Money and Currency
Past, Present, and Future
November 12-14, 2015 — Santa Fe, New Mexico

Panelists

Money, Currency, and Finance
Chair: Bill Miller, Chairman and Chief Investment Officer, LMM, LLC, and SFI Trustee Chair Emeritus
The legendary Miller, who has been called the “Stock Guru” by Bloomberg and a “mutual-fund King” by the Wall Street Journal, is one of Investopedia’s Greatest Investors.

The World of P2P Financial Exchange
Chair: Kevin Allison, Reuters Breakingviews and Santa Fe Institute Journalism Fellow
Allison is an internationally acclaimed columnist for Reuters and one of the world’s insightful voices on the scramble for scarce resources.

Special Guests

Hampton Sides, historian, journalist, SFI Miller Distinguished Fellow, and renowned adventure and exploration author.

Tom Joyce, internationally celebrated artist, designer, and digital strategist, in a reading, mixing, and Q&A session on Design, Art, and Innovation in 2025: Navigating the Data Revolution

Featured Speakers & Panelists


Wences Casares, CEO of Xapo, considered the largest custodian of bitcoin in the world and who, from 2004-2007, circumnavigated the globe aboard his catamaran, Simpatica.

John Geanakoplos, Yale University, James Tobin Professor of Economics, SFI External Professor, winner of the first Bodossaki Prize for economics in 1994 and winner of the Samuelson Prize in 1999 for his work on lifetime financial security.

Jordan Greenhall, Backfeed and Swell, Inc., and co-founder of the digital media giant DivX, who suggests ways to move beyond bitcoin by designing decentralized collaborative organizations in which contributors’ reputations are currency.

Michael Mauboussin, Credit Suisse’s Managing Director and Head of Global Financial Strategies, Chair of SFI’s Board of Trustees, and author of the acclaimed book The Success Equation: Untangling Skill and Luck in Business, Sports, and Investing.

Jim Rutt, Proteus Foundation, Santa Fe Institute Trustee Chair Emeritus, serial startup entrepreneur, and former CEO of Network Solutions, Inc., which administered domain names, the Internet’s original currency.

Emin Güven Sirer, Cornell University, revered in the digital currencies sphere since its beginning for his remarkable work in peer-to-peer technology and the hacking scene.

Peter Van Valkenburgh, Director of Research at Coin Center, the leading nonprofit research and advocacy center focused on the public policy issues facing cryptocurrency technologies such as Bitcoin.

Meghan Williamson, an economist at the forefront of the timebank movement who is redefining the meaning of “work” as the director of the (h)OUR Economy.

Few elements of the modern world are as necessary, and mysterious, as money. At its simplest, money makes exchange possible — it overcomes the many limitations of labor. Money permits us the time and space for specialization and product diversity. It underlies economic cooperation and, of course, contemporary social complexity. We investigate the history and diversity of currencies, from cowrie shells to bitcoins. We explore how money functions as a mechanism of exchange in the emerging world of cryptocurrencies and peer-to-peer networks.

The economy is now in the domain of complexity science.