

SAM MANDEL

Sam is Senior Vice President at betaworks, one of the leading companies in the New York start-up space. Betaworks creates new products and apps, and also invests in, accelerates and acquires other tech companies. Sam's responsibilities at betaworks include mergers and acquisitions, corporate strategy and managing strategic investments. Sam's operational startup experience includes being the CEO of Poncho (sold to Iris Nova in 2018), EVP of TweetDeck (sold to Twitter in 2011) and the COO of Liberation Entertainment. Prior to achieving successful exits, Sam's companies raised money from most of the leading venture capital firms in New York and many in the Bay Area.

Before entering the startup world, Sam was a Senior Vice President at Time Warner and AOL. Prior to joining AOL, he practiced intellectual property and entertainment law in Los Angeles for 10 years, as a partner at a leading LA law firm. He is a graduate of the University of California, San Diego, and Yale Law School.

Sam has served on many nonprofit boards including Pursuit, a New York City organization working to make tech jobs available to those from less privileged backgrounds, and the Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition. He lives in New York City and Guilford, Connecticut.