

Tom Golisano BIO

B. Thomas Golisano is an entrepreneur, philanthropist, and civic leader who has demonstrated an ongoing dedication and commitment to building innovative businesses, supporting numerous non-profit organizations, and advocating for inclusive health.

Golisano is the founder of Paychex, Inc., serving as President and CEO from 1971 until 2004. In addition, Golisano has actively invested in private businesses throughout various industries. Over the past five years alone, through his private investment firm, Grand Oaks Capital, Golisano has invested over \$550 million in 20 businesses. Notable past investments include the NHL's Buffalo Sabres, Safesite, Greenlight Networks and Kodak.

In 1985 Golisano launched the Golisano Foundation, now one of the world's largest foundations providing grants to organizations providing opportunities for those with intellectual disabilities. His philanthropic contributions, both personal and through the Foundation, have exceeded \$350 million helping hospitals (including three Children's hospitals that bear his name), educational institutions, and many other organizations. Most recently, his commitment to educational excellence includes the establishment of the Golisano Institute for Business & Entrepreneurship.

His global commitment to advance inclusive health for people with intellectual disabilities has exceeded \$95 million. This includes the launch of Special Olympics Healthy Communities in 2012, which has improved health care for people in more than 120 countries on six continents, as well as the Golisano Autism Center, the Golisano Institute for Developmental Disability Nursing at St. John Fisher College and more.

His advocacy for civic and political causes encompasses founding the Independence Party in New York State, which acquired ballot status in 1995; a three-time run for NYS governor; establishing Responsible New York and was a major underwriter of the Clinton Global Initiative.

Golisano is married to Monica Seles, professional tennis player and member of the International Tennis Hall of Fame. He has two children, six grandchildren, and four great grandchildren.