



DIVERSITY LEADERSHIP FROM THE BOARD: ANDREA S. HUNT

by Kathy Graham

Andrea S. Hunt is a 20+ year biotechnology leader formerly with Baxter International who served in their regenerative medicine and innovation and strategic initiatives. She's now a Board Director for NASDAQ-listed Catalyst Biosciences, a California headquartered company.

“California is at the head of the gender diversity movement, but we at Catalyst [Biosciences] are proud that we are ahead of the curve,” says Catalyst’s CEO Nassim Usman in a [VIDEO](#) that Catalyst filmed to explain the importance of why they added Andrea to their board two years ago and why they’re continuing to add diversity to their board and company at all levels.

“Andrea is an example, beyond her expertise in the hemophilia space and knowing our commercial opportunities, she is a mentor to our head of HR and plays a key role in the company’s leadership initiative for women.

The payoff to Catalyst has been exponential...We are what we call tantalizing close to getting drugs to the market after over a decade of work and we know that diversity of all forms will get us over the finish line better and faster.

We aren’t doing this [diversity initiative] because we have to—we’re doing it because it’s good business,” concludes Usman.

In this thought-provoking [VIDEO](#):

- Andrea talks about how women in their respective roles drive diversity on their boards and her support of 2020 WOB.
- Amanda Hill, Senior Director of HR at Catalyst Biosciences, discusses how having board diversity is driving innovation, has been transformational to their women’s program, and has made Catalyst more attractive to top talent, who help benefit patients...and hear Amanda discuss ***“the question we should all be asking ourselves about raising diversity awareness and effecting change.”***
- John Richard, Catalyst Board Director and Head of Nominating & Governance Committee, discusses ***“the structural impediments to greater female participation”*** and how Catalyst Biosciences overcame those barriers to add Andrea.

Andrea S. Hunt is one of 40+ corporate board directors at 2020 Women on Boards Chicago’s [8th Annual National Conversation on Board Diversity](#) on November 21, 2019 at The Union League Club from 4:00PM to 8PM. Please join Andrea and the other 300-400 attendees for conversation and networking on the topic of how to engage allies to increase board gender diversity.