

Women of Influence: Rebecca Lynn

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Rebecca Lynn is a partner at **Morgenthaler Ventures**.

Morgenthaler Ventures is a leading venture capital firm that has been in business for more than 40 years with nearly \$3 billion under management. Its IT team is focused on early stage information technology investments, with past and present portfolio companies that include: Evernote, Lending Club, Siri, Practice Fusion, Pageonce, JasperSoft, MuleSoft, Adara Media, Fundly, SohoOS, Socrata, Rhythm NewMedia, NexTag, Nominum, PeopleMatter and Voltage Security. Morgenthaler Ventures is headquartered in Menlo Park.

Residence: Portola Valley.

Education: JD/MBA degrees, Haas School of Business and UC Berkeley School of Law at UC Berkeley; BS, chemical engineering, University of Missouri.

Boards/volunteer: Lending Club, Pageonce, Practice Fusion, Socrata.

First job: Worked at a nuclear research reactor.

Proudest achievement: Investing in Lending Club as my first venture deal. It was a very risky bet as we invested at the height of the credit crunch, but my background in financial services enabled us to take a very hard look at it, and we loved the company and the team. Lending Club just crossed \$500 million in originations, has had two upround financings by great VCs, and it is on a great path. It has a terrific team, and it is a sincere pleasure to be part of the board.

Biggest whoops: Not leading the angel round in Zoosk — my good friend's company that did \$98 million in revenues last year. Oops!

Something that would surprise others: I am from a small town in Missouri, and my parents didn't go to college.

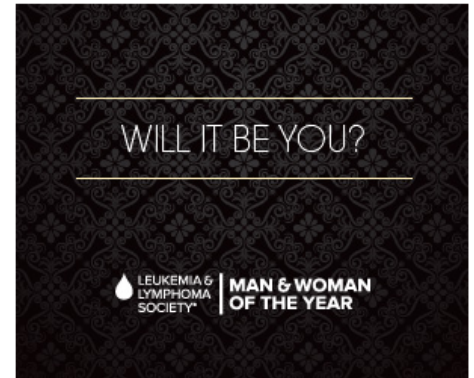
After hours, where would we find you? Spending time with my two children.

Five-year goal: I'd like to take my family sailing on an extended vacation to show my kids a bit of the world "off the beaten path."

If you weren't in your career, what would you be doing? Riding horses in France. Sailing on a boat in French Polynesia. But I love what I do ...

Tech gadget you can't live without: My iPhone, of course!

Business hero: [Walt Disney](#) — it is amazing how much of our childhood, and our culture, he created and/or controls. He had a phenomenal mix of creativity and business acumen that I admire, and he created an empire (and he was also from Missouri). He rode the wave of motion pictures as [Steve Jobs](#) rode the wave of the personal computer and the mobile phone.



Courtesy photo

Rebecca Lynn, partner at Morgenthaler Ventures, is a 2012 Woman of Influence.