ARTICLE EARL BENJAMIN
PHOTOGRAPHY LIFE N LIGHT

MOVERS & SHAKERS

LOCAL MEN IMPACTING COMMUNITY

THE FOUNDER AND PRESIDENT

Cameron Smith,
President, Seattle Polo & Equestrian Club



WHAT DOES COMMUNITY MEAN TO YOU, AND HOW DO YOU THINK YOU IMPACT YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY?

Impacting community means sharing different aspects of things I do with people to improve their lives. Through my product development firm, Product Creation Studio, I'm able to work on products ranging from life-saving medical devices to life-enhancing consumer health applications in an environment where people thrive. I started the Seattle Polo & Equestrian Club to bring the sport of polo to Seattle.

I am happiest when my dreams align with improving the lives of people around me.



THE CHAIRMAN AND CEO

Jeff Rogers,
Chairman & CEO, OneAccord

WHAT EXCITES YOU MOST ABOUT THE WORK THAT YOU DO?

At what seems to be opposite ends of the spectrum, there's an intersection. On one hand, we're working with private business owners who, given macroeconomic trends, are looking to transition their enterprise. On the other hand, we have this millennial "bubble" who are confounding to many business leaders.

As we are acquiring companies and the owners transition, we have the opportunity to be developing future business leaders through these businesses. This is a long-term view—seeding our business community with well-trained and developing professionals.



THE CREATIVE

Patrick De Armas, Justin Kane Elder and Stefan Hofmann, *Founders and Designers of Electric Coffin*

WHAT EXCITES YOU MOST ABOUT THE WORK THAT YOU DO?

Being able to think about problem-solving in a different way and injecting new things into our daily environment is what gets us excited. The interaction and response from our clients make our work worthwhile.

DO YOU HAVE A MANTRA OR MOTTO THAT YOU LIVE BY?

Within our studio, we have a saying: "art first." This means to always allow ourselves the opportunities to explore conceptually and artistically. It allows us to have fewer constraints and focus on providing the most interesting work to our clients while staying true to who we are.

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THE STORYTELLER

Paul Cabellon,
Global Good Storyteller & Corporate Communicator, Intellectual Ventures

WHAT DOES COMMUNITY MEAN TO YOU, AND HOW DO YOU THINK YOU IMPACT YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY?

Community is about the investing in the common good—where people contribute personal time, talents or treasure to the betterment of civil society. I'm a board member at Cedar Park Christian Schools and am involved at my local church, where my family and I focus on bridging social and economic divides in society.

WHAT EXCITES YOU MOST ABOUT THE WORK THAT YOU DO?

Being the storyteller for an invention company that creates technology to help the poorest people in the world is always pretty inspiring.

THE FOUNDER AND CHANGEMAKER

James M. Thomas, D.D.S., M.S.,
health:latch

WHAT DOES COMMUNITY MEAN TO YOU, AND HOW DO YOU THINK YOU IMPACT YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY?

A big part of community is being able to properly nourish our bodies and grow. This starts from day one of life. health:latch is a niche health care practice with a sole purpose of helping babies, children and their families thrive.

WHAT EXCITES YOU MOST ABOUT THE WORK THAT YOU DO?

When you can effectively eliminate a problem, a struggle or fulfill a need with a baby, you have made an immediate and direct impact that lasts a lifetime.





THE CEO AND PRESIDENT

Mitch Smith,
CEO, MG2; President, Bellevue Arts Museum

WHAT DOES COMMUNITY MEAN TO YOU, AND HOW DO YOU THINK YOU IMPACT YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY?

Community is where we live, where we are invested and, more importantly, where we give back. I'm engaged at the board level with the Bellevue Arts Museum (BAM) in order to support, promote and build a thriving arts and culture community in the city of Bellevue.

DO YOU HAVE A MANTRA OR MOTTO THAT YOU LIVE BY?

A number of years ago, I defined my personal motto: Have great and loving people around that I trust and get s--- done in a collaborative, respectful and fun way.

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THE ECONOMIST

Björn E. Woltermann,
Founder and CEO, Katalyst Inc.

WHAT EXCITES YOU MOST ABOUT THE WORK THAT YOU DO?

As an economist by trade, I always wondered if I could build a business where everyone involved could win. At Katalyst, we are creating a win for the members, who get stronger, healthier and maybe happier within less time, effort and cost. We empower our team to do what they love because we believe they make all the difference for our customer experience.

DO YOU HAVE A MANTRA OR MOTTO THAT YOU LIVE BY?

I once heard a song called "Live like you were dying." It stuck with me.

THE INVENTOR

Pablos Holman,
Inventor, Intellectual Ventures

WHAT DOES COMMUNITY MEAN TO YOU AND HOW DO YOU THINK YOU IMPACT YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY?

For the last decade, we've been quietly inventing technology at the Intellectual Ventures Lab in Bellevue. Most of this is aimed at solving problems for people living in extreme poverty. We are trying to make this region into the Silicon Valley of saving the world!

DO YOU HAVE A MANTRA OR MOTTO THAT YOU LIVE BY?

Vision without action is a daydream. Action without vision is a nightmare.

