

# Jeffrey Epstein

Although Epstein has had a decades-long career in finance, his background and passion lies in science. He studied physics and mathematics at the Courant Institute and spent a few years as a physics and math teacher at the Dalton School in New York before starting his career in finance. In 2000, Epstein went back to science, this time as a philanthropist, founding the **Jeffrey Epstein VI Foundation**. Over the years, the Foundation has expanded its scope and now provides funding for science, education, medical research, the arts and humanitarian initiatives..

## *Background*

Epstein had a long career with Bear Stearns, an investment bank and brokerage firm in New York City. At Bear Stearns, he was an options trader and a products division specialist until he started his own firm. In addition to a long career in finance, Epstein has had a long career as a science philanthropist. His foundation has provided support to highly regarded and well known scientists, such as theoretical physicist, Stephen Hawking and Kip Thorne. In 2003, Epstein provided Harvard University with a \$30 million grant to start the Program for Evolutionary Dynamics.

In addition to his work with his own foundation, Epstein has sat on the board or has been involved with a number of highly regarded academic institutions, among them:

- The Santa Fe Institute
- The New York Academy of Science
- Rockefeller University, where he was a member of the board
- Mind, Brain & Behavior Advisory Committee at Harvard
- The Trilateral Commission
- The Council on Foreign Relations

## *Ideas Forum*

Another aspect of the Foundation is the Ideas Forum. The Foundation collects fundamental ideas from leaders such as scientists and scholars. It also welcomes ideas from general readers or laypeople. The best ideas are chosen and posted on a blog or online discussion. The forum lets others build on the initial ideas until something great forms.

The Foundation continues to provide support to a wide range of organizations from medical research to the arts. Thus far in 2012, the Foundation has supported the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the New York Academy of Art, the MS Society, and Mount Sinai Hospital. The list of supported organizations in 2011 is quite extensive and includes schools, medical research groups, and charities such as the United Way of St. Thomas-St. John.

Specific topics supported by the Jeffrey Epstein VI Foundation in 2012 include music as a remedy for Parkinson's disease and for premature babies in NICU facilities. The Foundation also provided support for 3D mammograms at Mt. Sinai Hospital, a growing phenomenon in the early detection of breast cancer. Jeffrey Epstein looks forward to providing support to many more worthy projects.