



## THE INAUGURAL SOHN AUSTRALIA – HEARTS AND MINDS INVESTMENT LEADERS CONFERENCE

Sydney, Australia & New York, New York – October 24, 2016 – The Sohn Conference Foundation is proud to announce its partnership with the founders of the Hearts & Minds Investment Leaders Conference to create the **Sohn Australia – Hearts & Minds Investment Leaders Conference**. This premier event will bring together some of the best and brightest investors from Australia and around the world on November 11, 2016, at the Sydney Opera House.

“The Sohn Conference Foundation is excited to be in Australia as a leader in the global financial marketplace,” said Evan Sohn, Co-Founder of the Sohn Conference Foundation. “It’s a unique opportunity to bring together the investment community in Australia, along with the broader global investment community, to share their best investment ideas while raising critical funds for medical research.”

**Sohn Australia – Hearts and Minds Investment Leaders Conference** is inspired by the annual Sohn Investment Conference in New York City, which is recognized globally as the original and premier investment event. Since its inception in 1995, the Foundation has raised more than \$70 million globally to treat and cure pediatric cancer by expanding the worldwide presence of its conferences to Canada, Hong Kong, India, London, San Francisco, Tel Aviv, and now Australia.

Renowned activist investor Dr. Gary Weiss – a regular attendee of the Sohn New York Investment Conference – helped to rally the investment community in Australia to the cause. Dr. Weiss pitched the concept as a fundraising idea to the board of the Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute, of which he is a member, and the Institute has embraced the idea and brought to fruition the Conference under the “Hearts & Minds Investment Leaders” banner.

“We've long been inspired by the outstanding example set by the Sohn Investment Conference,” said Dr. Gary Weiss. “With **Sohn Australia – Hearts and Minds Investment Leaders Conference**, we are excited to bring a financial conference of the same calibre to the Australian stage while making tremendous contributions towards medical research in Australia. The Sohn Conference Foundation is known globally as a leader in harnessing the power of the financial community to raise money for worthy causes, and we are thrilled to be part of Sohn’s network of world-renowned conferences to showcase our leading Australian based fund managers.”

Proceeds from this year's Sohn Australia will be dedicated to medical research and care within the prestigious Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute as well as the Black Dog Institute, MS

Research Australia and JDRF Australia.

The speaker lineup for the **Sohn Australia – Hearts and Minds Investment Leaders Conference** includes:

- The Hon. Mike Baird, MP, Premier of New South Wales, Australia
- The Hon. Paul Keating, Former Prime Minister of Australia
- Howard Marks, Founder and Co-Chairman, Oaktree (from New York)
- Leah Zell, Founder and Portfolio Manager, Lizard Investors (from Chicago)
- Shane Finemore, Man. Partner, Chief Investment Officer, Manikay Partners (from UK)
- John Ho, Chief Investment Officer, Janchor Partners (from Hong Kong)
- Madeleine Beaumont, Senior Portfolio Manager, BlackRock Asset Management
- Anthony Aboud, Portfolio Manager, Perpetual
- Peter Cooper, Managing Director and Chief Investment Officer, Cooper Investors
- Hamish Douglass, Co-Founder and CEO, Magellan Financial Group
- Patrick Hodgens, Head of Equities & Portfolio Manager, Macquarie Investment Management
- Philip King, Chief Investment Officer, Regal Funds Management
- Robert Luciano, Managing Partner, VGI Partners
- Michael Messara, Co-Chief Investment Officer, Caledonia
- Kerr Neilson, CEO, Platinum Asset Management
- David Prescott, Founding Director, Lanyon Asset Management
- Geoff Wilson, Chairman, Wilson Asset Management
- John Pearce, Chief Investment Officer, UniSuper Management Pty Ltd
- Dr. Silviu Itescu, CEO & Managing Director, Mesoblast

For more information about registering for **Sohn Australia – Hearts and Minds Investment Leaders Conference**, please visit: [www.sohnconference.org/australia](http://www.sohnconference.org/australia)

Also, follow Sohn Twitter at [@SohnConf](https://twitter.com/SohnConf) – hashtag #SohnAus – for meeting updates, news and highlights.

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#### **ABOUT THE SOHN CONFERENCE FOUNDATION**

The Sohn Conference Foundation is dedicated to the treatment and cure of pediatric cancer and other childhood diseases. The Foundation supports cutting-edge medical research, state-of-the-art research equipment, and innovative programs to ensure that children with cancer

survive and thrive. The Foundation raises its funds through premier investment conferences and special events, including its renowned annual New York Sohn Investment Conference.

Founded in 1995, the Conference honors the memory of Ira Sohn, a Wall Street professional who lost his battle with cancer at age 29. The Foundation has expanded its reach to include Sohn Australia Conference, Sohn Canada Conference, Sohn Hong Kong Conference, Sohn India, Sohn London Conference, Sohn San Francisco Conference and Sohn Tel Aviv Conference. To date, the Foundation has raised more than \$70 million. More information on the Sohn Conference Foundation can be found here: [www.sohnconference.org](http://www.sohnconference.org).

### **ABOUT THE VICTOR CHANG CARDIAC RESEARCH INSTITUTE**

The Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute is the legacy of legendary heart transplant surgeon, Dr Victor Chang. It is a not for profit, internationally recognised, medical research facility dedicated to finding cures for cardiovascular disease.

Established in 1994, the Victor Chang Institute has earned its place on the global stage as one of the most respected heart research facilities in the world. Renowned for the quality of its breakthroughs, the Victor Chang Institute uses innovative transplantation techniques and conducts complex molecular and genetic analysis, to discover better ways to diagnose, treat and ultimately prevent the onset of heart disease.

For more than two decades the Victor Chang Institute has been at the forefront of heart research, leading the way in stem cell technology with established programs in congenital and inherited heart diseases. These have resulted in significant discoveries that continue to bring us closer to creating a world without heart disease.

Attracting world-class scientists, the Victor Chang Institute continues to reinforce its position as a global centre-of-excellence, with a fundamental vision to relieve the pain and suffering and promote the wellbeing of people everywhere.