

# James P. Van Eerden

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*Class of 1985*

James Van Eerden is a co-founder and managing director of The Helixx Group, a merchant bank for high-impact entrepreneurs based in Indianapolis, Ind. Van Eerden leads the firm's media and philanthropy ventures. His commentary involving media and non-profit work has appeared in *USA TODAY* and other publications. He has been a speaker at the National Press Club and international forums, including a guest lectureship at Harvard on the subject of "Philanthropy 2.0."

Van Eerden first became involved in film investing with the Academy Award-nominated short film, *MOST* (2004). He has since served in executive producer roles for several award-winning feature films including *Bobby Jones* (2004), *The Ultimate Gift* (2007) and *The Perfect Game* (2010), and for highly acclaimed documentary feature films *WarChild* (2008), *Running the Sahara* (2009), which he executive produced with Matt Damon, and *In God We Still Trust*. He is chief editor of *Life (n) Media*.

He co-founded MISSION Skincare Products with Mta Hamm, Steve Nash, Serena Williams and others and is on the board of this athlete-engineered skincare company. He served as board chairman for the H2O Africa Foundation and as a founding board director for BDA Foundation (a non-profit effort to advance biotechnology for sustainable development in Africa). He also served as a member of the board of governors for Opportunity International (the world's largest faith-based micro-lending agency) and for Wilberforce Forum (Chuck Colson's worldview ministry).

*Additional degrees: M.A., Trinity International University; MBA, Wake Forest University*

