Building Relationships That Last A Career and Start with an Email Introduction



Villanova University

Chris Fralic III

Board Partner at First Round

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania · 153,597 followers · My connections ·

Contact info

About

I joined First Round Capital in 2006 and in 2018 I shifted to Board Partner and now focus on existing investments including Roblox, Warby Parker, Nomad Health, Troops, Outlier, Live Intent, Against Gravity and more. Companies I've worked with who have been acquired include Hotel Tonight (AirBnB), Flurry (Yahoo!), Invite Media (Google), Ring (Amazon), Demdex (Adobe), Adaptly (Accenture), DoubleVerify (Providence Equity), Yapta (Coupa Software), iovation (TransUnion), and Arbor.io and Circulate were acquired by the same company (Axciom) on the same day. Others I've worked with that are now public companies include ScanScout/Tremor (NYSE: TRMR) and MyYearbook (Nasdaq: MEET), and in early 2017 I joined The Meet Group board of directors.

I've always been interested in venture capital, but before I became a VC I spent the bulk of my working life on the operating side of tech companies, from the Personal Computer revolution through the early days of the Consumer Internet and Web 2.0. I've held a variety of sales and business development roles that included VP Business Development at Half.com and a 6 year career at eBay after the acquisition, and led BD at del.icio.us through our Yahoo! acquisition.

Otherwise I like spending time with my family, I like to run (though I'm pretty sure I've run my last marathon), I have a lot of fun skiing in the winter, and I play a decent game of tennis. I'm also interested in how people can connect better in business (LinkedIn inMails are generally NOT a good way to reach me), and you can see a few examples of what I've written on the subject below.



















Technology Entertainment Design

MEMORANDUM

FROM: Richard Saul Wurman Chairman & Creative Director RE: TEDS Conference

Following is a current progress report on the TEDS Conference which includes an application for registration on the reverse side. I would urge you not to wait if you want to be assured a place at this unique gathering as the audience is limited to 496 persons. My best advice, if this brief note piques your interest is to talk with those who have been to an earlier every.

When & Where

24-27 February 1994 at the Monterey Conference Center in California, a fine facility with theatre seating. Monteney is a 4-hour drive south of Sen Francisco on the beautiful Monterey Peninsula. It's just a short drive from Pebble Beach, Carmel by-the-Sea and not far from the breathtaking acenery of Big Sur. More detailed information about the accessibility of the Conference Center and hotels will be sent to you after registration with information about special air and accommodation rates.

Speakers & Audience

The audience is the most important part of the TED

Signature

+Barry Diler - Chermen, GVC JOHN B. Evane - CEO of News Electronic Calls (NED) Chris Galvin - Sr. Exec. VP & Aust. COO, Morprote Bill Gates - Charman & CSD, Microsoft STEPHEN Jay Gould - Professor of Zoology and Geology at Hervard University and Author, works include The Panda's Thumb and Buly for Brantosaurus. Nancys Green - Partner, Donevan & Green Bob Greenberg - President, R/Greenberg Assoc. Herbig Hangock - Musician Trip Hawkins - CEO, The 3DO Company Danny Hills - Founder, Thinking Machines Quincy Jones - Musician Kal Krause - VP-R&O, Curved Space Design

Geraldine Leybourne - CEO, Nickelodeon David Meceulay - Author & Sustrator, works include Cathedral, City and The Way Trongs Work Hugel Miller - Singer

John Nalabitt - Author, Megatrends 2000 and Megatrenas

Nichales Negroports - Director and Co-Founder of MiT

Donald Norman - Apple Fallow and Author, works include Mamory and Attention & Psychology of Everyday Things Down Orniels - Doctor & Author, Revenuing Heart Disease. Nell Postmen - Chair of the Department of Communication Arts at NYU, Author of Technopoly Tom Rielly - Director of Strategic Relations, SuperMac

John Sculley - Charman, Apple Computer

David A. Smith - President & CEO, Virtus Corporation Rick Smolan - Photographer & Creator of From Alice to

· Dilver Stone - Film Director, "Platoon", "Born on the Fourth of July and "JFK"

Chairman & CEO, Whittle Communications

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Your signature constitutes acceptance of the policies stated on this form. We reserve the right to limit the number of registrants. We believe that the quality of the TED Conference is based on the diversity of its attendees as well as its speakers. Please note that this registration form is an application for registration only. You will receive a latter of confirmation

two children in this age group. -- Bill Dinsmore, The Learning (

I sell computers. My three customers (Sony, Eli Lilly, and Hoffman La Roche) bought almost 5,000 last year, worth \$30 million. I also

attend graduate school, and will have my MBA soon after TED5. -- Christopher Fralic, Computerland Corporation

I manage The Lea



Tom





Cold Artichoke Quarters, Fried Ravioli, Herb Foccacia Bread, Soft



SONY

Sony Electronics Inc.

1 Sony Drive, Park Ridge, New Jersey 07656-8003 Telephone (201) 930-1000

April 14, 1994

Mr. Christopher Fralic National Account Manager Vanstar 630 Boulevard Elmwood Park, NJ 07407-1937

Dear Chris:

Thank you for the tapes on TED 5. It was an unexpected surprise and is very much appreciated.

At some point in the near future, you and I should meet and exchange perspectives on both what was presented at the meeting and the technology as it relates to our field and impact.

Thank you again. I look forward to seeing you soon.

Sincerely,

Michael Apruzzese

Director of Production Services

SEL Advertising

MA/kea

ED5

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CONTENTS MAY INCLUDE DANGEROL IDEAS AND/OR WORLDCHANGING INDIVIDUALS. PLEASE SIT DOWN BEFORE OPENING.



The first TED Talks ever

Behold, the first five TED Talks posted online, shared with the world on June 27, 2006. Each one is powerful and moving - and still resonates.







Averting the climate crisis

With the same humor and humanity he couded in "An Inconvenient Truth," Al Gore spells out 15 ways that individuals can address climate change immediately, from buying a hybrid to inventing a new, hotter brand name for global warming.



The best stats you've ever seen

You've never seen data presented like this. With the drama and urgency of a sportscaster, statistics guru Hans Rosling debunks myths about the so-called "developing world."



MALKODA CARTER

Greening the ghetto

in an emotionally charged talk, MacArthur-winning activist Majora Corter details her fight for environmental justice in the South Bronx - and shows how minority neighborhoods suffer most from flawed urban policy.



Do schools kill creativity?

Sir Ken Robinson makes an entertaining and profoundly moving case for creating an education system that nurtures (rather than undermines) creativity.

Edit

TEDTalks Origin Stories

From VINTAGE TECH n





w/ Chris Fralic & June Cohen — TEDTalks have now been viewed over 8 billion times, and the first handful of talks launched 15 years ago on June 27th 2006. Join us for some stories with some of the team that helped it get started.



Share



Tweet



Copy Link



Add to Cal

A Selfless Partner

By Josh Kopelman

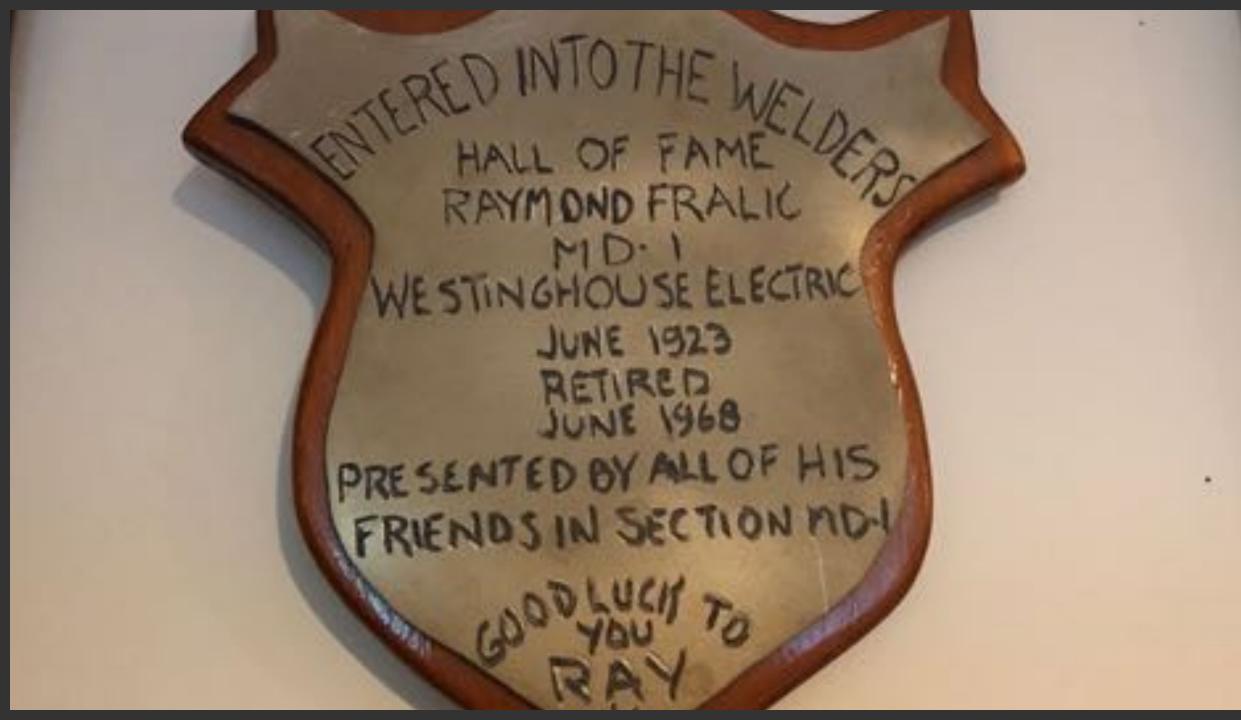
I first met <u>Chris Fralic</u> in 1996 at a conference—and I remember being super impressed with him and the strength of his network. Chris seemed to know everyone. When I set out to build <u>Half.com</u>, I knew there would be a ton of business development needed—and Chris was my first call.

I took him to lunch and pitched the idea to him. Like a natural salesman, Chris followed up with his own pitch deck for me. Looking back, this isn't too surprising. Chris is a born salesperson. He got his start selling computers and would go on to sell all kinds of software in the early days of the internet. Although I didn't need a pitch deck to convince me to hire him, I'm sure glad he joined Half.com.



Slides from Chris' original pitch deck

Chris joined the Half.com team in 1999, and we've worked closely together for almost 20 years. And my partnership with Chris has been one of the most important collaborations of my life. So when Howard Morgan and I initially started to think about growing our team in the early days of <u>First Round</u>, Chris was one of our first calls.



How many jobs have you had since high school?



Champion II Profe

description de Para Servicio de Para Ser

THE COMPUTER FACTORY

ACTION STATES

ComputerLand

Co

∀anstar **▽**











1996 Met at TED
1997-1998 helping out;
keeping in touch
1999 Half.com (then eBay)
2005 del.icio.us
2006+ First Round Capital







One thing no one tells you early in your career is how insanely valuable your coworker relationships become *after* you leave a company.

7:34 PM · May 3, 2017 · Twitter for iPhone

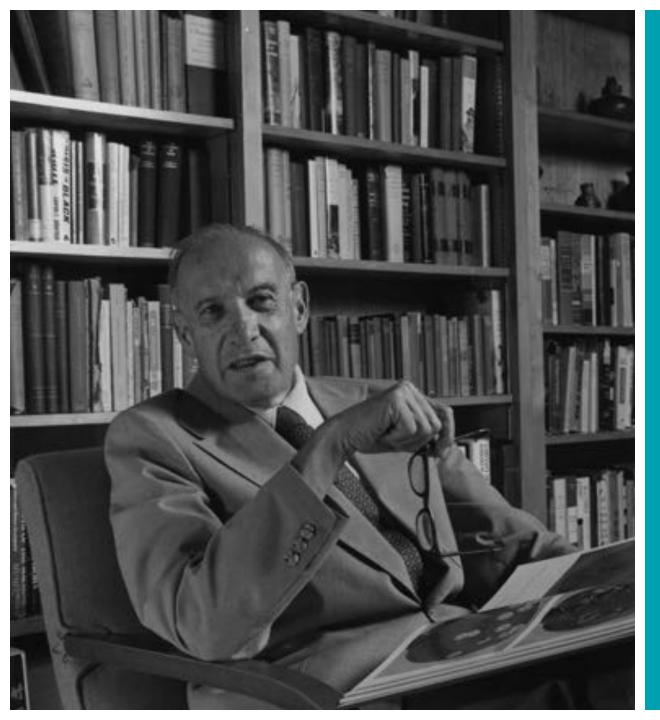
394 Retweets 1.5K Likes





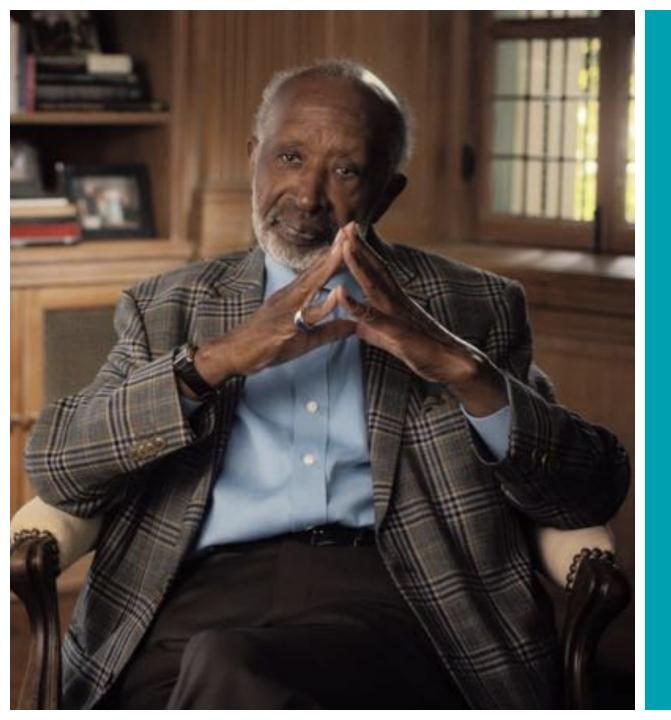
"Leadership Is How To Be, Not What To Do"

Frances Hesselbein



"The Purpose Of A Business Is To Create A Customer"

Peter F. Drucker



"I don't have problems. I have friends."

Clarence Avant

Forbes

THE MIDAS LIST: TOP TECH INVESTORS: VIEW FULL DIST.







#80 Chris Fralic

Board Partner, First Round



Midas List newcomer Chris Fralic can partially thank his son for his successful investment and exit in online gaming company Roblox. The partner at First Round Capital passed on the company at first but after his 8-year-old son tried it and couldn't stop playing it, he came around for the next round. It paid off when Roblox went public in March 2021 at a \$30 billion valuation. Fralic already had a handful of notable exits under his belt too like Ring, acquired by Amazon in 2018 for \$1 billion, and Hotel Tonight, acquired by Airbnb in 2019. Fralic also sits on the board of the Computer History Museum and has over 1,000 items in his personal computer collection.

ON FORBES LISTS

The Midas List: Top Tech Investors 2021

Forbes

FORBES LIST

The Midas List

The World's Best Venture Capital Investors In 2021

EDITED BY ALEX KONRAD, REPORTED BY REBECCA SZKUTAK AND NINA WOLPOW PRODUCED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH TRUEBRIDGE CAPITAL PARTNERS

STATS

AGE 58

NOTABLE DEAL Roblox

RESIDENCE Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

CITIZENSHIP United States

MARITAL STATUS Married

CHILDREN 1

EDUCATION

Master of Business Administration, St. Joseph's College (NY); Bachelor of Arts/Science, Villanova University



What is your Brand?





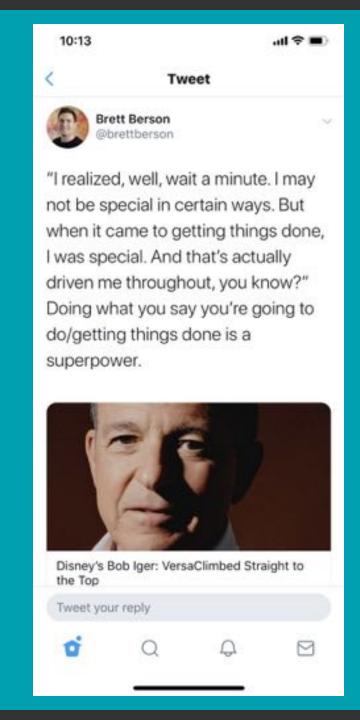
Your brand is what people say about you when you're not in the room. It's their first reaction when they see an email from you in their inbox. You build that brand - or not - with every interaction.

2) INTENTIONALLY Build Your Brand and your Relationships



3) Authenticity

4) Do What You Say You Are Going To Do



5) Follow Up on commitments and all worthwhile interactions



Underrated: Sending a follow-up to someone who has helped you (e.g. made an intro, gave advice, etc) on how things went. I received two email updates out of the blue and it completely made my day.

7:12 PM · Mar 19, 2019 · Twitter Web Client

168 Retweets 1.5K Likes

The Goal?

ADDING VALUE IN ALL YOU DO



6) How to Work a Conference (or a Zoom)

Have an elevator pitch - but don't pitch

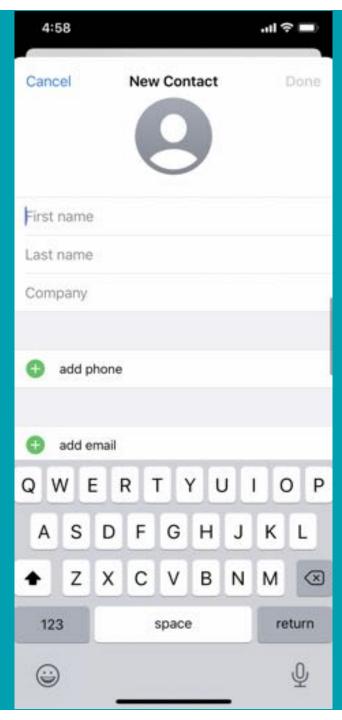
Make a good impression and a connection - so you can follow up later

"What's your ratio of questions to answers, and can you double it?"

Ask a good question early

Video

7) CRM: Manage and maintain your contacts starting now



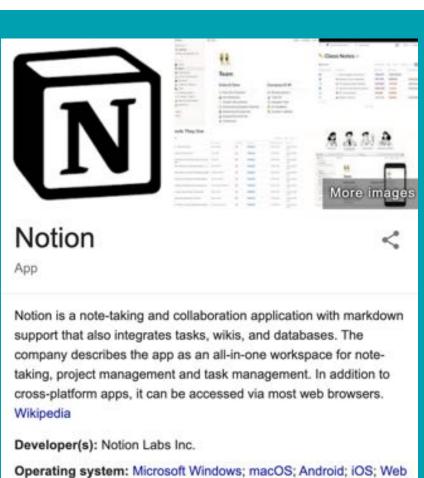


I am almost flagrantly irresponsible about maintaining contact information. I should "know everyone" at this point, but I have generally failed to take the minimal steps to maintain contact with even people I think highly of. I get by, but there are advantages to networking!

8:10 PM · Mar 2, 2021 · Twitter Web App

8) Have a system for GTD - Getting Things Done

To Do Lists Organizing Prioritizing



Initial release date: June 2018

People also search for

View 10+ more











Trello

Todoist

Microsoft OneNote

Confluence



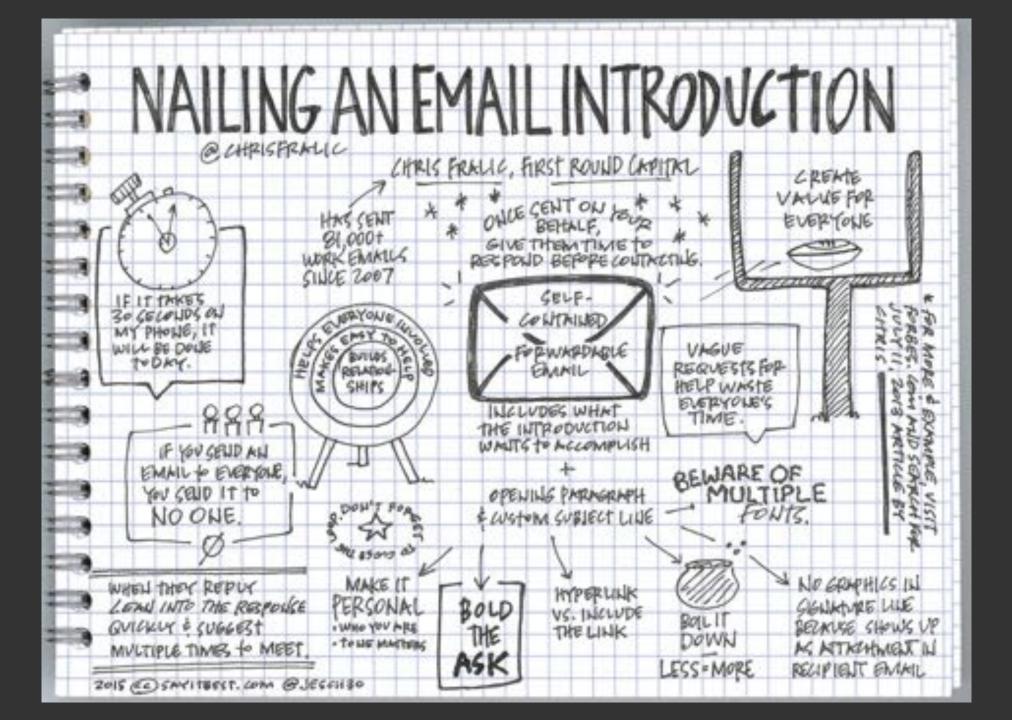
Tactical skills worth learning:

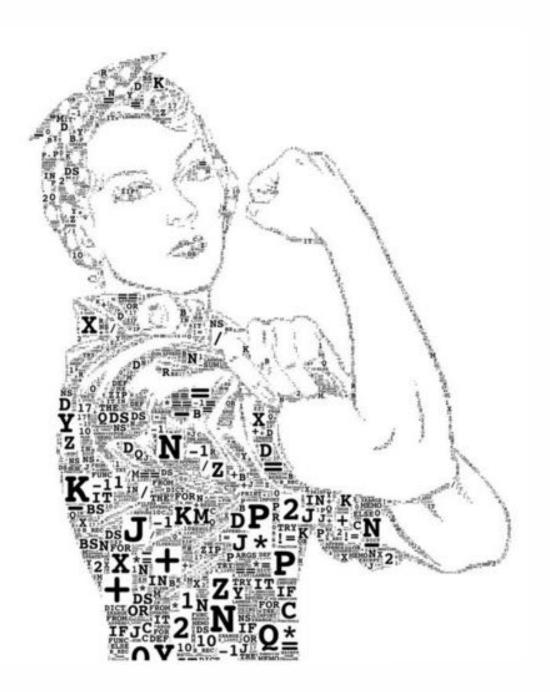
- How to ask for an introduction
- Introducing yourself crisply over email
- Persuasive follow-up

I (often subconsciously) decide if someone is more or less of a pro based on how they do these things.

1:57 PM · Aug 12, 2019 · Twitter for iPhone

9) Get really good at email





Do The Work

EXAMPLES

Google, LinkedIn, Blog searches..

search to see if they've done any PODCASTS

See if they've done any TEDTalks

Make it easy to help you

Relatively SMALL asks

Simple, time bounded

You've done the prep work

Make it easy to say no

"No need if not a fit"

"No need to even REPLY if this isn't of interest"

Subject Lines Matter

Specific

Customized

Mention Names and Companies and Context



Let Some Personality Show

Chris Fralic
Board Partner, First Round
37 E. 28th St. NYC 10016
917-843-2023 mobile
chris@firstround.com and @chrisfralic

Check out the FAQ's and our latest First Round Review

Put your contact info on your email signature

Bonus points - record a voicemail message

Less Is More

Shorter emails have larger impact

Personalize everything

From: Chris Fralic [mailto:chris@firstround.com]

Sent: Saturday, June 08, 2013 9:26 AM

To: Peter Bryant; Satish Rao

Subject: Thanks, and an invitation to honor Beth Comstock of GE as Leader of the Future

Peter and Satish:

I enjoyed the Castrol event and you did a very nice job pulling it together – I hope my part added something to the day, and sorry I had to leave early.

Please take a look below – no obligation at all if not interested, but I know you do work with GE and are close to Viv, and though you might be interested.

Thanks again!

Chris

I serve on only one non-profit board, and it's the <u>Frances Hesselbein Leadership Institute</u>, where I'm Chairman. Frances is the former CEO of the Girl Scouts USA, a Presidential Medal of Freedom recipient, and Peter Drucker once said she could run any company in America. You can get a good sense of her here in this recent <u>TED Tak</u>.

I'm pleased to invite you to join us as we honor Beth Comstock, CMO of GE as our Leader of the Future Award recipient on Monday, October 21, 2013 in NYC. Beth is one of the most well-known and respected Chief Marketing Officers in the world, and her story of personal development, leadership, and driving innovation at scale make her a great example for others.

Previous award recipients include Alan Mulally of Ford, A.G. Lafley of Procter & Gamble, and last year Mike and Kass Lazerow of Buddy Media. More details on the Award and the various levels of support and options to attend are attached and can be found online here.

Thanks so much, I'm happy to answer any questions you may have, and I hope you can join us.

Chris Fralic

Partner, First Round Capital
200 Park Ave. SOUTH Suite 1501
New York, NY 10003
917-843-2023 mobile
chris@firstround.com
@christralic and NothingToSav.com

You sent an email but didn't hear back. How many times should you follow up?



ASK
PERMISSION
FIRST:
The DOUBLE
OPT-IN
Introduction



The SILVER
PLATTER Email

S self-contained w/ all info (new email) I in your voice (not mine) L links or Attachments included V value to the TARGET E email, company info, phone number R relevant Subject Line



WRONG

Fwd: intro opt-in: Jorge Torres // HBCU.vc







Nicholas Chirls <nick@notationcapital.com>



to me *

Chris - See below re invitation from Jorge...let me know if you're open to connecting. Good guy and good initiative...

Hope you're well!

Nick

----- Forwarded message ------

From: Jorge M. Torres <mail@jorgetomes.com> Date: Mon, Jun 4, 2018 at 12:21 PM Subject: intro opt-in: Jorge Torres // HBCU.vc To: Nicholas Chirls <nick@notationcapital.com>

Nick.

Thanks for offering to introduce me to Chris Fralic. As you know, I'm working with HBCUvc, and we want to invite him to speak at our event in New York on July 14th. Can you please forward this note to Chris so he can consider opting into the introduction?

Thanks! Jorge

We want to invite Chris to speak at the next HBCUvc venture capital boot camp. HBCUvc is a non-profit dedicated to training the next generation of black and Latino venture capital investors. We do this by providing college students a two-year VC fellowship where they learn the theory and practice of investing in innovation.

We're impressed by Chris' approach to building a strong professional network. The college students in our audience rarely have the opportunity to hear directly from an investor how his approach to building relationships helps him succeed. Thus, we want Chris to speak on building authentic professional relationships.

Here are the details:

- Date: July 14, 2018*
- Time: 10:30 A.M.
- Location: Two Sigma Ventures, 100 6th Avenue
- . Audience: College students
- . Format: 30-minute fireside chat or presentation (speaker's choice)

*The event is on a Saturday to accommodate the work schedules of college students. We realize it might be a big lift to join us on a weekend, but we think Chris will find it a worthwhile investment of his time.

The students in the audience will have a strong demonstrated interest in venture capital. We're also inviting a select number of Chris' colleagues from New York's VC community to join us. We'd be pleased to share more detail and answer any questions that would help him decide if this is the right opportunity to engage with us. Thanks!

RIGHT



Fwd: intro opt-in: Jorge Torres // HBCU.vc





Nicholas Chirls <nick@notationcapital.com>



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In his voice

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L inks throughout

V alue to me

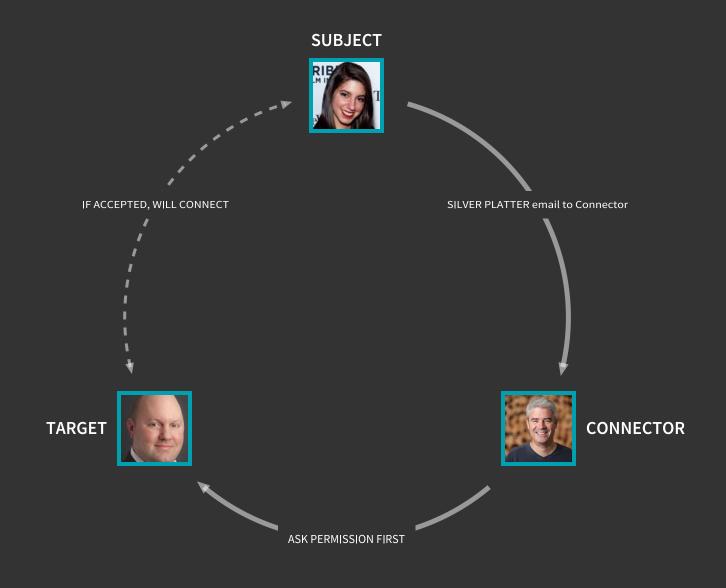
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E mail and contact info

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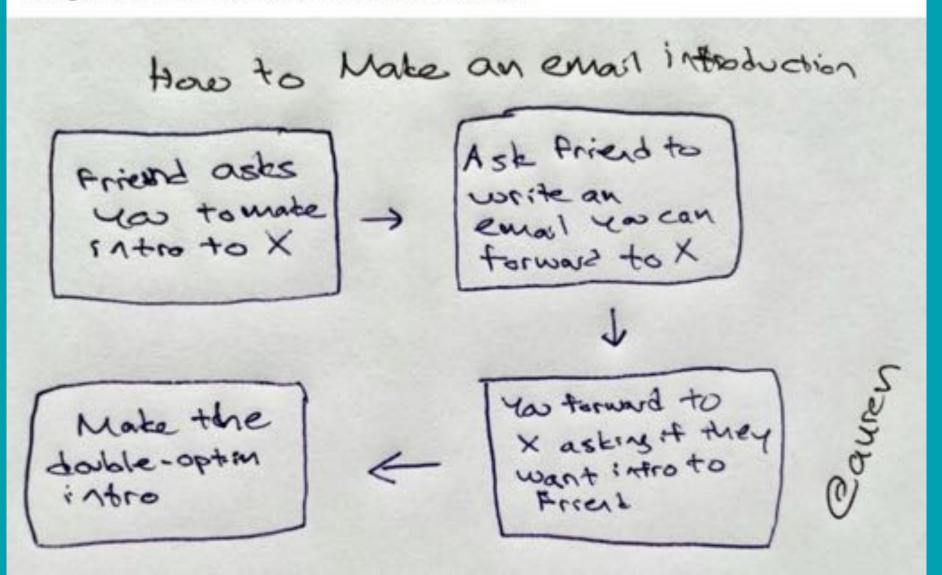
Double Opt-In and SILVER Platter Email flow





Auren Hoffman 등 • 1st CEO SafeGraph. fmr CEO at LiveRamp. GIS nerd. 1d • ⑤

Diagram of how to make an email introduction



EXERCISE - on your own right now, for 10 minutes

 Craft an email to someone in the TED Universe (current or prior, speaker or Fellow, attendee or employee) that asks for a 15 minute call or Zoom for their feedback or advice on a specific thing You have 10 minutes on your own to draft it NOW S self-contained w/ all info (new email) I in your voice (not mine) L links or Attachments included V value to the TARGET E email, company info, phone number R relevant Subject Line

EXERCISE - PART 2

 You'll then be moved to a breakout room where your small group will review and share everyone's email

- The breakout room will provide at least ONE POSITIVE and ONE CONSTRUCTIVE piece of feedback for each person
- We'll review one or two when we're all back in the Zoom

10) Add
One Extra,
Thoughtful
Outreach a Day



