

Tom Unterman, TRANSFORMATIVE PARTNER AWARD



Advancement Project California is pleased to honor **Tom Unterman** with the **Transformative Partner Award**. He has been a valuable member of our board of directors since 2014, bringing both acumen in finance and connection to a wide circle of progressive business and media friends. A quiet force in philanthropy across California, we are lucky to have his support and service. Described as quiet, wise, extraordinarily competent, and kind, one former colleague went so far as to say, “He is Solomonesque.”

Tom is the Founding Partner of Rustic Canyon Partners, one of Los Angeles’ leading venture capital firms. With Rustic Canyon Partners he helped found US Renewables Group, the largest West Coast private-equity investor in renewable resources and clean fuels. He is a boardmember of several Rustic Canyon portfolio companies, as well as Blackline Systems and Praedicat. Before founding Rustic Canyon, he served as Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of The Times Mirror Company. Prior to joining Times Mirror, he was a partner at Morrison & Foerster and, earlier, Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe.

Tom and his wife Janet have a deep and diverse commitment to Los Angeles, social justice, the environment, and the arts. Their involvement with a wide range of institutions demonstrates their wide-ranging commitment. Janet is an active volunteer with LACMA and other community groups.

Tom currently is the Chair of The California Community Foundation’s board of directors. He also chairs the board of UCLA Technology Development Corp, which oversees the management of UCLA’s intellectual property portfolio and coordinates entrepreneurial efforts on campus.

Tom serves on the boards of the Mayor’s Fund for Los Angeles, MOCA (Life Trustee), and Youth Policy Institute. He is also a Trustee of the California State Teachers Retirement System. Previous board service include: ACLU of Southern California, CalArts, Courage Campaign, Heal the Bay, Public Counsel, and ProPublica.

Tom received his J.D. from the University of Chicago and his B.A. from Princeton University. In addition to full professional and civic lives, Tom and Janet are the proud parents of two daughters, and loving grandparents of two grandchildren.