

Erik Moore

Erik Moore is the founder and Managing Director of Base Venture Partners, a seed-stage venture capital fund. Prior to founding Base, Erik spent 15 years in investment banking at Merrill Lynch, where he was among the top performers in fixed-income institutional sales. During this time, he made several angel investments including Zappos (sold to Amazon for \$1.2B in 2009), Agencourt Biosciences (sold to Beckman Coulter for \$270M in 2005), and PlanGrid (sold to Autodesk for \$875M in 2018). His success as an investor, along with his support of driven founders, spurred his decision to leave Merrill Lynch and invest full-time. Base builds upon Erik's passion and access to the best deals in Silicon Valley.

Since its formation in 2013, Erik and Base have invested alongside leading venture capitalists, including NEA, Bain Capital, Google Ventures, Andreessen Horowitz, and Sequoia. Base Limited Partners include: Tony Hsieh (CEO, Zappos), Google Ventures (GV), Serena Williams, Mitch & Freeda Kapur (Kapur Capital), Prakash Janakiraman (Cofounder, Nextdoor), Eric Ryan (CEO, Method Home, Olly Vitamins & Welly), Common (Grammy, Oscar and Emmy award winning artist, activist and entrepreneur), Harper Reed (former CTO of the Obama campaign and founder of Modest-extended and General Galactic), Hill Harper (Actor, Activist and investor) and several Family Offices.

Featured in publications such as the WSJ and USA Today, Erik is regularly referred to as one of the most prominent African Americans in technology. In 2013, Business Insider named him one of the ten most influential blacks in Silicon Valley, along with David Drummond (Chief Legal Officer at Google) and John Thompson (Chairman of Microsoft). In 2016, the Silicon Valley Black Chamber of Commerce awarded Erik with their Next Generation of Excellence Achievement Award. In 2017, he was the recipient of the Entrepreneur of the Year Award from The Oakland African American Chamber of Commerce and he was named a Ford Man of Courage.

He is a board member of The Common Ground Foundation—founded by the artist, Common. Erik was asked by the Mayor of Oakland to join the city of Oakland's Fund Advisory Board and serves on the advisory board of the Museum of the African Diaspora (MoAD), a Smithsonian Affiliate. Erik serves on the board of Driving Force Group which focuses on race equity initiatives and was recently named to the Advisory Council at Dartmouth College. He's a former board member of Russell Simmons's Art for Life. He served the East Bay College Fund for nearly a decade as a board member and mentor, providing college scholarships and mentorship through four years of college to resilient youth in Oakland. He recently joined the advisory board of the 1954 Project which invests in innovative and culturally affirming approaches to teaching and learning in the Black community and is now a board member of the Hidden Genius Project which trains and mentors Black male youth in technology creation, entrepreneurship, and leadership skills. Finally, Erik is a former Trustee of Saint Mary's College High School in Berkeley--his alma mater where he graduated Summa Cum Laude, tutored French, and captained the football team.

Erik earned his B.A. from Dartmouth College, his M.A. in International Studies/French from the Lauder Institute at the University of Pennsylvania, and his MBA from The Wharton School of Business. He is an active alum, regularly speaking at Silicon Valley Wharton and Dartmouth events; in 2017 he received Wharton's Trailblazer Award for his achievements in venture capital. Through all his work, his most important role is father to 17-year-old Blair, whose accolades and accomplishments put Erik's to shame.