



## Upcoming Events

**January 13**  
**3:30 - 5:00 p.m.**  
**What You Need to Know: IPOs**  
**Versus SPACs**  
[Register](#)

**January 13**  
**5:30 - 7:30 p.m.**  
**'Social Darts' Networking Reception**  
[Register](#)

**January 17**  
**Quarterly ESG Program: Tracking**  
**Data and Producing ESG Reports**  
[Register](#)

## Pictures of the Month



NIRI Chicago members and guests enjoyed curling at our holiday social.

## From the President



I am certain that I'm not the only one who felt like life was moving 100 mph into the holidays. Fortunately, I was able to take some time in late December to relax and spend quality time with family and friends. I hope you are well and also have had a chance to recharge as we move into 2022.

In many ways, event planning considerations have not changed much over the past year, but we are now more experienced in dealing with the uncertain environment. This agility makes us even more valuable assets to our organizations. Of course, there is no substitute for being in-person for maximum impact, but improving technology has enabled virtual events to narrow the gap over the past two years. Panelists at our December event shared tips on how to maximize virtual events. We used to consider success as having all parties dial into a conference bridge at the correct time. Our investor relations panelists discussed how they have significantly raised the bar by orchestrating seamless video meetings, which includes participant protocols that set a constructive tone. They also reminded us that including a mix of virtual events in your marketing calendar enables IR officers to efficiently connect a broader number of company executives with their global investor audience. As you continue to build your calendar for 2022, aim for an optimal mix of in-person and virtual events, and handle those inevitable surprises like a pro. Your team is looking at YOU to lead them through the ambiguity. Happy new year!

We look forward to hosting a compelling calendar of events in the new year. [What You Need to Know: IPOs versus SPACs](#) on Thursday, January 13 will feature a discussion of 2021 IPO and SPAC activity, forecast 2022 trends and offer practical advice on building pre- and post-public IR programs, including reshaping the shareholder base following a traditional IPO or alternative strategy. [Register](#). You will need to register separately if you plan to stay in the area for the [Social Darts](#) networking reception after our formal program concludes. [Register](#). The following Monday, January 17, we'll hold our virtual quarterly ESG program, [Tracking Data and Producing ESG Reports](#). [Register](#). Watch our website for program updates throughout the year.

Mike Steele, CFA, IRC  
NIRI Chicago President

## In the News

- Top red flags CFOs raise on [earnings calls](#).
- ["Sustainable" companies](#) have an IR marketing edge – and increased expectations. Plus, large publicly listed EU companies now have to [quantify their sustainability](#).
- [IPOs](#) and [M&A](#) set records in 2021.

## Event Recaps and Webcasts

Unable to attend a recent event? [Event recaps and webcasts](#) can be found by clicking the links below.

### December 2021

[Virtual Shareholder Engagement: Zooming Forward with What We've Learned](#)

### November 2021

[Proxy Season Trends and Hot Topics](#)

### September 2021

[2021 IR Workshop  
The Evolution of IR](#)

### September 2021

[Get Ready for SEC Climate Change Regulations Ahead](#)

### May 2021

[IR in Special Situations](#)

- [Effective M&A communication](#) 101.
- [More buybacks, dividends](#) expected in 2022.
- [ESG reporting](#) falls short.

## Member News

Welcome to NIRI Chicago's newest member: **Colleen Thompson**, Vice President - Corporate Relations, TDS.

[Share](#) your news (job changes, awards, interesting articles) -- and thanks for reading the MEMBER CONNECTION.

Maryellen Thielen  
Vice President, Communications  
NIRI Chicago

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