plasticbank®

DAVID KATZ.

FOUNDER & CEO OF PLASTIC BANK

GLOBAL ENTREPRENEUR | SOCIAL INNOVATOR | KEYNOTE SPEAKER



BIOGRAPHY

David Katz is a globally recognized entrepreneur, social innovator, and Founder and CEO of Plastic Bank. He founded Plastic Bank in 2013 around a simple idea: discarded plastic could hold value and become a means of creating income and social benefits for communities. What began as an idea has grown into a global social enterprise connecting environmental action with human opportunity.

WHERE IT STARTED

Growing up on Vancouver Island, David developed an early connection to the ocean and witnessed changes along its coastlines. Years later, while travelling in Malaysia, he encountered a beach overwhelmed by plastic. His exposure to photographer Chris Jordan's work documenting the impact of plastic on albatrosses at Midway Island further shaped his determination to address the problem at its source.

FROM AN IDEA TO GLOBAL IMPACT

For more than a decade, David has led Plastic Bank at the intersection of business, environmental action, technology, and human opportunity. Under his leadership, Plastic Bank has developed a model designed to keep plastic out of nature while creating income opportunities and social benefits for plastic collectors and their communities.

80K+
COLLECTORS SINCE 2013

210M+
KG COLLECTED

TODAY

Today, David speaks to audiences around the world about entrepreneurship, business, environmental action, prosperity, and the lessons learned from building Plastic Bank.
His talks combine candid stories, unexpected ideas, failures, breakthroughs, and more than a decade of experience challenging conventional ideas about waste, value, and human potential.

2.2M+ TED VIEWS

A GLOBAL VOICE

David's TED talk, "The Surprising Solution to Ocean Plastic," has received more than 2.2 million views. He has spoken at TED, Goldman Sachs, ChangeNOW Summit, SXSW, Deutsche Telekom, Plastics Europe, and business and leadership events around the world.

FEATURED BY

BBC | CNN | TIME | FORBES
FAST COMPANY | NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

RECOGNITION

- **United Nations**
  Lighthouse Award for Planetary Health
- **Paris Climate Conference**
  Sustainia Community Award
- **Ernst & Young**
  Lifetime Achievement Award
- **The Globe and Mail**
  Changemakers Award
- **Entrepreneurs' Organization**
  Global Citizen Award

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events@plasticbank.com
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