

2017

Marie Lam from
*Women of
Distinction
honoree*



Rukaiyah Adams

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Rukaiyah Adams is the Chief Investment Officer at Meyer Memorial Trust. Her team ensures the long-term financial strength of the organization. Throughout her tenure, Ms. Adams has delivered top quartile performance. In 2017, her team delivered an 18.6% annual return, placing Meyer in the top 5% of foundation and endowment CIOs. Under her leadership, Meyer increased assets managed by diverse managers by more than 3x, to 40% of all assets under management, and women managers by 10x, to 25% of AUM, proving that hiring diverse managers is not a concessionary practice.

Before joining Meyer, Ms. Adams ran the \$6.5 billion capital markets fund at The Standard, a publicly traded company. At the Standard, she oversaw six trading desks that included several bond strategies, preferred equities, derivatives and other risk mitigation strategies.

Ms. Adams was the chair of the prestigious Oregon Investment Council, the board that manages approximately \$100 billion of public pension and other assets for the State of Oregon.

Ms. Adams serves on the boards of directors of Albina Vision Trust, Self Enhancement, Inc. Foundation, Oregon Public Broadcasting, and Oregon Health and Science University, as well as sitting on Oregon's Higher Education Coordinating Commission. Her 2016 Ted talk — A Homegirl's Guide to Being Powerful — about her path to becoming a more thoughtful investor and the role of investment capital in achieving social justice has more than 10,000 views.

Ms. Adams holds a BA from Carleton College, a Juris Doctorate from Stanford Law School, and a Masters of Business Administration from the Stanford Graduate School of Business.