

Take Control of Your Financial Future: Free Online Events with Nationally Renowned Financial Experts

APRIL 3 9-10:30am



How to Invest in a Bubble

In this presentation, Paul Merriman explores how to invest in an uncertain market, including topics such as the good, the bad and the ugly about Robinhood, 4 free lunches of investing, whether Bitcoin is the “new gold,” how to invest in a bubble, and much more. *Who should attend? First-time investors (ages 18-35), pre-retirees and retirees*

APRIL 8 4:30-6pm



Six Retirement Blind Spots and How to Fix Them

In this presentation Christine Benz, Director of Financial Planning for Morningstar and author of *30-Minute Money Solutions: A Step-by-Step Guide to Managing Your Finances*, shows pre-retirees and retirees how to manage portfolios and financial plans to protect against six very serious risks. *Who should attend? Pre-retirees and retirees*

APRIL 15 4:30-6pm



We're Talking Millions! 12 Ways to Supercharge Retirement

This presentation will be about Paul Merriman's new book and is mostly focused on investors who are in the accumulation stage of building their retirement investments. *Who should attend? First time investors (18-35) and anyone who wants to understand the basics of successful investing*

APRIL 22 4:30-6pm



How to Plan for a Successful and Secure Retirement

Larry Swedroe, a sought-after speaker and prolific writer on the science of investing, will be speaking about helping pre-retirees and retirees make the best of their retirement by making sound investments. *Who should attend? Pre-retirees and retirees*

APRIL 29 4:30-6pm



The Most Important Class You Never Had

Tim Ranzetta, President of Next Generation Personal Finance (NGPF), will present his work. NGPF was created on the belief that financial literacy is the key to creating stable futures for the next generation. *Who should attend? Parents, teachers, and other educators including home-schoolers*

BCF would like to thank Paul Merriman, BCF Board Member, for organizing these free events. Paul Merriman is President of The Merriman Financial Education Foundation. In 1983 he founded Merriman Wealth Management. When he sold the firm in 2012 he formed the Foundation dedicated to providing comprehensive financial education to investors, with information and tools to make informed decisions in their own best interest and successfully implement their retirement savings program. Since 2012 the Foundation site has built a library of over 700 articles, podcasts and videos plus creating dozens of do-it-yourself portfolios at Vanguard, Fidelity, Schwab and others. He has written 8 books, including the latest “We’re Talking Millions! 12 Ways to Supercharge Your Retirement.”

► To RSVP for the upcoming programs, please visit BCF’s website at www.BainbridgeCF.org.



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COMMUNITY UPDATE



SPRING 2021



Take Control of Your Financial Future: Free Events Give Access to Nationally Renowned Financial Experts

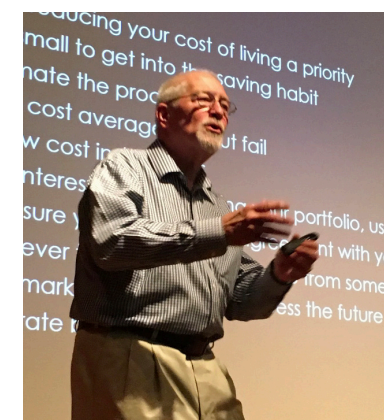
Financial literacy is empowering—yet good, practical education about financial management is too often out of reach for people, especially those with limited incomes. BCF Board member Paul Merriman—founder of Merriman Wealth Management—has dedicated his retirement to providing free trainings to all ages about how to secure a more stable financial future. On behalf of BCF, Paul has organized the free virtual events below with speakers who are nationally renowned experts in their fields in order to help educate our community on how to better plan for our futures. **These events target all ages and levels of financial literacy, including youth, first-time investors who are still in the workforce, and those who have just entered retirement.**

The world of investing has had a wild ride in 2020, and is continuing into 2021. In Paul’s first event **How to Invest in a Bubble** on April 3, he will cover all topics related to the uncertainty of market bubbles—from day trading to hedge funds. He will discuss whether Bitcoin is the “new gold,” how to invest in a bubble, and much more.

In a second presentation **Six Retirement Blind Spots and How to Fix Them** on April 8, given by Christine Benz, Director of Financial Planning for Morningstar, Christine will cover the risks we face in retirement—many which are relatively under our control, and others that are not. She will show pre-retirees and retirees how to manage their portfolios and financial plans to protect against these potentially serious risks.

Early investments, even in an unpredictable environment, could lead to significant financial gains decades later. In a third event on April 15, Paul will discuss his latest book **We’re Talking Millions! 12 Ways to Supercharge Retirement** and will focus on those in the workforce who may be in the accumulation stage of building

their retirement investments. He will cover how decisions made during these years could be worth an additional million dollars or more, and which types of funds investors should own at various stages of their careers, even into retirement.



Paul Merriman

On April 22, Larry Swedroe, a sought-after speaker and prolific writer on the science of investing, will be speaking about helping pre-retirees and retirees make the best of their retirement by making sound investments at **How to Plan for a Successful and Secure Retirement**. Topics covered will be focused on avoiding common mistakes of investors and what women should know about investing.

Finally, on April 29th, BCF will host a presentation focused on the next generation and their ability to access financial education in **The Most Important Class You Never Had**. Tim Ranzetta, President of Next Generation Personal Finance (NGPF), will discuss why schools in America should dedicate courses specifically towards financial literacy. “It’s interesting that we teach students about business and how to handle money for businesses, but we don’t teach them how to handle their own money first,” commented an educator in “The Most Important Class You Never Had” NGPF video, which is available on YouTube. Bainbridge Island is rated as a Silver Standard, meaning personal finance courses are an elective.

continued on back page

Top Needs Identified

One of the most critical roles of a community foundation

is to identify community priorities and needs. Every year, Bainbridge Community Foundation (BCF) conducts an annual nonprofit survey and organizes sector gatherings with nonprofit leaders in order to collect these data—which we then turn into action. Results from these conversations and analysis of the survey results lead to grants and programs that help meet the needs identified.

This year, BCF conducted its survey prior to its sector gatherings, and nonprofit leaders discussed its most urgent findings virtually on February 10th and 11th. Preliminary survey results show that isolation and mental health challenges are impacting programs and services across the nonprofit community, and nonprofit leaders identified Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Accessibility, and Social justice (IDEAS) as a future priority area for training. As one nonprofit leader said in the sector gatherings, “IDEAS shouldn’t be a fad, we need to make it genuinely meaningful to the people we serve.”

While these challenges remain, nonprofit leaders also discussed a variety of ways the pandemic has led to positive changes. The resiliency of our community has been inspiring—with employees, volunteers, Board members, and donors all coming together to keep the nonprofit sector alive. New connections and partnerships between nonprofits have been formed, and many found they could broaden their geographical reach by offering virtual programming. Per one participant, “The crisis has been a catalyst for partnerships. We’ve had better, more meaningful, and more productive partnerships than we’ve ever had, and I see that continuing on in the future.”



BCF’s 2021 Nonprofit Survey: Preliminary Results

- ▶ **Zero nonprofits reported they would not survive social distancing**, as opposed to 30% that reported last March they could not survive six months
- ▶ 85% of nonprofits reported that 2020 fundraising efforts **met or exceeded expectations**
- ▶ **New connections and increasingly productive partnerships** between nonprofits have been formed as a result of the pandemic
- ▶ Many nonprofits found they could **broaden their geographical reach** by offering virtual programming
- ▶ **Isolation and mental health challenges** are having the greatest impact on programs and services across the nonprofit community
- ▶ **Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Accessibility, and Social justice (IDEAS)** were identified as a future priority area for training



2020 Sector Gatherings

Maintaining Connections to the Community

On February 24th, BCF hosted a virtual luncheon for the Red Cedar Council. Usually set in the scenic gardens of HeyDay Farm, this year BCF delivered sandwich lunches and participants shared stories of resilience in Zoom breakout rooms. While online meetings can rarely replace the intimacy of an in-person gathering, the discussion maintained a level of familiarity and friendly conversation that only this type of group could create.

The Red Cedar Council, a special group of visionary donors who partner with BCF, helps maintain Bainbridge Island as a place our children and grandchildren will be proud to call home for decades to come. You can become a member of the Red Cedar Council by including a gift to BCF in your estate plan or by creating a permanent fund—and BCF becomes the champion of your charitable interests when you are no longer here.



BCF’s stability and connection to the community ensures that you can name local nonprofits

in your will and be confident that your gift will support the needs you have identified, allowing you to make a bigger impact that you could in your lifetime.



“When we give to the Bainbridge Community Foundation, we give to the whole community,” remarked Chris and Cameron Snow. “That is why we have made plans for a legacy contribution to the Foundation.” **When you include a gift to Bainbridge Community Fund (BCF) in your will or trust, you leave a permanent statement of your values which enables you to create a meaningful legacy without impacting your current financial security.**

To learn more about the benefits of joining the Red Cedar Council, please visit our website at www.BainbridgeCF.org or contact Brigette Yates at brigette@bainbridgecf.org.

How to get Involved

Whether you have lived on the island for generations or moved here more recently for the quality of life, it’s clear that Bainbridge Island has a strong and unique sense of community. Island residents are able to maintain a high quality of life primarily because of its vibrant nonprofit sector.

Bainbridge Community Foundation plays an integral role in supporting our local nonprofits by analyzing community needs, awarding grants to meet those needs, connecting donors to nonprofits, and promoting collaboration. We respond to the changes in our community as it grows, and remain flexible in times of need. The impact of the work of our grantees is truly inspiring—and the need for support is only increasing

each year. It is never too late to get involved.

When you give through BCF, you become our partner in funding critical efforts to create and maintain a healthy future for the people we love and for the island we call home. Through direct contributions to our work, by opening a Donor Advised Fund, by participating in campaign drives, or by leaving Bainbridge Community Foundation in your will or estate plan, you help maintain Bainbridge Island as a place our children and grandchildren will be proud to call home.

