



KEIZAI
SILICON VALLEY

US - JAPAN BUSINESS FORUM

Newsletter – Issue No. 293 – September 2023

VALUENEX x KEIZAI x SKADDEN
MEET UP & NETWORKING

AI x Investing: Shaping the Future of Investments.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2023 • 5 - 8PM PACIFIC TIME
SKADDEN, 525 UNIVERSITY AVENUE, 14F • PALO ALTO

AI x Investing

Shaping the Future of Investments

In an era where the lines between technology and finance are increasingly blurring, “AI x Investing: Shaping the Future of Investments” is set to be the seminal event that brings the brightest minds from both sectors under one roof. Over the course of this evening, experts, enthusiasts, and innovators will converge to demystify the art and science of investing in the digital age over food and networking.

Additionally, amidst global economic uncertainties and evolving market dynamics, this event will also delve into the foundational principles of investing, drawing parallels between timeless techniques and future-forward approaches. By bridging the gap between the tried-and-true and the avant-garde, world-renowned keynote speakers will seek to equip attendees with a deeper understanding of the investing world, enabling them to navigate the complex world of investing with both wisdom and innovation.

Wednesday, October 4, 2023

- Door opens & Check-in: 5:00 – 5:15 pm (PT)
- Program: 5:15 – 6:30 pm
- Networking: 6:30 – 8:00 pm

Fees

- Early bird (until Friday, Sep 22nd 11pm PT): \$15 (Hurry, first 20 seats!)
- Regular registration (until Sunday, Oct 1st 11 pm PT): \$20
- Late registration (until Tuesday, Oct 3rd 12 pm PT): \$35
- Walk-in: \$50 (seats are limited and may not be available)

Food and beverages will be served

Venue

Skadden
525 University Ave, 14F
Palo Alto, CA 94301

Speakers



Pramode Chiruvolu – Counsel, Skadden

Mr. Chiruvolu has extensive experience advising on matters involving emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence, digital health and biotechnology, the internet of things and 5G networks. He holds a degree in biomedical engineering and has particular experience in pharmaceutical, biotech, life sciences and other related complex transactions. He also previously worked as a network and computer engineer for the Intelligence and Information Warfare

Directorate, a part of the U.S. Army's Communications-Electronics Command, focusing on neural networks and distributed computing. In 2022, Mr. Chiruvolu was named a Rising Star in Technology by Law360 and a Lawyer on the Fast Track by The Recorder. He has been repeatedly recognized as one of Best Lawyers' Ones To Watch in America.



Marwan Refaat – Investor, Fractal

Marwan Refaat is a tech entrepreneur and investor known for inventing AI for the blind at MIT and a recruiting platform partnered with Forbes and Morgan Stanley while at Harvard. During his venture fellowship at MIT Marwan built assistive computer vision software for students at the Perkins School for the Blind using proprietary AI algorithms for which he secured two patents. Owing to the generous support of the Dubai Ministry of AI and the Egyptian Ministry of IT the

technology has since been used by visually impaired people to identify millions of objects in 57 different languages and has been covered by CNN, Forbes, and Thompson Reuters, among others. Marwan also served as a founder and CTO of an AI-driven networking and recruiting platform incubated by the Harvard Innovation Labs. The platform has since expanded across the Ivy League as well as built partnerships with Forbes and Morgan Stanley and has been used by recruiters at prestigious EPS firms including BlackRock, BCG, Vanguard, KKR, The D. E. Shaw Group, and Goldman Sachs.



Andrés Pérez Soderi – Co-Founder, Carya Venture Partners

Andrés is a co-founder at Sanas, a 80+ person Series B Speech AI startup, which he started while studying at Stanford University. He also runs Carya Venture Partners as co-founder and GP, investing \$250k-\$1M checks into B2B AI and deep tech startups. He has been at the crossroads of AI and early stage investing since graduating, raising and from and co-investing with: Insight, Quiet Capital, NEA, General Catalyst and more, as well as holding board positions in several early

stage companies.



Kojoh Atta – Investor, Highland Capital Partners

Kojoh Atta is an Investor at Highland Capital Partners based in San Francisco, CA and focused on Series A - C software companies. Prior to his current role, he worked at TechNexus Venture Collaborative, and KKR. He received a B.A. in Political Science from Stanford University. Kojoh always takes a global perspective as he was born in Kumasi, Ghana and raised in Columbus, Ohio.

Moderators



Victor Yin – Software Engineer, VALUENEX

Victor Yin is a Software Engineer at VALUENEX Inc. and a recent Stanford University alumnus, where he earned dual Bachelor's degrees in Computer Science and History, followed by a Master's degree in Computer Science. Leveraging his strong background in software engineering, Victor has spent the past two years to crafting blockchain solutions for a range of corporations, including an innovative wine supply chain startup. Before delving deep into the tech domain, he also gained invaluable experience in the financial sector, serving as an investment banker at Morgan Stanley for a year. Beyond his professional pursuits, Victor harbors a deep passion for filmmaking.



Thierry Uwase – Business Development Consultant, VALUENEX

Thierry is a business development consultant at VALUENEX Inc., where he adeptly channels his finance background to lead the firm's endeavors into the financial sector, particularly on the buy side. Prior to this, he was an analyst for 2 years on KKR's Leveraged Credit team, a position he secured after two fruitful summer internships with the company. A Stanford University graduate, Thierry majored in Civil and Environmental Engineering. While at Stanford, he co-founded an NLP startup that attracted pre-seed investments from leading firms like Accell and Lightspeed, although it ultimately didn't see long-term success. Outside of work, Thierry is passionate about football and music, often showcasing his skills as a professional DJ. He is also fluent in Swahili, English, French and Kinyarwanda.

The Rise of Target Date Funds

By Joe Quinlan

Some people love to spend time learning about various investment strategies and fine-tuning their investments to maximize return. But many other people would rather spend that time otherwise, like enjoying the great outdoors or uplifting cultural events. It is for those people that Target Date Funds (TDF's) were created. Over the past two decades, TDF's have become the most popular type of fund for individual 401k investors. You place your trust in the asset balancing skills of fund managers at major firms like Vanguard or Fidelity. As you get closer to retirement, these funds invest more heavily in bonds and



other conservative assets. It is a “set it and forget it” type of investing. Prior to TDF's, a common investment strategy might have been “age in bonds” or “age minus 10 in bonds”, designating the recommended asset allocation percentage mix between stocks and bonds. This led to the tremendous popularity of indexed total stock market and total bond market funds. TDF's relieve the investor of doing that rebalancing by themselves, since the fund

manager does it for them. TDF's have taken fire for being both too conservative and too risky, especially as the investor approaches retirement. It will be interesting to see if AI has an effect on how fund managers at the major mutual fund firms manage their rebalancing of TDF's over time.

2023 Summer Networking in the Park

On a warm, but not too hot, Saturday August 12th, Keizai Silicon Valley held its annual Summer Networking in the Park. For the first time since the onset of the Covid-19 epidemic, food and drinks were served by Keizai. Highlights included the traditional Bingo and Suika Wari (breaking of the watermelon). Although the striker was blindfolded, some of the strikes on the watermelon were remarkably on target. As for the Bingo, various wines proved to be some of the most popular prizes. Enjoy some photos from the event on the next few pages.



Serving up the food



Grilling up a storm



Speaking to the crowd



Lots of Bingo prizes



A wine winner



Not everyone picked wine

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KEIZAI SILICON VALLEY LINKEDIN GROUP DISCUSSION AND JOB POSTING

Please join the LinkedIn Keizai Silicon Valley Group and participate in group discussions. You can also share and discuss jobs with the members by clicking the Jobs tab after creating a Keizai Silicon Valley Group account. If you have any questions, please contact jobs@keizai.org.

<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/1768007>