

Jamie Merisotis biography

Jamie Merisotis is a globally recognized leader in philanthropy, education, and public policy. Since 2008, he has served as president and CEO of Lumina Foundation, an independent, private foundation in Indianapolis that is committed to making opportunities for learning beyond high school available to all. He previously served as co-founder and president of the nonpartisan, Washington, DC-based Institute for Higher Education Policy, and as executive director of a bipartisan national commission on college affordability appointed by the President and Congressional leaders. Merisotis is the author of the widely-acclaimed book *America Needs Talent*, named a Top 10 Business book of 2016 by Booklist.



He is frequently sought after as a media commentator and contributor. His writing has appeared in *The Washington Post*, *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *National Journal*, *Stanford Social Innovation Review*, *Washington Monthly*, *Huffington Post*, *Politico*, *Roll Call* and other publications.

His work includes extensive global experience as an adviser and consultant in southern Africa, the former Soviet Union, Europe and other parts of the world. A respected analyst and innovator, Merisotis is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations in New York.

He is the recipient of numerous awards and holds honorary degrees from several colleges and universities. Merisotis also commits his time and energies as trustee for a diverse array of organizations around the world. He chairs the board of The Children's Museum of Indianapolis, the world's largest museum for children, and holds leadership positions on the boards of his alma mater Bates College in Maine, the Council on Foundations in Washington, DC, Anatolia College in Greece, and the UK-based European Access Network. He lives with his wife Colleen O'Brien and their children Benjamin and Elizabeth in Indianapolis.

Lumina Foundation is an independent, private foundation in Indianapolis that is committed to making opportunities for learning beyond high school available to all. We envision a system that is easy to navigate, delivers fair results, and meets the nation's need for talent through a broad range of credentials. Our goal is to prepare people for informed citizenship and for success in a global economy.