amity

Amity Ventures

A record market for a handful of names. A disciplined one for everyone else.

Annual Meeting of Limited Partners · San Francisco · October 2026

THE ARGUMENT IN ONE LINE

The venture market is setting records at the very top and contracting underneath it.

$412.7B

H1 2026 US DEAL VALUE — ALREADY PAST ALL OF 2025

87.5%

OF H1 2026 CAPITAL WENT TO $100M+ MEGADEALS

86%

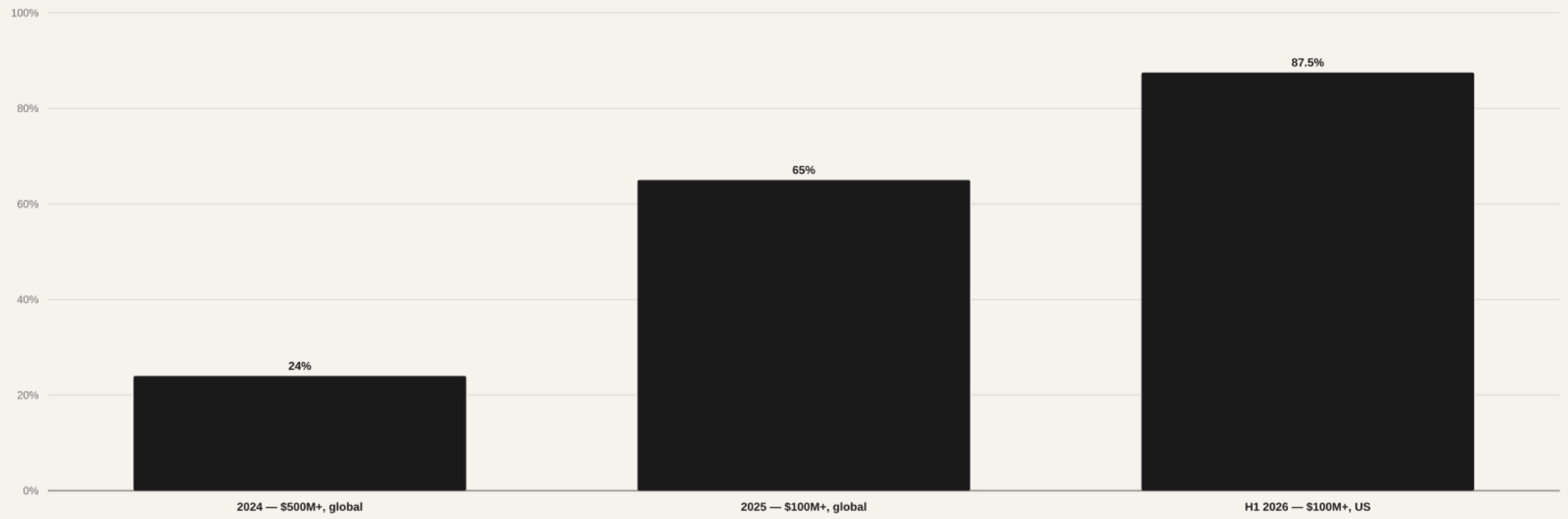
OF EVERY US VENTURE DOLLAR WENT TO AI

The headline and the median tell opposite stories. This deck is about where a disciplined fund invests when both are true.

PitchBook-NVCA Venture Monitor, Q2 2026 · as of June 30, 2026

CAPITAL CONCENTRATION

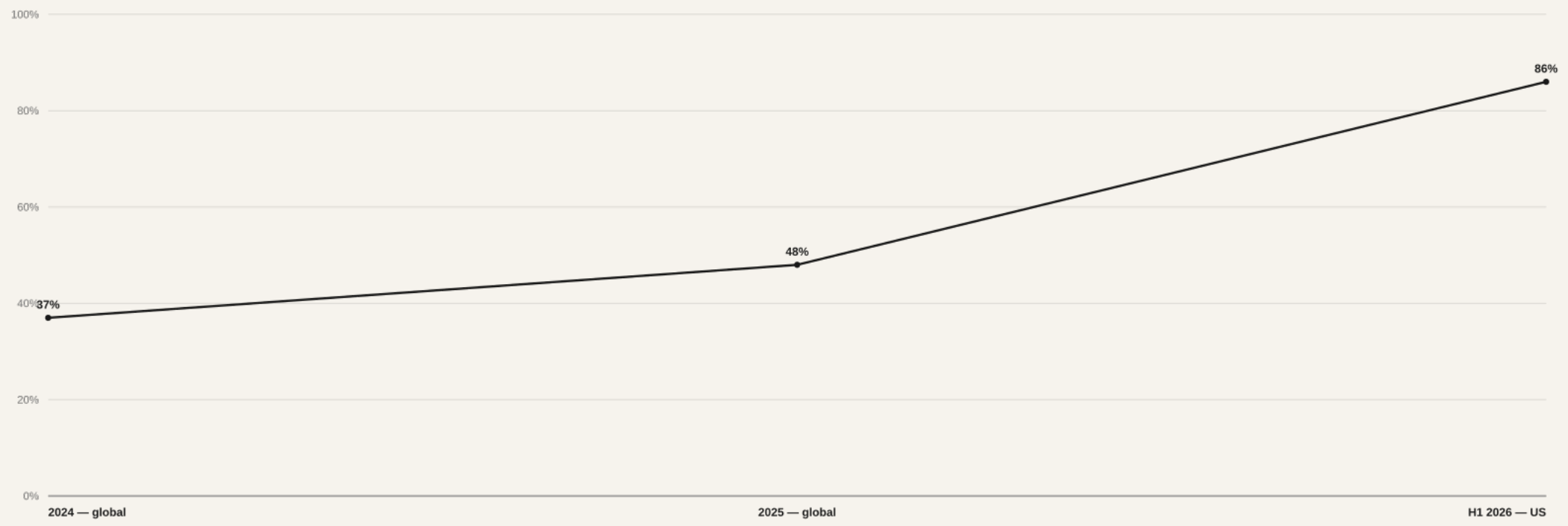
The money is real. It is going to almost no one.



Mixed basis, labeled honestly: 2024 is $500M+ rounds (Crunchbase); 2025 is $100M+ global (CB Insights); H1 2026 is $100M+ US (PitchBook-NVCA). The trend is the point, not one continuous series. As of 2025 FY / June 30, 2026.

AI'S SHARE OF VENTURE DOLLARS

AI is not the largest sector anymore. It is the market.



Basis shift, labeled: 2024–2025 are global AI share (CB Insights); H1 2026 is US AI share (PitchBook-NVCA). Global H1 2026 AI share was lower — Crunchbase put Q2 2026 above 70% globally. As of 2025 FY / June 30, 2026.

THE EXIT, DPI, AND THE LIQUIDITY SQUEEZE

Value is being created. Cash is not coming back.

0.37x

MEDIAN DPI — 2017 VINTAGE

0.15x

MEDIAN DPI — 2018 VINTAGE

0.04x

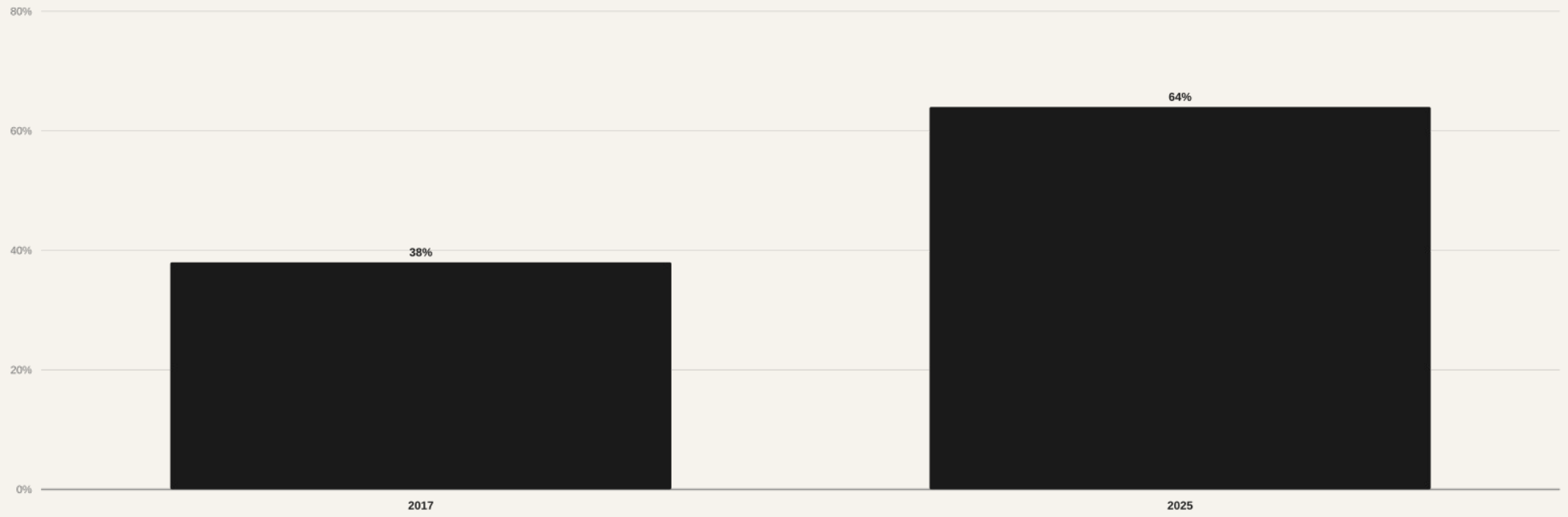
MEDIAN DPI — 2019 VINTAGE

DPI is cash actually returned to LPs, divided by capital called. Break-even is 1.0x. Nine years in, the typical 2017-vintage fund has returned 37 cents on the dollar; the 2019 vintage, 4 cents. Meanwhile 2017-vintage top-decile paper value (TVPI) climbed to 4.14x — value is real but slow, and mostly unrealized. Liquidity is routing around the IPO drought: tender-offer value on Carta rose 200% in H1 2026, and Q2 2026 saw 32 billion-dollar IPOs and $113B in M&A — but beyond a handful of names the exit pipeline is thin.

Carta, VC Fund Performance Q2 2026 · as of June 30, 2026 (published Sept 23, 2026). TVPI/IRR and liquidity figures: Carta; PitchBook-NVCA Q2 2026; Crunchbase H1 2026.

VALUATIONS AND DRY POWDER

Valuations are back past the 2021 peak at the top. The capital behind them is pooling in fewer hands.



Two points as Carta publishes them (no intermediate years invented). Median LP count for nine-figure funds fell 45% over four years; first-time fund formation is on pace for its lowest year since 2016. Carta, VC Fund Performance Q2 2026 · as of 2025 FY / June 30, 2026.

WHERE RETURNS ARE ACTUALLY COMING FROM NOW

The returns come from three places — and only one is open to a fund our size.

Not investable for us

- The frontier-model auction — OpenAI, Anthropic, xAI. Enormous paper markups, priced for the few funds that write nine- and ten-figure checks and accept near-zero ownership. Five companies took 20% of all 2025 venture capital.
- The return stream is real. It is not investable for a sub-$10B fund at a defensible price.

Where our dollar buys ownership

- The AI infrastructure and physical layer — data centers, inference chips, robotics, defense, energy. Robotics alone hit a record $40.7B in 2025 (9% of all venture funding). Capital-intensive, but with real revenue and moats in deployment.
- The application and deployment layer — companies turning frontier models into workflows customers pay for. AI's measurable deal-size premium exists because buyers are spending. A disciplined early-stage fund can still own a meaningful stake here at an underwritable price.

The market's biggest paper gains and its only durable, investable returns for our fund are not the same companies. Crunchbase 2025; CB Insights State of Venture 2025; Crunchbase Q3 2026.

SECTION SYNTHESIS

This market rewards ownership and discipline. It punishes breadth and patience-for-its-own-sake.

This market REWARDS	This market PUNISHES
Concentration into real conviction (629 companies took ~60% of 2025 capital)	Spray-and-pray breadth across undifferentiated AI wrappers
Ownership that survives mega-round dilution	Small stakes washed out by $100M+ later rounds
Entry-price discipline while the top re-rates past 2021	Chasing marks that have not become cash (median DPI near zero post-2017)
A liquidity plan beyond the IPO (secondaries, tenders, M&A — Q2 2026 M&A hit $113B)	Waiting passively for an IPO window open for ~2 names
Backing the deployment layer where buyers already spend	Underwriting the frontier-model auction at megafund prices

CB Insights State of Venture 2025; Crunchbase 2025–H1 2026; Carta VC Fund Performance Q2 2026; PitchBook-NVCA Q2 2026.

II

We do not fund the AI frontier. We fund the companies that make it pay.

AMITY'S THESIS IN ONE LINE

We lead early, we concentrate, and we fund the companies that make the frontier pay.

- Amity is built on quality relationships and concentrated capital. We lead pre-seed, seed, and Series A rounds, take meaningful ownership, and back 3 to 5 companies a year on purpose. Our edge is not scale — it is judgment, conviction, and the willingness to say no.
- Our bet: the trillion dollars pouring into frontier models and AI infrastructure is the precondition for the real return cycle — the application and deployment companies that turn models into revenue, at entry prices a fund our size can actually defend.
- The approach already works. Since 2016, 20% of our early-stage portfolio has reached $1B+ (7 of 35 companies) — the output of leading early and owning enough for it to matter.
- Three commitments follow: lead early and own a real stake; avoid where price has outrun underwriting; engineer our own liquidity rather than wait for an IPO.

Amity III AUM $2.3B. Track record as of 2026. The thesis is the foundation; everything downstream flows from it.

WHERE WE INVEST

We lead pre-seed, seed, and Series A. We back 3 to 5 companies a year. We own enough to matter.

- Stage and posture: we lead pre-seed, seed, and Series A, where entry prices are underwritable and our 12–15% ownership target survives before mega-round dilution. Check size $1–5M initial, with reserves to defend ownership through Series B.
- Concentration: from a $2.3B fund (Amity III) we back 3 to 5 companies a year, not thirty. In a power-law market, breadth is the risk. Based in the Presidio, San Francisco; US-weighted.
- Applied AI in regulated, data-rich verticals — healthcare, financial services, legal, insurance. OpenEvidence and Evisort (acquired by Workday) sit here.
- AI-native infrastructure and the operational edge — evaluation, observability, security; Snyk and Carta sell to the builders, and MaintainX (acquired by Autodesk) wins in the operator's workflow.

Fund parameters are Amity's own. Crunchbase 2025; CB Insights State of Venture 2025.

WHAT WE DELIBERATELY AVOID

What we will not do is as much of the strategy as what we will.

- We do not compete in the frontier-model auction. Five companies took 20% of all 2025 venture capital; two took 43% of H1 2026 global funding. We cannot win that round.
- We do not fund thin application wrappers with no proprietary data, no workflow lock-in, no defensibility against the next model release. The model is not the moat; the deployment is.
- We do not chase marks. With median DPI at 0.04x–0.37x for 2017–2019 vintages, a markup is not a return. We underwrite to realizable outcomes.
- We do not pay 2021-plus entry prices for 2026 growth. When the top re-rates past its prior peak, our answer at the entry point is price discipline, not FOMO.
- We do not over-diversify. We back 3 to 5 companies a year on purpose — a concentrated portfolio we can own and actively help beats a broad book of hedges.

Crunchbase 2025, H1 2026; Carta VC Fund Performance Q2 2026.

OUR EDGE

When every deck says "AI," the edge is the underwriting, not the thesis.

- The durability test: we underwrite against the next model release, not the last. If a better frontier model kills the business, we pass — we fund what gets better as models improve.
- The revenue-is-real test: a customer paying for an outcome, not a pilot. AI's funding premium is real only where commercial maturity is proven.
- The ownership-and-moat test: we model the cap table through dilution and enter only where our stake survives to exit, with a defensible data asset, embedded workflow, or distribution advantage.
- Our structural edge: we lead early, concentrate into 3 to 5 companies a year, and work from the first check. The proof: since 2016, 20% of our portfolio has reached $1B+ (7 of 35), with real exits (MaintainX, acq. Autodesk; Evisort, acq. Workday).

PitchBook-NVCA Venture Monitor, Q2 2026. Track record as of 2026.

We manage the three things that turn paper into cash: price in, ownership held, and a way out.

- Valuation discipline: a stated entry-price ceiling by stage, and the willingness to walk from a round that prices past it. We would rather miss a deal than overpay into a market re-rating past 2021 highs.
- Ownership discipline: a 12–15% target stake, taken by leading the round and defended with reserves through at least Series B — because when $100M+ rounds capture 87.5% of capital, an undefended early stake gets washed out. Backing 3 to 5 companies a year from a $2.3B fund is what makes those stakes possible.
- Liquidity discipline — the part most funds leave to luck: we plan DPI actively. With the IPO window open for a handful of names, we treat secondaries, tender offers (up 200% in H1 2026 on Carta), and M&A ($113B in Q2 2026) as primary liquidity paths, not consolation prizes.

PitchBook-NVCA Q2 2026; Carta VC Fund Performance Q2 2026; Crunchbase H1 2026.

How we are positioned for the next 24 months.

- Deployment pace: deliberate and concentrated. We lead 3 to 5 new companies a year and pace into entry-price discipline rather than deploy to a calendar.
- Reserve posture: a higher reserve ratio than a 2021-style fund, because defending our 12–15% ownership through dilution is now a core return driver — a focused portfolio with meaningful stakes in a few companies we can actively help, not small stakes in many.
- Liquidity actions: where positions are marked at strength, we pursue partial secondary and tender liquidity to begin returning capital rather than waiting on a terminal exit.
- What we are watching: whether the IPO thaw broadens, whether AI's share of dollars plateaus (pre-seed held flat at ~49–50%), and whether application-layer revenue holds.

Carta State of Pre-Seed Q2 2026.

amity

In the most concentrated venture market in history, discipline is the edge.

Returns come from leading early, owning enough to matter, and a deliberate path to liquidity — not from chasing the frontier.

We concentrate on purpose: 3 to 5 companies a year, 12–15% ownership. We say no more often than yes. That is the strategy.

Concentrated enough to own, disciplined enough to wait, in the trenches enough to get your capital back.

Amity Ventures · Annual Meeting of Limited Partners · San Francisco · October 2026