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Daniel S. Bernstein is the owner of Alexander Wolf & Son, a general contracting firm specializing in interior renovations in New York City. The company was founded in 1905 by Daniel’s grandfather. They have upgraded and modernized many of the city’s iconic buildings including Rockefeller Center, the Empire State Building, the original World Trade Center and the United Nations campus. Daniel is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Solomon Schechter School of Manhattan, the Park Avenue Synagogue, the Jewish Homecare Network, and the Affinity Insurance Company. Daniel is now in the midst of training his two children both of whom graduated from Cornell, Peter ‘03 B.S. from the College of Engineering and MBA from NYU ’06 and Michelle ‘07 B.A. from the College of Arts and Sciences and MBA University of Miami ’12 to be the fourth generation of family owners of Alexander Wolf & Son.
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Mike Even is chairman of Man Numeric (“Numeric”), which he joined in 2006 and served as President and CEO until 2016. Prior to joining Numeric, Even worked for Citigroup for nine years building a global asset management organization. After Citigroup merged with Travelers, he became global CIO of the Private Bank and eventually, global CIO for Citigroup Asset Management, overseeing investment teams running nearly $500B in client assets. Prior to joining Citigroup, Even spent 13 years at Independence Investment Associates in Boston. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree in economics, a Bachelor of Science degree in operations research from Cornell University and a master’s degree in business from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Mike is a CFA charterholder and currently serves on the investment committees of the Massachusetts Pension Reserves Management Board and the Trustees of the Reservation.
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Greg Galvin is President and CEO of Rheonix, Inc., which produces fully-automated, molecular diagnostic systems for clinical and applied markets. He is also President and CEO of Mezmeriz, Inc., an early stage three-dimensional imaging company. In addition, Galvin is Executive Chairman of Incodema3D, Inc., a metals additive manufacturing company. Until 2013, he was the President and CEO of Kionix, Inc., a Cornell technology MEMS company that he co-founded in 1993. Galvin currently serves on the boards of Rheonix, Mezmeriz, Incodema3D, the Ithaca Sciencenter and the Boyce Thompson Institute. He served on the Cornell Board of Trustees from 2011 to 2015; he also serves on the Cornell Materials Science and Engineering Advisory Council and on the Entrepreneurship at Cornell Advisory Council. In 2010 Galvin was a regional Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award winner. He was honored by Cornell as the 2014 Cornell Entrepreneur of the Year. Galvin has a B.S. in Electrical Engineering from the California Institute of Technology. His oldest son Thomas is in the class of 2019 in the Cornell College of Engineering.

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Andrea Ippolito is the executive director of the Engineering Management Program at Cornell University. She recently completed a role as the innovators network director at the Department of Veterans Affairs and she previously served as a Presidential Innovation Fellow at the VA Center for Innovation based out of the White House Office of Science Technology Policy and General Services Administration. She previously was a Ph.D. student in the Engineering Systems Division at MIT, co-founder of Smart Scheduling, Innovation Specialist at the Brigham & Women’s Hospital Innovation Hub, and co-leader of MIT’s Hacking Medicine. She also served as a product innovation manager at Athena Health and completed her M.S. in engineering and management at MIT. Prior to MIT, Ippolito worked as a research scientist within the Corporate Technology Development group at Boston Scientific. She obtained both her B.S. in biological engineering in 2006 and Master of Engineering in biomedical engineering in 2007 from Cornell University.

Michele A. Kaliski brings three decades of practical experience investing in students, innovation, and public service. After graduating from Cornell, Kaliski studied as a General Motors Fellow at MIT. Her master’s thesis outlined an innovative strategy for empowering employees in improving factory operations, a basis for her work as a manufacturing engineer at GM’s Harrison Radiator and a competitive analysis engineer at A.C. Rochester. After starting a family, Kaliski turned her career attention to public service, organizing and fundraising for student programs in the arts and athletics. In the past decade, she’s shifted focus to the college level, pursuing investment opportunities at MIT’s Division of Student Life. At Cornell, Kaliski has worked with the ECE Department to establish and organize its Innovation Award Competition. Now entering its fourth year, the competition has funded a number of remarkable student teams, the members of which are well underway in their own impactful careers.

Kevin Johnson, who has an electrical engineering degree from Cornell, is a partner at Quinn Emanuel Urquhart and Sullivan, LLP. He serves as lead counsel for Fortune 500 companies and start-ups including Samsung, Salesforce, Twist Bioscience, Twitter, Sony, Blackberry, Lifesize and Fitbit. His practice focuses on litigating patent infringement, antitrust and trade secret cases in federal and state courts as well as the International Trade Commission. His skills as a patent trial lawyer have been recognized by publications such as Chambers USA, which listed him as a top California Intellectual Property Patent lawyer in 2016, and the Daily Journal, which named him a “Top IP Lawyer in California” for 2016. In 2016, he was also named “Technology MVP” by Law360. Johnson also serves as a Trustee of SFMOMA and on the governing board of the Woodside School District.

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Jonathan Ludwig is currently a Vice President in Barclays’ Distressed and Special Situations Trading group, a part of the Fixed Income Credit Trading business. Ludwig is responsible for analyzing distressed, stressed, or recovering credits and other special situations across sectors and across the entire capital structure. He was previously an investment banker at Evercore and Bank of America Merrill Lynch, advising on restructuring and capital raising transactions. Example transactions include the merger of Verso Paper and NewPage Holdings and related exchange offers, Sara Lee’s corporate reorganization and the spin-off of D.E. Master Blenders 1753, and CorEnergy’s conversion to an infrastructure REIT. Before that, Ludwig also traded a variety of securitized products on Citi’s Mortgage Trading desk. He has a B.S. (cum laude) from Cornell University, where he majored in Computer Science and Electrical Engineering, and an M.B.A. (with Honors) from the University of Chicago Booth School of Business.

Ivan Lustig is the managing partner of Dover Madison Capital Management, a private equity firm focused on mid-market North American companies. Lustig has more than 30 years of experience as an investment banker specializing in mergers and acquisitions and financings having worked on over $200 billion of transactions. He was most recently a senior managing director at Duff & Phelps and was, prior to that, head of M&A in the Americas for The Royal Bank of Scotland, and head of M&A in North America for predecessor firm ABN AMRO. Lustig graduated from Cornell University as a Knight Scholar. Lustig is an advisory board member of Cornell’s Financial Engineering Graduate Program and a board member of ARIF, a private foundation. Lustig is also co-chairman of the Museum of the Moving Image.
Jim McCormick is chairman and co-founder of First Manhattan Consulting Group and FMCG Direct. During McCormick’s more than three decades of serving financial institutions, he has focused on strategy, marketing and financial analysis. Along the way, he has authored over 50 white papers on banking and built relationships with many C-level executives and board members. He has given testimony to the U.S. Senate Banking Committee and has appeared over 200 times as a speaker before various industry groups. He has appeared on several television venues and been quoted in publications including The Wall Street Journal, The New York Times, Institutional Investor, The Economist, Forbes and Fortune. McCormick’s philanthropy is focused on education. He is a board member of Mercy College, the Engineering College at Cornell University, and previously served as a national board member of Teach for America.

Avinash Mehrotra is a partner of Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC and a senior member of the Investment Banking Division. He is currently global head of the Financial Institutions Mergers & Acquisitions business. Previously, he was co-head of the Mergers & Acquisitions Shareholder Advisory practice. Mehrotra joined Goldman Sachs in 1996 as an associate in the Mergers & Acquisitions Group, and subsequently transferred to the Technology, Media and Telecommunications Group in 2002. From 2010 to 2011, he led the firm’s investment banking business for the Middle East and North Africa. He returned to New York in 2012 and headed the Real Estate, Gaming and Lodging Mergers & Acquisitions business. Prior to joining the firm, he held various positions at Intel, Morgan Stanley and McKinsey & Company. He currently serves on the board of trustees of Horace Mann School and the Hunter College Foundation. Mehrotra earned a B.S. in electrical engineering from Cornell University in 1991 and an MBA from Stanford University’s Graduate School of Business in 1996. He and his wife, Anjali Sadarangani, live in Mamaroneck with their son, Sajan, and daughters, Amiya and Naina.

Dr. Morel recently retired as Chief Executive Officer of West Pharmaceutical Services, Inc., where he served in that position since April 2002 and Chairman of the Board since March 2003. He joined West in 1992 as Director of Research and Development and was promoted to Vice President R&D in 1993. In this role, Dr. Morel spearheaded West’s efforts to develop novel and proprietary drug delivery technologies. In 1998 he was promoted to Group President, heading sales, marketing and operations of West’s medical device and pharmaceutical components business globally. In 1999, Dr. Morel became President of the new Drug Delivery Division and in April 2001, President and Chief Operating Officer. His aerospace work in the 1980s resulted in his selection as a finalist for assignment as a NASA Mission Specialist in the Astronaut Office in 1989. Dr. Morel holds a B.S. degree in Engineering from Lafayette College, an M.S. in Materials Science and a Ph.D. in Materials Science and Veterinary Medicine from Cornell University.

Howard Morgan is co-founder and partner in First Round Capital, a seed stage venture capital investment firm specializing in information technologies. He began working with Idealab in 1996 and serves on its board. He has more than 30 years of experience with more than 200 high-tech entrepreneurial ventures. He serves on the boards of Augury, Kentik.com, Memsql, Gust and other private companies. After receiving his Ph.D., Morgan joined the Cornell faculty as assistant professor of operations research and then professor of decision sciences at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania and professor of computer science at the Moore School for almost 15 years. He is a trustee of Cold Spring Harbor Labs and Math For America and is a respected author. Morgan received his B.S. from the City University of New York in 1965.
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Jim Ricotta has more than 30 years of experience in the information technology field as CEO, board member, and Fortune 500 division GM. Currently, he invests in promising startups through his venture fund SightPath Capital. Most recently, he ran app-based food delivery service Foodler, which he sold to GrubHub last summer. Previously, he was CEO and president at Data-Power Technology, Azuki Systems, and SightPath, Inc. He has also been a VP and business unit GM at IBM and Cisco Systems. His functional experience includes engineering, product management, marketing and sales. He has built management teams, launched innovative product lines, acquired marquee customers, and enjoys a long track record of growth in his companies. He has successfully built and sold companies in emerging markets to Cisco and IBM for $800 million and $100 million respectively. He holds an MBA from Harvard and received an Emmy Award in 1992 for his work on Avid Technology’s digital video editing system.
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Elissa Sterry started her career with Exxon Chemical Company in information management. She subsequently held a variety of positions and in 1996 was appointed General Manager for the Polymers Applications Business Unit. She was promoted to Vice President in 1999, in charge of the worldwide Ethylene Elastomers Business. In 2002, she was named Deputy Manager of Public Affairs and later that year, was appointed manager, Economics and Energy, becoming a recognized speaker on ExxonMobil’s outlook for energy and energy-related issues. In 2004, Elissa was appointed manager, Business Planning and Support, for the ExxonMobil Gas and Power Company. In 2006, she was appointed Vice President Global Oxo. In June 2007, the Oxo and Fluids Global Business Units consolidated into the Intermediates Business Unit and Elissa was appointed to the position of Vice President, Intermediates, ExxonMobil Chemical Company.
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Andrew W. Verhalen joined Matrix Partners, a venture capital partnership in 1992. Since then he has led Matrix’s involvement in dozens of successful technology companies, including Phone.com, which went public in 1999; SiTera, which sold to Vitesse; and Alteon Websystems, which listed its shares on Nasdaq before being acquired by Nortel Networks. Before joining Matrix, Verhalen helped start Grand Junction Networks, an Ethernet switch business that is now a major division of Cisco. Previously he worked for 3Com, where he built a new division focused on network adapters and hubs. Prior to that, he managed marketing for Intel’s flagship microprocessor, the 8086. Today he is working with a few young companies: Ambarella provides HD video and image processing solutions; Panzura provides enterprise cloud storage controllers; Sila Nanotechnologies is developing advanced battery materials. Verhalen received a B.S. in electrical engineering, M.Eng. in electrical engineering and M.B.A. all from Cornell.
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Lisa Walker serves as managing partner of DHR International’s Global Industrial Practice Group. Most recently, Walker served as the founder and managing director of Leadership Capital Advisors, a boutique retained executive search firm, where she built the revenue and infrastructure, and managed entrepreneurial growth. Previously, Walker was a senior partner with Korn/Ferry International and a partner with Heidrick & Struggles. Prior to entering executive search, she was with BP Amoco, Air BP, as chief marketing officer for the international jet fuel business. Earlier in her career, Walker served as a management consultant with Bain & Company and A.T. Kearney. She began her career as an engineer at Honeywell Corporation, working in design and manufacturing with Honeywell’s solid state electronics division. Walker earned her MBA in finance and economics from the University of Chicago, and her B.S. in chemical engineering from Cornell University. Walker has been honored by the White House as “a Champion of Change for her outstanding leadership in entrepreneurial mentoring, counseling, and training.” She serves on the board of the University of Chicago Laboratory School, the advisory board of the Clean Energy Trust, Cornell Engineering College Council and the women’s board of the University of Chicago.

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Wheeler joined Momenta as CEO in September of 2006. He led the company through the launch of its first complex drug products, including the first generic versions of LOVENOX® and COPAXONE®. In 2011, he was an E&Y Entrepreneur of the Year Regional Award winner. In May 2012, the Boston Globe named Momenta the number one company in their annual Globe 100 survey of top performing companies. Prior to joining Momenta, Wheeler was president of Chiron BioPharmaceuticals where during his five-year tenure the pharmaceutical division’s global sales more than doubled. Before that, he was a senior member of The Boston Consulting Group’s health care practice. He began his career at Merck’s MSDRL research unit. Wheeler is currently a member of the board of directors of Amicus Therapeutics as well as the Association for Accessible Medicines where he previously served as chairman from 2014 to 2016. He also previously served as the chairman of the board of Avanir Pharmaceuticals.

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Eric Young co-founded Canaan Partners, an early stage venture capital investment firm, in 1987. Since then, Canaan has raised $4.2 billion in capital, making startup investments in over 430 newly formed companies that span the information technology and healthcare industries. Young led Canaan’s investments in IT-based companies such as Copper Mountain Networks, Ebates, Enpirion, International Network Services, Kalpana, Lancope, ONI Systems, SandForce, Spectrian and Visigenic Software. Before starting Canaan, Young was a SVP at GE Venture Capital, and held positions in other GE operating businesses. An active proponent of developing skills in young entrepreneurs, Young serves as an Advisor to several Cornell-affiliated groups, including Entrepreneurship at Cornell, Cornell Silicon Valley, Red Bear Angels, Thayer Ventures, CoVenture and BR Venture Fund. He earned a B.S. in mechanical engineering from Cornell University and an MBA from Northwestern University.
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