

Ryan Derfler is Director of Experience (CX) at Geneva Global, an international philanthropic consulting firm. In this role Ryan brings the charitable passions of individuals, foundations, and corporations to life using an investor mindset. His career at the cross-section of social services (doing good) and entrepreneurship (doing well) includes stints at Cityteam International, and building a social enterprise for the City of Philadelphia.

Ryan is a storyteller, connector, and activator in the area of “Hands On Christianity,” that is, living one’s faith in practical ways that lead to discipleship. He speaks on this issue, especially related to connecting with millennials, and maintains a blog that documents miracles and lessons learned chasing after the Holy Spirit.

A natural convener, Ryan has orchestrated hundreds of events professionally, as manager of corporate events for Penske, a GE-owned company, and as an independent consultant. These include large-scale international leadership summits, executive retreats, and a trackside NASCAR hospitality program. As a consultant Ryan organized *Code for the Kingdom* a series of hack-a-thon’s in Silicon Valley to tackle social issues. He also helped launch the *Q Commons* event in the San Francisco Bay Area, as well as dozens of other charitable fundraisers and town hall meetings.

Ryan was educated at Lebanon Valley College in business, philosophy, and art. Inspired by a study abroad at The University per Stranieri in Italy, he introduced and helped design a public art course, whose capstone project was the creation of a mural in the campus chapel. He has taken many post-graduate courses in topics such as Gamification (University of Pennsylvania), Developing Innovative Ideas (University of Maryland), and Human-Centered Design (IDEO).

Ryan was recruited away from Philadelphia to take an “outside-in” look at 60-year old social service agency, Cityteam International. Tasked to help the organization connect with a changing Silicon Valley population, he introduced dramatic new measures including skills-based volunteering partnerships with tech companies such as Google, and earned-income revenue generating activities. At a time when the organization was in a period of transition and instability, he is credited with connecting to a hard-to-reach demographic through new media storytelling and events.

A prolific writer, Ryan has published over a hundred articles and videos on faith, events, social enterprise, and relationships. He wrote a column for the Philadelphia Meeting Planners International magazine *EYEtoEYE*, and contributes to a variety of blogs outside of his own. A poem he wrote, “5 Senses” was awarded the Scholastic Gold Key Award. He also contributed a short story and five drawings to “Stories Under the Stars” by Italian author Emilio Esbardo.

In 2010, Ryan was listed as one of “40 Faces Under 40” to watch. His interviews regularly appear in publications such as *CNN*, the *Travel Channel*, *Washington Post*, *Chicago Tribune*, and *San Jose Mercury*. He has spoken at the State of Philadelphia event next to the Mayor and in front of numerous academic, corporate, and church groups including Comcast, Wells-Fargo, University of Pennsylvania Wharton School, Stanford Faculty Club, Alma Heights Christian School, and St. Timothy’s Church in San Jose, CA.

Ryan lives in Philadelphia where he raises two children with his wife Whitney. A devout Christian, he serves in a variety of roles to unify the church, encourage prayer, and catalyze active living of one’s faith. He also leads a parallel life as an actor and model, appearing in advertisements around the world for brands such as Ralph Lauren, Bank of America, QVC, and NASCAR. He also enjoys promoting Philadelphia arts and culture.

For more, see www.ryanderfler.com