

Jon Kraft

Jon has over 30 years of experience building world-class companies in software and consumer digital media. Jon is currently co-founder and COO of Operative Games, the AI-driven interactive storytelling company that puts players at the center of the action and leverages its proprietary technology to create rich ongoing relationships with compelling characters. In addition to Operative Games, Jon keeps a finger on the pulse of the early-stage investment community as a Venture Partner at Black Diamond Ventures.

Jon previously served as Co-founder and CEO of Pandora Media, the largest online radio product in the world with over 150M registered users in the U.S. (NYSE: P). He is also a co-founder and board member at Thrively, a strength-based online platform to help children discover positive self-identity and agency in life. Thrively is currently being used in over 130,000 classrooms nationwide. He is the former COO and a member of the founding team at UberMedia, Idealab's prominent Internet start-up, which he led through eight M&A transactions and helped build into the world's leading independent developer of mobile social apps before the company was acquired by Near (NASDAQ: NIR) in 2021. Before that, he was Co-founder and COO for Big Stage Entertainment, Inc., an advanced avatar platform company recognized by Forbes in 2009 as one of America's 20 Most Promising Companies, and sold to Image Metrix (IMGX:OTC) in 2010.

Jon's first entrepreneurial venture was as a Co-founder of Stanford Technology Group in 1993, an innovator in the relational OLAP market, funded by Sequoia and Hummer Winblad, and acquired by Informix Corporation in 1995. Jon currently sits on the board of Nolan Bushnell's new company, ExoDexa, using advanced gaming to transform the way we educate our children. Jon holds a B.A. from Stanford University.