

Jeff Skoll

Founder and Chairman, Skoll Foundation Founder and Chairman, Participant Media

Entrepreneur Jeff Skoll has a track record of launching businesses that result in positive social change. As eBay's first President, he developed the company's first business plan, creating entrepreneurial opportunities for millions of individuals around the world. He also pioneered creation of the eBay Foundation through the allocation of pre-IPO shares.

In 1999 Jeff launched the Skoll Foundation, which provides unrestricted financing and services to leading social entrepreneurs whose innovations are poised to achieve large-scale impact. The foundation's leveraged strategy derives from his core belief that it is in everyone's interest to shift the overwhelming imbalance between the "haves" and "have-nots" in order to bring about a more peaceful and prosperous global community.

In January 2004 Jeff founded Participant Productions (now Participant Media), a global media company that produces entertainment to inspire and compel social change. Participant's films include, among others, *The Informant!*, *The Soloist*, *Food Inc.*, *The Visitor*, *Kite Runner*, *Charlie Wilson's War*, *Jimmy Carter Man From Plains*, *Darfur Now*, *Syriana*, and *Good Night and Good Luck*. One of its 2006 releases, *An Inconvenient Truth*, garnered two Academy Awards and has inspired an unprecedented grassroots commitment to address climate change.

Jeff received a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from the University of Toronto and an M.B.A. from Stanford University. In addition, he was awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from the University of Toronto. Jeff serves on a number of boards and advisory boards, including the National Centers for Arts and Technology and The Elders.

In 2006 Jeff was named as one of TIME Magazine's 100 People of the Year.