



## Cathy Bessant Chief Operations and Technology Officer

Cathy Bessant is chief operations and technology officer at Bank of America, where she leads a team of nearly 95,000 and is responsible for the technology and operations enabling all the businesses of the company.

Since joining the bank in 1982, Bessant has held numerous leadership positions in Global Corporate Banking, Global Product Solutions, Global Treasury Services and Global Marketing and Corporate Affairs.

Bessant serves as an advocate and executive sponsor for the company's LGBT Pride and LGBT Ally program, as well as the Disability Advisory Council. In 2018, she was named No. 1 among OUTstanding LGBT+ Ally Executives, presented by the Financial Times.

For the second year in a row, she is ranked No. 1 among the "25 Most Powerful Women in Banking" by American Banker. She also received the 2019 Women in Technology and Data Trailblazer (Lifetime Achievement) Award from WatersTechnology. She appeared on Working Mother magazine's "50 Most Powerful Working Moms" list of 2018.

Active in the community and region, Bessant received the 2018 Distinguished Service Award from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. In addition, she was awarded the North Carolina Order of the Long Leaf Pine and was recognized by the Charlotte Business Journal with the Women in Business Lifetime Achievement Award. She chairs the North Tryon Vision Plan Advisory Committee.

Bessant serves on the board of directors of Zurich Insurance Group, is an independent member of the USA Field Hockey board of directors and is on the advisory board for the Ross School of Business at the University of Michigan. Along with Ross School faculty, alumni and students, she summited Africa's Mount Kilimanjaro, the world's tallest freestanding mountain, in August of 2018.