Tom A. Bernstein ’74BA, ’77JD

Tom A. Bernstein is President and Co-Founder of Chelsea Piers, L.P., formed in 1992, to develop and operate the Chelsea Piers Sports and Entertainment Complex, a 30-acre waterfront sports village located between 17th and 23rd Streets along Manhattan’s Hudson River. He is also Co-Chairman of Chelsea Piers Connecticut, a 450,000 square foot sports facility, which opened in Stamford, Connecticut in July 2012.

Mr. Bernstein was one of the two principals of Silver Screen Management, Inc., and the affiliated Silver Screen companies, which from 1983 to 1998 financed 75 films with the Walt Disney Company, including such box office successes as “Beauty and the Beast,” “Pretty Women” and “The Little Mermaid.” From 1989 to 1998, Mr. Bernstein was one of the principal owners of the Texas Rangers Baseball Club with the ownership group led by George W. Bush.

Over the past 30 years, Mr. Bernstein has taken a leadership role in a number of organizations focusing on global human rights and citizen service. In 2010, President Barack Obama appointed Mr. Bernstein Chairman of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. where he has served as a member of the Council and Executive Committee since 2002, when first appointed by President George W. Bush. Mr. Bernstein also serves as: Vice-Chair of Human Rights First; a member of the Board and Executive Committee of the Center for Civil and Human Rights in Atlanta, Georgia; Chair of the Human Freedom Advisory Council of the George W. Bush Presidential Center; and a member of the Advisory Council for the New York University Stern Center for Business and Human Rights.

In 2010, Mr. Bernstein was appointed Chair of the Board of Cities of Service, formed by then Mayor Michael Bloomberg. Mr. Bernstein also serves as Chair of the Partnership for Public Service in Washington, DC. and is a member of the Board of Directors of New York Public Radio and City Year New York.


Mr. Bernstein is a graduate of Yale College (’74 summa cum laude) and Yale Law School (’77), where he was an editor of the Yale Law Journal. Mr. Bernstein serves as a member of the Yale University Council. In 1989, Mr. Bernstein helped launch the Orville H. Schell, Jr. Center for International Human Rights at Yale Law School. In 1997, he helped establish the Robert L. Bernstein Fellowships in International Human Rights at Yale Law School. Mr. Bernstein is married to Andrea E. Bernstein. They are the parents of three young adults: Sam (Yale 2014), Lee (Brown 2015), and Will (Yale 2018).