



PAUL G. ALLEN, FOUNDER

Through four decades after co-founding Microsoft, entrepreneur and philanthropist Paul G. Allen explored the frontiers of technology and human knowledge, and acted to change the future. Through Vulcan, Allen worked to save endangered species, slow climate change, improve ocean health, share art, history and film, develop new technology, tackle epidemics, research how the human brain works and build sustainable communities. In all his endeavors, Allen constantly asked “What if...?” and pushed people to challenge conventional thinking, collaborate across disciplines and reimagine what’s possible.

As the idea man and original technologist behind Microsoft, Allen used his wealth to expand the horizons of human possibility. All told, Allen's philanthropic contributions exceeded \$2 billion. Even before becoming a member of the Giving Pledge, Allen committed to giving away the majority of his fortune. He invested in bioscience and robotics research, retail space and outer space, documentaries and feature films, global health and local education.

Allen was deeply invested locally in his hometown of Seattle and the Pacific Northwest, and created public spaces including Flying Heritage & Combat Armor Museum, MoPOP and the Living Computer Museum + Labs -- where people learn and interact with Seattle’s historic, cultural and musical heritage. The inaugural Seattle Art Fair put the city on the map as one of the premier art destinations in the country. He also acted globally, making impact investments that will help developing countries expand their health, infrastructure and nurture a diversified economy.

Many of his ventures were seeded in his youth, and reflected the depth and diversity of his passions. He endeavored to create a new kind of future — a future that maps the intricacies inside our head, sets hidden talent alight and upends conventional thinking.

If we can understand the mysterious organ, the brain, we can pave the way towards understanding diseases like Alzheimer’s. If we can change the economics of space launches, we can change space travel and exploration. If we can get the formula right for a new kind of downtown neighborhood, it becomes a guide for the innovation centers of tomorrow. Paul was motivated by his commitment to sharing his ideas and discoveries with the world to help catalyze a better future.

To learn more, visit PaulAllen.com.