

RESEARCH CHALLENGE 2026

CFA Society West Michigan hosted the annual local level of the CFA Institute Research Challenge. The CFA Institute Research Challenge offers students the unique opportunity to learn from leading industry experts and compete with peers from the world's top finance programs. This annual educational initiative promotes best practices in equity research among the next generation of analysts through hands-on mentoring and intensive training in company analysis and presentation skills.

The Challenge gathers students, investment industry professionals, publicly traded companies and corporate sponsors together locally, regionally, and globally for a real-world competition. Participation in the Challenge promotes development of students' equity research skills, as they research, analyze, and report on a company as if they are practicing analysts.

The following universities competed in the West Michigan Challenge:

- Central Michigan University - 2 Teams
- Grand Valley State University
- Michigan State University
- Saginaw Valley State University
- University of Michigan - Ann Arbor - 2 Teams
- Western Michigan University

Each university sent a team of four to five students to participate in the challenge. The CFA Society West Michigan Local Challenge was the first step of three for a local team to advance towards the Global finals.

The local Challenge winner was the Central Michigan University - Team 1. The winning team matched their wits, analytical skills and presentation abilities against teams at the Midwest Sub-Regional Finals. The students presented their analysis and buy/sell/hold recommendations on Penske Corporation. Their presentation at the Local Finals was the culmination of months of research; interviews with company management, competitors, and clients; and presentation training.

FINANCIALS

Income Statement

Fiscal Year June 30th

2026

Income Items

○ Investments	\$6,334
○ CFAI Operating Fund Support	\$12,000
○ Membership Dues	\$18,895
○ Other Income	\$0
○ Programming & Networking	\$0
○ Research Challenge	\$5,125

Total Income \$42,354

Expense Items

○ Programming & Networking	\$13,280
○ Other Member Value	\$9,356
○ Research Challenge	\$10,333
○ Operations	\$11,950

Total Expense \$44,919

Balance Sheet

Fiscal Year June 30th

2026

Checking \$22,686

Investments \$159,688

Total Assets \$182,374

Current Liabilities \$0

Equity \$182,374

Liabilities & Equity \$182,374



CFA Society West Michigan

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Grand Rapids, MI