Paving the Way to Healthy Communities
Mission Statement

The Tony Hawk Foundation seeks to foster lasting improvements in society, with an emphasis on supporting and empowering youth in disadvantaged communities. The Foundation supports the creation of public skateboard parks that promote healthy, active lifestyles.
Why Skateparks?

In his adolescent years, Tony Hawk considered the local skatepark his home away from home and skateboarding the sport that delivered him into a tight community, shaping his character and teaching him lessons in leadership, perseverance, and taking initiative.

Today, Tony’s two greatest passions are children and skateboarding. In recent years skateboarding has grown to include over 6.6-million participants, yet only about 3,500 skateparks are available for them to ride. Most skaters ride wherever they can—in the streets, in parking lots, and just about anywhere they aren’t chased from. Community groups and civic leaders have identified skateparks as an answer to the lack of suitable places to ride. But most city officials have no idea how to properly develop a skatepark, or even where to start.

After receiving thousands of e-mails from parents and children across America who either did not have a safe, legal place to skate or were ostracized from their community—and in some cases arrested—for skating on public property, Tony decided to establish a foundation whose mission would be to serve this population. He wanted to help them develop quality places to practice the sport that gives them much-needed exercise and a sense of self-esteem. So in 2002 he established the Tony Hawk Foundation, financed the organization with a personal gift, and assembled a Board of Directors that represents a diverse range of backgrounds and expertise.
Programs

The primary focus of the Tony Hawk Foundation is to help facilitate the development of free, high-quality public skateparks in low-income areas by providing information and guidance on the skatepark-development process, and through financial grants. While not all skatepark projects meet our grant criteria, the Tony Hawk Foundation strives to help communities in other ways to achieve the best possible skateparks—parks that will satisfy the needs of local skaters, provide them a safe, enjoyable place to ride, and promote healthy, active lifestyles.

Below are some of the programs and services administered by the Tony Hawk Foundation.

Technical Assistance
Tony Hawk Foundation staff fields an average of 400 e-mails and phone calls each month. The following are some typical issues we address:

- Getting a skatepark project started
- Lobbying local government
- Liability insurance
- Raising community awareness
- Creating a nonprofit organization
- Fundraising
- Applying for a grant
- Choosing a skatepark designer and/or contractor

Foundation staff can be reached by e-mail at contact@tonyhawkfoundation.org or by calling (760) 477-2479.

Grants
The Tony Hawk Foundation Board Of Directors reviews grant applications twice a year and issues grants based on merit and available funds. They give preference to grassroots projects in disadvantaged communities where children have limited recreational opportunities or access to existing skateparks. They also favor projects that demonstrate strong skater involvement.

Tony Hawk Foundation grants typically range from $5,000 to $25,000. In 2012 THF reviewed 67 applications and awarded 20 grants, totaling $237,000. More information about the Tony Hawk Foundation Grant Program is available online at www.tonyhawkfoundation.org.

“Receiving the Tony Hawk Foundation grant brought our project unbelievable recognition and was key to our success in additional fundraising needed to complete the skatepark.”
—Jan Firebaugh, Greencastle, Indiana

Public Skatepark Development Guide

This collaboration between the Tony Hawk Foundation, the nonprofit Skaters For Public Skateparks, and the International Association of Skateboard Companies (IASC) is the definitive guide for skatepark advocates and city or parks officials pursuing a new public skatepark. Written by THF Programs Director Peter Whitley, the PSDG draws from the collective wisdom of dozens of veteran skatepark advocates. The 128-page guide is full of in-depth information and illustrations that cover topics ranging from the skatepark vision, advocacy, fundraising, design, and management.

Currently in its Second Edition, publication of the Public Skatepark Development Guide was funded by the Tony Hawk Foundation so it could be made available to skatepark advocates for free from www.publicskateparkguide.org.
From the Founder

Over the past decade, the Tony Hawk Foundation has helped hundreds of communities create public skateparks. In the process, we’ve collaborated with skatepark advocates throughout the world to teach them the importance of careful planning, and helped local leaders recognize their skaters for what they are—a vibrant and creative community within their community.

But, our work is a two-way street. As much as we educate the public about the virtues of safe, sanctioned places to skate, skatepark advocates who are working in their communities every day are sharing with us all the valuable lessons they’re learning on their own.

The process of planning, fundraising for, and ultimately building a public skatepark has evolved so rapidly that, ten years on, THF is arguably learning more from skatepark advocates than we are teaching them. It’s a dynamic situation that perfectly defines true collaboration.

One thing that hasn’t changed in the past decade is the importance of providing kids safe places to ride—off the streets, and away from automobiles. The fact that incidents involving automobiles accounted for 80% of all skateboard-related deaths in 2012 keeps us focused on our core mission—to help create more safe skateparks in challenged communities, where kids have limited access to recreation and programming.

THF focuses its efforts in low-income areas because this is where the need is the greatest. According to local law-enforcement groups, children in these communities face the greatest threat from gangs and drugs. For many at-risk youth, the skatepark process THF teaches them is their first step toward leadership, self-advocacy, character development, and community involvement. Kids who might be regularly kicked out of every local skateable parking lot, and therefore at odds with law enforcement and local leaders, are emboldened to approach these very individuals to pursue a mutually beneficial solution.

Skateparks also encourage youth to be active and develop a healthy lifestyle that rewards them with personal achievement and peer approval through physical activity; in other words, skating is fun, it’s active, and when skaters land new tricks—they’re stoked (and so are their friends). Skateboarding is a natural antidote to the obesity epidemic that is particularly rampant among low-income youth because skaters often don’t even consider it exercise.

There are many issues that skateparks address that we have just begun to realize, and through the vast network of experienced skatepark advocates that we’ve built in the last ten years, we’re learning more every day. We continually take these lessons and weave them into the conversations we have with new advocates. So, via THF, one community’s success becomes an example for hundreds more to emulate.

As more communities recognize the need for quality, public skateparks that include the skaters themselves in the planning process, we benefit from their experience, just as they benefit from ours. And while we’re proud of our own success in helping fund 517 skateparks in all 50 States, we’re eager to grow, share, and be a part of the next 500.

And the 500 after that.

Keep Ripping,
Poteau is an isolated community in eastern Oklahoma with just under 9,000 residents. Relative to Oklahoma’s median household income, Poteau is a challenged community, but it features a few unique characteristics—the “world’s highest hill” is nearby, and 21% of students at Poteau’s public schools are Native American.

For years, Poteau youth had been routinely kicked out of public spaces for riding skateboards. Local school teacher Lisa Fabian heard from the youth about this growing issue, and together they determined that a skatepark would be the best solution. The group led an advocacy effort and awareness events, and the skatepark project became a positive focus for local youth. Throughout the months of planning and fundraising, skateboarding youth worked diligently to create an appropriate place to ride.

Fabian established the Nashoba Youth Foundation (NYF) as the rallying organization for the youth, as well as the skatepark group’s fiscal sponsor for fundraising purposes. Through direct consultation with the Tony Hawk Foundation, the NYF came to recognize the importance of including the skatepark’s users—the youth—in all aspects of organizing, planning, and fundraising. They also learned the importance of employing experienced, professional skatepark contractors for their project. While Poteau’s skatepark would not be the largest in the region, it would certainly be the best.

Through a series of design workshops, local skateboarders were able to communicate their ideas and priorities for the skatepark, and the designer translated those ideas into the final project. As a result, the skateboarders who were involved with the project can now point to the concrete facility and see (and actually skate) their influence. This is an aspect unique to skatepark advocacy that few other types of projects can claim.

More importantly, throughout the process, those youth who were once relegated to skating in places where they were unlikely to be seen could now recreate proudly at the new facility. “The skatepark has literally saved my life,” said one local youth. “I can go there and people know me.”

Through their dedication to improving their community, the skaters and their supporters also enjoy the earned respect of the public, city employees, and elected officials. NYF continues to grow its programming and attract more local youth and young adults to the group. Building the skatepark was only the first step.

The skatepark has been open long enough now for the whole community to see it surpass expectations. NYF leaders are not surprised to see that many of the local skeptics have come around and acknowledged the value that the skatepark brings. More importantly, skateboarding in Poteau is no longer viewed as a destructive activity that needs to be mitigated, but rather as a positive, healthy pursuit that can be encouraged and supported by the whole community.

“The skatepark has literally saved my life. I can go there and people know me.” —Poteau Skater
Compton, California

**Skateparks Activate Youth**

**Skateboarding is a healthy alternative.**

The evidence is clear—kids today are less active than they were a few years ago, and it’s affecting their health. They spend more time indoors and less time participating in physical activities that provide much-needed exercise. Today, 30% of children and adolescents\(^1\) in the U.S. are obese, a number that has almost tripled since 1980.

While the general trend is alarming enough, children in low-income families are particularly at risk. They have less access to costly organized sports leagues and equipment, and less opportunity to travel to parks or fields to exercise. Obesity has become a critical national priority, with long-term health risks, including—but not limited to—heart disease, high cholesterol, depression, and even cancer\(^2\).

Skateboarding is a low-cost solution to this national health epidemic. It’s healthy, it’s athletic, and most importantly, it’s fun. If kids enjoy exercising, chances are they’ll do it more. And if they exercise more, they’ll be in better health—with more energy, greater self-esteem, and even improved academic performance\(^3\).

In addition to the direct health benefits, research even suggests that skateboarding can help keep teens out of trouble. A 2006 study found that skateboarders are less likely to smoke cigarettes, have sex, and skip school\(^4\).

Today, 6.6-million youth participate in skateboarding\(^5\). Recognizing this trend, many high schools across the U.S. are contributing to skateboarding’s population explosion, incorporating skateboarding into their physical education programs, clubs, and after-school curricula.

With 447 of the 517 skateparks the Tony Hawk Foundation has awarded grants to since 2002 already open, an estimated 4-million children annually are enjoying creative exercise at these facilities, and city and recreation officials routinely report that their new skatepark is by far the most popular facility they operate.

When planned carefully, with the help of skatepark professionals and local skaters, a public skatepark does so much more than give the kids somewhere to play. It gives them somewhere to grow and develop healthy lifestyles. But as far as they’re concerned, it’s just a place to enjoy themselves.

4. “Physical Activity and Sedentary Behavior Patterns are Associated with Selected Adolescent Health Risk Behaviors,” PEDIATRICS, Vol. 117 No. 4, April 2006
2002–2012
Grant Recipients

As public skateparks grow in popularity, so does the need for funding. In 2012, the Tony Hawk Foundation received a total of 48 applications from communities in 26 states. The THF Board of Directors awarded 20 grants to skatepark projects in 15 states, totaling $237,000.

To-date (2002–2012), THF has received grant applications and awarded grants to projects in all 50 states, plus the District of Columbia. Since 2002, THF has received over 1,900 applications, has awarded 517 grants worth $4,274,000, and provided Technical Assistance to more than 2,000 skatepark projects in over 50 countries.
2012 Grant Recipients

$30,000+
Los Angeles (San Pedro), California (Los Angeles Parks Foundation)
New York City (Lower East Side), New York (Architecture For Humanity)

$25,000
Baltimore, Maryland (Skatepark Of Baltimore)
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (Franklin’s Paine Skatepark Fund)
Savannah, Georgia (Chatham County Skate Park Supporters)

$10,000
Hartford, Connecticut (Charter Oak Temple Restoration Association)
Lander, Wyoming (City Of Lander)
Leadville, Colorado (Partnership For Lake County Recreation)
Lone Pine, California (Healthy Communities Of Southern Inyo County)
Madison, Wisconsin (Madison Parks Foundation)
Ava, Missouri (City Of Ava)
Commerce, Texas (Commerce Parks Foundation)

$5,000
Junction City, Oregon (City Of Junction City)
Kailua-Kona, Hawaii (Kona Skatepark Association)
Mabton, Washington (Catholic Charities Housing Services)
Salisbury, Maryland (City Of Salisbury)
Sedro-Woolley, Washington (Rotary International Sedro-Woolley)
Seymour, Connecticut (Municipality Of Seymour Connecticut)
St. Louis, Missouri, (KHVT)
Waynesville, North Carolina (Town Of Waynesville)

$1,000 Grants

$5,000 Grants

$10,000 – 15,000 Grants

$20,000 – 25,000 Grants

$50,000+ Grants
Donors and Sponsors

$100,000+
Anonymous

$50,000 to $99,999
Activesation

$25,000 to $49,999
Celebrity Fight Night
Nixon Watches
Exhibit IQ, Inc.
Kohl’s Department Stores
Tony Hawk Incorporated
Dynacraft BSC, Inc.
Ken & Carol Schultz Foundation
The Stanley E. Hanson Foundation
Wells Fargo Foundation

$10,000 to $24,999
Brago Sports, Inc.
900 Films, Inc.
Quiksilver Foundation
United Healthcare
Jared E. Levine and Lucy Anne Stutz
Jeffery D. McFarland
Sheily and David Kim
Kevin Rose
Mark Cavanaugh
ESPN
Imperial Capital
Zorina Kroop
Laureus
Lexus
PTTOW, LLC
Patrick Sarkissian
Sprinkles Cupcakes

$5,000 to $9,999
Flippin’ Pizza
Revolution Foods
Art Of Board
Housing Authority, City of LA
Jon Marashi
alloclip
Zamir Siddiqi
Gerard Cappello
The Thomas Spiegel Family Foundation
Dana White
Jon Favreau
Alpert Family Foundation
Bell Family Foundation
Bell Sports, Inc.
Brotman Foundation Of California
Tucker Chormomud
Clif Bar & Co.
Chantal and Stephen Cloobek
Coughlan Companies, Inc.

$1,000 to $4,999
The California Endowment
Christopher J. Collins Foundation
Vans
Jack In the Box
LEGOLAND California, LLC
Northern Trust
Shannon Tobin
Gavel Group
Cyan Banister
Commerce West Bank
Jane Francis
Lewis Family Foundation
Site Design Group, Inc.
Jeffrey Soros
Charles Westlund Jr.
William Morris Endeavor
Entertainment
Michael Donner
Ian Hafner
Tommy Lee
Kevin Mulhall
Michael Stern
Taylor Guitars
Michele Peutet
Morris Burch
Sean Carey
Hadron Industries
John Silva
Utility Board Shop
Kimberly Jacobsen
James deWinter
Slalom, LLC
Rebecca Bennion
Jill Diamond
Kyle Harimoto
Mariani Vik Haeitorp
Siubhan Lammis

Eugene Lardizabal
Lincoln Fund of Bank
Of America
Pat Magnarella
Red Mountain Resort
Sean Regan
Paul Roman
William Garson
Charitable Fund

To $999
Peter Smith
Elena Cox
General Electric
Kelly Simpson
William Miller
Jo Ann M Flashman
Haleyson Consulting, Inc.
Suzanne Pappas
Garn Arnold
Ricardo Alessandri
Camargo Capital
Joan Engel
Peter Golden
Jonathon Kemnitzer
Geoff Koboldt
Michael Larocco
Steven Lawrence
Silva-Weiss Living Trust
Rachel Joy Swardson
Christine Wu
Guy Miller
Kimberly Fitzpatrick
Brett Vogel
Susan Barnett
Billy Housekeeper
Robertson Taylor
Jennifer Robin
Angela Styles
Seth Venezia
WTC Financial Group
AEW Capital Management, L.P.
Community Foundation
for Greater Atlanta
Dries Daries
Jason Matos
Pamela Petersen
Kim Roesch
Rich Jones
Terrell Harrast
Accur, Inc.
Jack Bailik
Noah McMahon
Chris Sacca
Jen Salke
John R. Sommer
Salem Yukovich
Lori Walton
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Lance Klein
Lee’s Maintenance Service, Inc.
Karla Lindeman
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Donna Wies
Michael Yanover
Jane Gelfand
Cecily Jones
Chris Sumner
Clifford Cutter
Dylan Bruno
Jodi Onstad
Acra Aerospace
Hewlett-Packard
Kendall Clark
Lou Confranco
Chad DiNenna
Pat Hawk
Ellen Hines
Christopher Lamerth
Christy Lowe
Nathan Mendel
Steven Wagner
Erin Kane
Jennifer Riesemny
Wells Fargo Community
Support Campaign
HP Company Foundation
Adam Behman
Kimber Beck
Tanner Bernard
Mark Conover
Karen Ehlers
Erik Tappin
Lisa Gregory
Angela Griffin
Jeremy Schneider
Adrienne Smith
Laurie Wagner
Sarah Walzak
Anna Wojtas

TRIBUTE
Dries Daries
Tribute to Robert Pribble
Bryan Cullen
Tribute to John Paleudis
Cynthia Baughman
Tribute to Anthony Proietti
Michael Jacobs
Tribute to Anthony Proietti
Tracy Scharer
Tribute to Andrew McCoy
Shaun DeAngelo
Tribute to Evan DeAngelo
Benett Flicker
Tribute to Mickey Flicker
Alison Dawn Mccoubrey
Tribute to Kevin McCoubrey
Ann Geffen
Tribute to Grant Forbes
Gregory Tourian
Tribute to Matt Doran
Sylvia Bertke
Tribute to Anthony Proietti
Carol Huey
Tribute to Anthony Proietti
Karen McCoy
Tribute to Mike and Tracy Scharer
Michael Clanton
Tribute to William Clanton
Diana Lobo
Tribute to Jeff Hoyer
Sarah Walzak
Tribute to Sarah and Sean Farringon
Angela Griffin
Tribute to James McKinney
Dylan Bruno
Tribute to Demian & Odin
Jessica Neary
Tribute to Liam Neery
Cora L. Beeth
Tribute to Andrew McCoy
Kimberly Fitzpatrick
Tribute to Vincent Fitzpatrick

Tribute to Vincent Fitzpatrick
Giving Opportunities

The Tony Hawk Foundation invites individuals, corporations, and other foundations to take advantage of a variety of ways to support its work. In addition to cash donations, individuals may make contributions through one or more of the following giving opportunities. As a public charity, contributions to the Tony Hawk Foundation are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

Employer-Matching Contributions And Employee Giving Programs
Through your workplace, you may be eligible to make a gift to the Tony Hawk Foundation and have your employer match that amount at the same time! Double your contribution and your impact, inquire about matching gifts at your workplace. Ask your Human Resources Manager if your company offers a Matching Gifts Program or an Employee Giving Program. Your inquiry will help to spread the word about the important work of the Tony Hawk Foundation and may lead to your company’s support as well.

Tributes And Memorials
Make a meaningful gift to honor someone’s memory, recognize a friend’s accomplishment, or celebrate a relative’s birthday with a tribute or memorial donation to the Tony Hawk Foundation. Acknowledgement letters for tribute and memorial gifts are sent directly to the recipient, and you receive a letter for tax purposes for your donation.

In-Kind Donations
The Tony Hawk Foundation welcomes in-kind donations of goods and pro-bono services that will contribute to our overall fundraising efforts and mission. The Live and Silent Auctions at our annual Stand Up For Skateparks benefit are popular among our celebrity guests and donors, and we welcome your donation of unique items and experiences valued at 200 dollars or more.

MissionFish
The Tony Hawk Foundation is registered with MissionFish, eBay’s charity service that allows eBay Sellers to give proceeds from their sales to a favorite nonprofit organization. For more information, visit www.missionfish.org.

Stand Up For Skateparks
Join us at our annual Stand Up For Skateparks benefit in Beverly Hills! This exclusive, fun-filled, family-centric event features great food, games, activities, live music, and a Vert Demo with Tony and a host of top Skate and BMX pros, all proceeds benefit the Tony Hawk Foundation. Visit www.standupforskateparks.org for more details and ticket info. For Sponsorship Opportunities, call Lily Schwimmer at (760) 477-2479.

To make a donation to the Tony Hawk Foundation, or to find out other ways you can support our work, contact Kim Novick: (760) 477-2479, kim@tonyhawkfoundation.org

Donations should be made payable to Tony Hawk Foundation and sent to the following address:

Tony Hawk Foundation
1611-A S. Melrose Dr. #360
Vista, CA 92081

Your tax-deductible donation will be acknowledged by mail. For more information, visit our Web site at www.tonyhawkfoundation.org

The Tony Hawk Foundation’s $4.2-million in donations to 517 community skatepark projects since 2002 has helped leverage over $104-million in capital improvements for low-income communities across the U.S.
Stars Align
In Beverly Hills
9th-annual Tony Hawk’s Pro Skater HD Presents Stand Up For Skateparks brings it all together.

To the crowd’s delight, skateboarding legends Tony Hawk, Andy Macdonald, Kevin Staab, Mitchie Brusco, Lyn-Z Adams Hawkins Pastrana, Lincoln Ueda, and BMX icons Jamie Bestwick and Mat Hoffman took command of the Vert Demo with an aerial display the 1,000 guests will not soon forget. Fueling the energy and excitement was DJ Z-Trip, whose performance seemed to only take the athletes to greater heights. Following the Vert Demo was a special live musical performance by the platinum-selling alternative-rock band, Jimmy Eat World. The action-packed event all came together to raise funds to build free, quality public skateparks for youth in low-income communities.

The Tony Hawk Foundation put on yet another entertaining, star-studded event, including some of the biggest names in entertainment and action sports. The Tony Hawk’s Pro Skater HD Presents Stand Up For Skateparks benefit was held at Green Acres Estate, home of Ron Burkle, in Beverly Hills, California on Sunday, October 7. The family-friendly event, now in its ninth year, raised $979,000, including $27,000 to help build a skatepark in the Los Angeles community of San Pedro, where youth have rallied around the project.

Those who came out to enjoy the festivities in support of the Tony Hawk Foundation

“It is always refreshing to see the enthusiasm from top athletes, celebrities, sponsors, and attendees who support the Foundation’s mission.”
—Tony Hawk
include Jon Favreau, Jason Lee, Shaun White, Chuck Liddell, Bill Walton, Fred Durst, Michael Rapaport, Leeza Gibbons, Willie Garson, J.R. Martinez, Lindsey Berg, Chris Harrison, Nyjah Huston, Mike “Rooftop” Escamilla, Robert Trujillo, Edwin Moses, Holly Robinson Peete, A.C. Green, David Spade, Marisa Quinn, Lou Wegner, Jason Ellis, Nate Mendel, and Mike Vallely.

“Every year we try to make the Stand Up For Skateparks event bigger and better while raising funds for the Foundation, and we definitely accomplished that this year more than ever,” said Tony Hawk. “It is always refreshing to see the enthusiasm from top athletes, celebrities, sponsors, and attendees who support the Foundation’s mission to provide free, quality skateparks in low-income communities. It makes a tremendous impact in kids’ lives, and I am truly grateful for their support.”

Aside from the mind-blowing Vert Demo and stellar musical performances, the family-centric event included interactive games for kids of all ages, great food, and a live and silent auction with one-of-a-kind items. Some of the unique auction items included: a “Hawkized” 2012 Triumph Bonneville T100 110th Anniversary Edition motorcycle customized by Roland Sands Design; a 2013 Tony Hawk Edition Ford Explorer customized by Galpin Auto Sports and DUB; Diamond Resorts Cabo Azul vacation with private jet; and a Jam Session with Ben Harper.

Tony Hawk’s Pro Skater HD Presents Stand Up For Skateparks was Co-Chaired by Tony Hawk and accomplished actor, comedian, and skateboarder Jason Lee. Other Benefit Committee members include Andre Agassi, Ron Burkle, Chantal and Stephen J. Cloobeck, Jamie Lee Curtis, Patrick Dempsey, Jon Favreau, Etty and Perry Farrell, Leeza Gibbons, Robin and Danny Greenspun, Ben Harper, Mat Hoffman, Bobby Kotick, Chuck Liddell, Howie Mandel, Sal Masekela, Lance Mountain, Christian Slater, Mike Vallely, Mark Wahlberg, Lori and Bill Walton, and Shaun White.

The Tony Hawk Foundation launched its Stand Up For Skateparks fundraiser in 2004 with a mission to help empower at-risk youth through the creation of free, quality, public skateparks in low-income communities across the U.S. In 2012, the organization celebrated the funding of its 500th skatepark, and looks forward to hosting another group of special guests at the 10th anniversary of Stand Up For Skateparks, when the event returns to Beverly Hills on Saturday, October 5, 2013.
Board Of Directors

Tony Hawk, Founder and President
His long history and success as a professional skateboarder helped Tony pursue a career with worldwide reach. In 1992, he founded the renowned Birdhouse Skateboards brand, which he still owns and operates today. The most recognized action-sports figure in the world, Tony is also President of Tony Hawk Inc., a worldwide leader in action-sports video games, merchandising, events, endorsements, and film and digital media. He regularly appears on television and in films, hosts a weekly show on the Sirius XM satellite radio network, and frequently takes his talent on the road with the Birdhouse Skateboards team. Tony’s success and good fortune have inspired him to do what he can to help young people, so in 2002 he launched the Tony Hawk Foundation to help achieve that goal.

Pat Hawk, Vice President
Tony’s sister, Pat has been COO of Tony Hawk, Inc. for over fifteen years and has played a crucial role in the growth of the company and its affiliates. She has a strong background in entertainment, sports marketing, endorsements, licensing, and management.

Steve Hawk, Secretary
Tony’s brother, Steve was THF’s founding Executive Director. He has been a journalist for more than 30 years and is the former editor of Surfer magazine. More recently, he was a staff writer on the HBO television series John From Cincinnati, and is currently executive editor of Sierra magazine.

Lenore Hawk Dale, Treasurer
Tony’s sister, Lenore spent fifteen years as a classroom teacher and another ten years as the Director of Bilingual Education for a school district in Southern California. In her years in education, she worked with families in several low-income school districts. For ten years, Lenore was the Director of the Tony Hawk Fan Club. She responded to requests from fans, parents, and teachers, and coordinated meetings for special-needs fans.

Gary Arnold
As an experienced leader in the Retail and Entertainment industries, Gary founded Gary L. Arnold Consulting LLC to continue to guide clients to innovate, and to help Artists reach their fans in today’s demanding marketplace. For nearly eighteen years, Gary served as the Senior Entertainment Officer and SVP Marketing for Best Buy. Before joining Best Buy, in the mid 90s, Gary worked for The Walt Disney Company’s Hollywood Records as the VP of Sales and Retail Marketing. Gary’s 40 plus years in the music-and-entertainment industry lends greatly to his role on the THF Board Of Directors.

Gerard Cappello
Gerard is the co-founder and a managing director of Cappello Capital Corp., a boutique investment banking firm located in Santa Monica, California and Cappello Italia, a special division serving companies based in Italy. He was the founder of Greenside, LLC. He is a LEED—AP (Accredited Professional) and a member of the USGBC (United States Green Building Council) and a Certified Sustainable Building Advisor (NaSBA)—National Sustainable Building Advisor Program. He has been active in real estate development and corporate finance since 1982. Gerard also serves on several boards. He lives in Malibu, California with this wife and two skateboarding children.

Chantal Cloobeck
Chantal is a mother of four and enjoys surfing and skateboarding. After years of experience in front of the camera as a model, Chantal now has the unique experience of being behind the camera as a sports photographer. Chantal’s company, SurfVibe.com, captures the moments, the vibe, and the passion of surfing and skateboarding. Chantal is a founding member of the Nevada Cancer Institute, founding member of the Brent Shapiro Foundation for Drug Awareness, and a founder of the CineVegas Film Festival.

Sandy Dusablon
CFO of Tony Hawk, Inc., Sandy is a long-time contributor and advisor to THF. As the foundation continues to grow, Sandy’s financial acumen has proven to be a critical resource in a complex fundraising environment.

Sarah Hall
Sarah is President of Sarah Hall Productions, Inc. and has 20 years of experience representing high profile clients in the entertainment and lifestyle categories. Clients include athletes, authors, chefs, designers, doctors, fitness experts, and television personalities, including Tony Hawk. Prior to founding SHP, Sarah worked in the Contemporary Music Department of the New York offices of the William Morris Agency.

Ben Harper
Skater-musician Ben Harper plays an eclectic mix of blues, folk, reggae and rock music and is renowned for his live performances and social activism. His worldwide fan base keeps the two-time Grammy Award winner busy touring and recording. But having grown up skateboarding, Ben still finds time to ride—wherever he happens to be.

Bob Kahan
Bob is a partner at the Los Angeles-based business- and entertainment-law firm Eisner Kahan Gorry Chapman Ross & Jaffe. His practice includes 40 years of experience as a transactional-deal lawyer. Bob advises clients in a variety of industries, and practices in the areas of mergers and acquisitions, corporate governance, franchise, licensing, and general corporate and business law. Bob is a critical resource for THF, as the foundation continues to grow and expand both its fundraising and program services.

Kevin Rose
Kevin Rose is a serial entrepreneur and Partner at Google Ventures. Previously Kevin founded Digg (acquired by Betaworks), Revision3 (acquired by Discovery Channel), and Milk Inc. (acquired by Google).

Chris Sacca
Venture investor, private equity principal, company advisor, entrepreneur, and public speaker, Chris also manages a portfolio of various technology start-ups and other enterprises through his holding company, Lowercase Capital. He was also among the first investors at Twitter Inc., where Chris serves as a strategic advisor. Previously, he served as Head of Special Initiatives at Google Inc.

Jamie Thomas
Jamie Thomas is a skateboarding icon and industry leader. He has been a professional skateboarder for over 20 years and is the president and founder of Black Box Distribution, home to Zero Skateboards, Mystery Skateboards, and Fallen Footwear. Jamie has been recognized in the business community for the success of these brands and the positive support they’ve shown to the skateboarding community. His experience and broad perspective helps bridge the gap between skateboarding and the boardroom, which makes Jamie an invaluable member of the THF team.

Mike Vallely
Mike has spent more than 20 years as a pro skateboarder touring all over the world and skating more parks and spots than anyone. He draws from his broad knowledge, experience, and passion for skateboarding in contributing to the Board and promoting the foundation’s mission throughout the far corners of the U.S.
“The skatepark is always crowded after school and on the weekends. We give them snow shovels in the winter to continue to use the facility. The skatepark has given a certain group of young people that had previous fallen through the cracks and off the radar screen of the community a place to shine and realize that they too have great potential to be tapped in a positive, creative way.” —Karen Sargeant, Polson, Montana
The Tony Hawk Foundation seeks to foster lasting improvements in society, with an emphasis on supporting and empowering youth in disadvantaged communities. The Foundation supports the creation of public skateboard parks that promote healthy, active lifestyles.