



Pierre & Pam Omidyar Personal Philanthropy

Overview

Pierre and Pam Omidyar are active philanthropists engaged in numerous efforts to make the world a better place.

Pierre and Pam are guided by their beliefs in the potential of individuals and the power of markets. These beliefs inspired Pierre to found eBay in 1995. By enabling people to connect over shared interests, develop trust through transparent trading practices, and ultimately build individual businesses, eBay demonstrated that a successful business can also be an effective tool for improving people's lives. As a result, Pierre and Pam use an expanded toolset in their philanthropy, making for-profit investments as well as traditional grants. To date, the Omidyars have committed more than \$900 million to their philanthropic efforts, including more than \$150 million to for-profit companies and more than \$750 million to nonprofit organizations.

The Omidyars have established three organizations to help fulfill their vision for positive social change:

- **Omidyar Network** is a philanthropic investment firm dedicated to harnessing the power of markets to create opportunity for people to improve their lives. Founded by Pierre and Pam in 2004, the organization invests in and helps scale innovative organizations to catalyze economic, social, and political change. Omidyar Network supports for-profit companies and nonprofit organizations that foster economic advancement and encourage individual participation across multiple investment areas, including microfinance, property rights, government transparency, and social media. Pam and Pierre are actively involved with Omidyar Network through their board roles.
- **Humanity United** is an independent grant-making organization dedicated to ending mass atrocities and modern-day slavery. By pursuing a creative combination of research, policy, and public pressure, Humanity United seeks to enable local and global solutions to end conflict and injustice and to help create a lasting global peace. Pam began Humanity United's work in 2005 based on the belief that these two massive challenges threaten not just global peace and security, but the common humanity of all people. As Humanity United's guiding visionary, Pam was involved in the development of the organization's mission and values and is actively engaged in steering its course as Board Chair.
- **HopeLab** is a nonprofit organization created by Pam that is harnessing the power of technology to improve the health of young people. HopeLab's approach combines rigorous research, innovative solutions, and direct input from teens and young adults with chronic illnesses. In 2006, HopeLab introduced the groundbreaking Re-Mission video game for cancer; in 2008, the medical journal *Pediatrics* published HopeLab research demonstrating that Re-Mission improves key health behaviors and psychological outcomes for young cancer patients. HopeLab is also working to develop fun, effective interventions to address obesity, major depressive disorder, sickle cell disease, and autism in young people. Pam founded HopeLab in 2001 and continues to serve as Board Chair.



Community-Based Giving

Pierre and Pam also contribute to organizations that support the local areas where they live and work:

- The Pierre and Pamela Omidyar Fund at the **Hawaii Community Foundation** is a vehicle for the Omidyars to support sustainability programs in their home state of Hawaii. These efforts aim to help improve the quality of life in the islands, focusing specifically on renewable energy, local food production, and waste reduction. Recent activities include grants to **MA'O Farms**, **Kanu Hawaii**, and the **Hawaii Island School Gardens Network**.
- The Omidyars contribute to local efforts in the San Francisco Bay Area through the Pierre and Pamela Omidyar Fund at the **Silicon Valley Community Foundation**. The Fund also supports humanitarian organizations that provide relief for global crises, from natural disasters to civil unrest. Organizations that receive support include Doctors Without Borders, CARE, and the World Food Program.

Notable Gifts

In addition to their ongoing work with the organizations listed above, Pierre and Pam have made many significant grants to other organizations aligned with their interests. Examples include:

- **Tufts University:**
 - In 2005, the Omidyars, both Tufts alumni, personally donated \$100 million to Tufts University to create the **Omidyar-Tufts Microfinance Fund**. This effort, while a direct contribution from Pierre and Pam, is an extension of the microfinance efforts underway at Omidyar Network. Representing the largest single gift ever made to Tufts University, the fund aims to demonstrate the potential of microfinance investments for institutional investors. With 100 percent of the original fund committed, 50 percent of accrued investment returns will be reinvested in the original capital pool, and the other 50 percent will be used for programs at Tufts.
 - The Omidyars have also contributed more than \$40 million to support a variety of programs at Tufts. This includes \$18 million in grants to establish and support what is now the **Tisch University College of Citizenship and Public Service**.
- **Santa Fe Institute:** In 2008, Pierre committed \$7.5 million to the Institute in the form of a matching grant. The grant will be used to fund the ongoing activities of the Omidyar Postdoctoral Fellows Program. This program aims to attract the brightest and most creative thinkers from a wide range of disciplines to spend three career-shaping years at the Santa Fe Institute.

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