



WENDY LEA

CEO | Board Director | Strategic Advisor

Summary

Wendy Lea catalyzes innovation through civic leadership, building ecosystems where potential meets opportunity and entrepreneurs find the capital, talent, and connections they need to thrive.

Expertise

- > Economic growth and ecosystem development
- > Tech innovation and digital transformation
- > Public-private partnerships
- > Capital innovation to accelerate the mission of nonprofits and startups
- > Strategic partnerships between corporations and tech accelerators
- > Economic mobility policy, programming, and capital
- > Next generation workforce development

Strategic Capabilities

Leadership. CEO, advisor, and board leader who catalyzes innovation for economic resilience.

- > Board leadership: Elevate Quantum, Energize Colorado (Chair), Big Green (Chair), Center for American Entrepreneurship (Advisory Board Member)
- > As CEO of Cintrifuse, launched and led StartupCincy, Ohio's top startup community; and catalyzed public-private partnerships for Amplify Louisville; Co-founded OnTarget (acquired by Siebel Systems)
- > Mentor to Techstars, the No. 1 worldwide network of entrepreneurs; contributor to Steve Case's Rise of the Rest Expert Network

Innovative Technologies & Talent. Identifies and cultivates top tech innovators through start-up accelerators and entrepreneurial programs across the U.S.

- > Accelerator partnerships: Techstars, MergeLane, The Branderly, Gener8tor, Ocean
- > Regional launch programs: Launch Tennessee, Launch Wisconsin

Global Growth & Digital Transformation. Works with industry leaders across sectors to drive organic growth through talent, technology, and digital innovation.

- > Served as CEO and CMO for technology companies delivering solutions to Fortune 500 companies
- > Led blue-chip technology-sector "Go To Market" engagements in 30 countries

Education+ Certifications

- > **Stanford Law School, Stanford, California**
Director's College Certification—Business Executive Education Program
- > **School of Business Administration, University of Mississippi, Oxford, Mississippi**
BA Business Administration & Marketing

Government Appointments

Board member serving state and federal committees tasked with promoting innovation, entrepreneurship, and economic vitality.

Board of Trustees Member

Colorado School of Mines, Golden, Colorado (2026-Present)

Appointed by Governor Polis. Colorado School of Mines is a public R1 research university focused on applied science and engineering, producing the talent, knowledge, and innovations to serve industry and benefit society — all to create a more prosperous future.

Council Member

Council on Global Competition and Innovation (CGCI), Washington, D.C., (2025-Present)

The Council on Global Competition and Innovation (CGCI), in partnership with government agencies, partner nations, and private sector leaders, serves as a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization established to promote and accelerate the deployment of global competition and innovation investments at scale.

Board Member

CU Boulder Enterprise Corporation, Boulder, CO, (2024-Present)

CUBEC serves CU Boulder and the State of Colorado by establishing and supporting innovation relationships, including joint ventures, partnerships, and alliances aligned with CU Boulder's instructional, research, and service mission.

Board Member

The Center for American Entrepreneurship (CAE), Washington, D.C. (2022-Present)

CAE is a nonpartisan Washington, D.C.-based research, policy, and advocacy organization that works with policymakers at the federal, state, and local levels across the country to build a policy environment that promotes new business formation, survival, and growth.

Advisory Council Member

National Advisory Council on Innovation and Entrepreneurship (NACIE), Washington, D.C. (2022-2025)

NACIE is a federal advisory committee managed by the U.S. Economic Development Administration's Office of Innovation and Entrepreneurship. NACIE's primary goal is to develop a National Entrepreneurship Strategy that strengthens America's ability to compete and win as the world's leading startup nation and the world's leading innovator in critical emerging technologies

Awards + Recognition

- > 2025 **Indispensable Mentor, Catalyst, and Builder Award**, State of Colorado, for advancing advanced tech and economic development ecosystems
- > 2024 **Top 25 Women in Business**, Colorado Women's Chamber of Commerce, for paving the way for women entrepreneurs.
- > 2023 **Outstanding Women in Business Award**, Denver Business Journal, for advancing entrepreneurial businesses in Colorado.
- > In 2022, Governor Polis's Office proclaimed March 23rd **Energize Colorado Day** in recognition of the organization's contribution to economic stabilization efforts during the Covid-19 pandemic.
- > Inspired the **Wendy Lea Female Founder Grant** by Main Street Ventures for leadership at StartupCincy and Cintrifuse. Every year, \$25K will be awarded to a local Cincinnati female entrepreneur.

Government Appointments, continued

Committee Member

Colorado Governor's Revenue Estimating Advisory Committee (GREAC), Denver, Colorado (2021-2025)

Serve with economists and business leaders. Provide expertise on Colorado's entrepreneurial ecosystem and small-business economy.

Business Leadership Experience

Leader-practitioner and forward-thinking maximalist with over 30 years of experience advising Fortune 500 businesses and entrepreneurial ventures in technology, digital transformation, talent strategy, and alliances and partnerships.

Board Member: Elevate Quantum, Boulder, Colorado (2024-Present)

Elevate Quantum's mission is to secure the Mountain West (Colorado, New Mexico, and Wyoming) as the global epicenter of quantum information technology, delivering national and economic security.

Founder: TechHubNow!, Denver, Colorado (2023-2025)

Catalyzing innovation and entrepreneurship in Colorado through advanced technologies that deliver economic and national security.

Chair, Co-founder, & former CEO: Energize Colorado, Boulder, Colorado (2020-Present)

Building Colorado's next innovation economy by funding, educating, and connecting entrepreneurs across racial and economic divides.

CEO: Cintrifuse, Cincinnati, Ohio (2014-2018)

Nationally recognized for leadership in developing 500+ startups, connecting 16+ ecosystem partners, engaging 30+ large corporations, activating 50+ mentors and advisors, and investing in 17 national early-stage venture firms at Cintrifuse.

CEO: Get Satisfaction, San Francisco, California (2009-2013)

Powered 70,000 active customer communities through Get Satisfaction, a venture-backed technology startup that hosted more than 35 million consumers each month. Also served as board chair, raising venture capital, replatforming products, and developing a pricing/packaging strategy for the B2B market.

Co-founder / VP, eBusiness Consulting: The Sales Consultancy, OnTarget, Siebel Systems, Dallas, TX (1992-2002)

Co-founded and scaled a Fortune 500 sales consultancy through acquisition by Siebel Systems.

Awards + Recognition, continued

- > Recognized with the **Community Achievement Award** in 2018 by the University of Cincinnati's Carl Lindner College of Business for mentoring student entrepreneurs with new business ideas.
- > Honored with the **Signal Excellence Award** in 2018 by Procter & Gamble for work with the innovation strategy team.
- > Named a **Woman of Influence in Silicon Valley and San Francisco** in 2012 and 2013 for work with high-profile technology startups across the Bay Area.

Board Experience

Board director and chair offering vision, strategy, and access to a global network of high-growth startups and technology talent. Currently serve corporations, startup communities, and nationally recognized public-private entrepreneurship initiatives.

Corporate and Venture-Backed Boards

Tilt, Board Member, Boulder, CO (2021–Present)

Danaher Technology & Innovation, Board Member, Washington, D.C. (2020–2022)

Xyleme, Board Director, Denver, CO (2014–2020)

P&G Ventures, Founding Advisory Board Member, Cincinnati, OH (2014–2019)

Techstars, Board Director & Mentor, Boulder, CO (2017–2019)

Accompani, Board Advisor, Los Altos, CA (2014–2018)

Corporate Visions, Board Director, Pleasanton, CA (2009–2015)

Duarte Design, Board Advisor, Mountain View, CA (2008–2014)

Public-Private Partnership and Nonprofit Boards

El Pomar Foundation North Regional Council, Colorado Springs, CO (2026–Present)

University of Colorado Boulder Enterprise Corporation (CUBEC), Boulder, CO (2024–Present)

Big Green, Board Chair, Boulder, CO (2020–Present)

Miami of Ohio John Altman School of Entrepreneurship, Advisory Board (2019–2024)

University of Colorado Boulder, College of Engineering & Applied Science, Advisory Board (2019–Present)

Amplify Louisville, Board Director, Louisville, KY (2018–2023)

Louisville Healthcare CEO Council (LHCC), Capital Committee, Advisory Board (2018–Present)

Commonwealth Commercialization Center (C3), Advisory Board, Kentucky (2018–2019)

The INTERalliance, Board Director, Cincinnati, OH (2016–2018)

The Health Collaborative, Board Director, Cincinnati, OH (2015–2018)

Investment Experience

Strategic investor adept at identifying technological innovations for B2B and B2C markets. Knowledgeable funder well-versed in recognizing promising digital business solutions and allocating resources strategically to effectively and efficiently develop, market, and sell these solutions.

Current LP Investor

- > H Venture Partners I
- > TechStars Ventures
- > Vault Fund I
- > Vine Street Ventures Fund

Current Startup Investor

- > Egateway Capital
- > Him for Her/illumyn
- > Pico AI
- > Tilt
- > SmartCommerce, Inc
- > Vescent