



Makerhoods.org
A Community of Makers

Avi Telyas, Founder Makerhoods.org

Avi Telyas is an American real estate developer, serial entrepreneur and pioneer in lean manufacturing and construction. His passion for architecture and craft entrepreneurship led



him to found **Makerhoods**[®], an organization which advocates for urban land use policies that foster self-employment by building affordable working and living space in economically challenged areas.

Mr. Telyas is a 1986 graduate of the Harvard Business School, a former trustee of Pratt Institute and a Principal of Seaview Development where he has worked for over 30 years running complex projects and operations. He embarked on his own entrepreneurial career in 1986 by acquiring a small manufacturer based in New York City while still a Business School student and proceeded to grow the business through its'

eventual sale to The Parker Hannifin Corporation. His accomplishments were recognized as runner-up for the Harvard Business School Club of NY, *Entrepreneur-of-the-Year Award* in 1999 and chronicled in an episode of *Managing with Lou Dobbs on CNN* as well as a *Harvard Business School Cases Study* and a featured article in the *Wall Street Journal*.

The Makerhoods[®] program brings together Mr. Telyas' life-long interest in entrepreneurship and urban development. He continues to advocate for urban planning and design that encourage affordable entrepreneurship and lowers the barriers that working families experience in their quest for a middle class income. In 2015 he introduced the Makerhood[®] concept to a worldwide audience in a **TEDx** presentation in Jersey City, and in 2017 Mr. Telyas delivered the Keynote address at the Governor's Conference on Housing and Economic Development in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

Mr. Telyas devotes his free time to pro-bono consulting for various charitable and nonprofit organization in the metropolitan area such as Grameen Bank, a micro-loan innovator targeting low-income entrepreneurs and Urban Pathways, a developer of supportive housing.



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