

David B. Wheeler

David B. Wheeler was born in Norwalk, Iowa, USA, in 1965, to politically active parents. His first campaign was at 10 years old when he collaborated with his parents on successful campaign, Phil Davitt for State Representative, to unseat a four-term incumbent from the Iowa House of Representatives.

Since 1976, David was hooked on politics and worked on more than two-dozen campaigns in Iowa and other states, including then Iowa Governor Tom Vilsack's campaigns and inauguration, Barack Obama's announcement in 2007, and an early supporter of Joe Biden in 2019.

In addition, David was elected Majority Leader of the Iowa Model Legislature, selected as an Iowa House of Representatives Page, U.S. Senate intern, restarted the dormant Iowa Young Democrats and was elected to the Young Democrats National Committee from 1987-89.

David has started and led various companies over the last thirty years. His first business venture, at age 24, was Protocol International, Inc., an event management firm based in Chicago. Protocol specialized in managing high profile events for corporate and government clients. During Wheeler's tenure as President, he was responsible for the firm's involvement in more than 1,000 projects in thirty-five countries with 50 Fortune 500 clients including more than a dozen head of state visits to USA.

Since his first business, David has gone on to manage the first marathon in Antarctica, produce the first Presidential candidate forum focused on cancer issues, lower the level of the Mississippi River for an event in Burlington, Iowa, and help produce the first professional sports event in Russia.

David was also a Senior Vice President of the largest publicly traded meeting and event management firm, Ambassadors LLC, and helped grow the company and manage significant clients.

David also founded a successful second event management firm, Embark LLC, which focused on communication events, government relations forums, managing complex marketing events, corporate conferences and travel programs. Embark was a partner with Clarion Events Ltd. (www.clarionevents.com) of London.

David also was Co-founder and President of Conference IQ LLC. CIQ is the world's largest directory of business events and professional speakers.

David helped launch Global Higher Education Group LLC, based in Spruce Pine, North Carolina, with partners in Canada, United Kingdom and Australia. David is leading this as the Chief Executive Officer and is a founding shareholder. GHED is focused on providing international students with scholarships and global university choices through a match making platform. MUA is set to launch in the summer 2024 with twenty-five new high paying jobs in USA, UK and Europe.

For the first time in his life, David was also a candidate for higher office. David ran for the North Carolina State Senate in 2018 and 2020. He won a three-way Democratic primary race with 52% of the vote in 2018. While he was defeated in both general elections, David raised more donations than any other candidate, outperformed other Democrats by 7% and ran an honorable, tough campaign in a highly gerrymandered district.

Former Chicago Mayor Richard Daley appointed David as a founding member the Chicago-Galway Sister Cities Committee in 1990. The Secretary of the U.S. Department of Commerce and U.S. Trade Representative appointed David to the Industry Trade Advisory Committee on Services and Finance in 2010-2012. David was also a Vice Chair of Spruce Pine Montessori Board of Directors and is currently, Chairman, Health-e Schools.

David graduated from the University of Iowa in 1987 with a major in political science and an emphasis in economics. David's ex-wife, Jeannine Marchand is an accomplished artist (www.jeanninemarchand.com). David and Jeannine co-parent their children Calia (12), Nicholas (10) and Quinn (7) in the mountains of Western North Carolina near Asheville.