

Maurice Charles Levin

- Hardworking professional with 20+ years' experience in Finance, Operations, Emerging Business Management, Horticulture/Agribusiness, E-Commerce, Valuation/Transactions
- I thrive working with and for challenging colleagues and clients in demanding environments.
- Committed to success: Harvard AB/MBA, completed 2 Marathons, built & ran two businesses, Eagle Scout.

Work Experience

General Manager: Operations, Finance, Sales | Jurassic Garden | Los Angeles, CA | 2001-Present
Commercial Grower, Wholesale/Retail Nursery: Grow, preserve and sell rare endangered species and drought-resistant plants. Generated over \$10 million in sales.

Finance/Accounting

- Supervised Accounts Payable/Receivable, Financial Statement Preparation, Month End Close, General Ledger.
- Managed Financial Forecasting, Financial Modeling, Financial Reporting, Variance Analysis.
- Inventory: Conducted, supervised, developed inventory value models and analyzed regular valuations.
- Managed Financial Operations/Accounting: QuickBooks, Quicken, Microsoft Excel, customized inventory software.
- Conducted and supervised all accounting functions, including Forecasting, Budgeting, P&L statements.

Strategic Planning/E-Commerce

- Created a business plan, built the enterprise, developed, operated and grew a 1.5 acre growing facility/nursery.
- Developed Strategic Financial Plan and a complete financial and accounting system combining cost-based inventorying with periodic valuations providing for inventory that literally "grows" in value.
- Conceived accounting, inventory, personnel and financial report systems to enable, track and analyze growth.
- Designed, built, ran complete e-commerce website <http://www.cycads.com> to educate and sell to customers.
- Developed leading e-commerce strategy in the rare plant industry, built the industry's premier web store.

Management/Operations

- Managed start-up enterprise operations effectively--Created growth and managed recession-era cost cutting.
- Trained and supervised employees to use financial/accounting software, generate reports and analyze data
- Completed search engine optimization via site enhancement, value-added product information and blog.
- Conceived/executed entry strategy to new markets, new institutional and individual customers.
- Developed knowledge and skills--became a premier grower of drought-resistant endangered species plants.
- Directed landscape project plantings; helped landscapers develop business with clients.
- Supervised clerical, managerial, and operating staff, becoming functionally bi-lingual.

Executive Search Consultant | McCray, Hewett & Assoc. | Los Angeles, CA | 2000 - 2001

Conducted retained search assignments for senior executive positions. Completed searches producing \$500,000+ in fees.

Director, Sales, Marketing & Operations | Optimal Health, Inc. | Los Angeles, CA | 1996 - 2000

Built and led international healthcare distribution business. Grew business to \$4.3 million in annual sales.

Commercial Real Estate Broker | The Goodlick Company | Los Angeles, CA | 1988 - 1999

Represented commercial/ industrial real estate clients in lease, sale and investment transactions totaling over \$40 million.

Securities Analyst, Special Situations | Paine Webber | New York, NY | 1987-1988

Evaluated companies, management and stock values. Recommended investments to generate \$25 million in transactions.

Investment Analyst | Rudman Associates| New York, NY | 1986-1987

Analyzed companies and stock values at hedge fund. Helped secure investors for \$15 million in new managed funds.

Corporate Finance Associate | Lehman Brothers| New York, NY | 1983 - 1986

Participated in all facets of mergers/acquisitions and underwritings totaling over \$600 million. Developed 2 M&A clients.

Commercial Banker | Bank of America | New York, NY & Toronto, ON | 1979 - 1982

Solicited, participated in and/or closed \$150+ million in transactions. Undertook restructuring Canadian finance company.

Education

Harvard Business School | 1982 - 1984

MBA, Focus on Finance and Marketing, 2nd Year Honors.

Harvard University | 1974 - 1979

AB, *cum laude*, with *magna cum laude* thesis in History, U.S. & East Asian.

Personal--Other

Eagle Scout. Completed 1984 Boston Marathon and 1985 New York Marathon. Climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro (highest point on African continent) in 1984. Enjoy college sports and gardening. Born & grew up in Los Angeles. Past Board Member of the Cycad Society (Treasurer), Harvard Club of Southern California and Odyssey Theatre Ensemble (Chairman).

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