

I have been incredibly fortunate in life. Not just in the accumulation of wealth, but more importantly, in the accumulation of friends and family, the opening of my head and my heart, and the ability to appreciate life and the lessons it offers us.

The big question for me was never whether to give back, but how best? The Elevate Prize and other initiatives have been the product of this quest. The journey has been both illuminating and, paradoxically, extremely rewarding.

There is a remarkable alchemy in giving. When we elevate others, we rise in equal measure... and usually much more. To quote the Dalai Lama, *“If you want others to be happy, practice compassion. If you want to be happy, practice compassion.”*

I am honored to join this community of servant leaders. To learn from you, to share with you, and to travel this path together.

Joe Deitch