



**Contact:**

Brianne Miller  
(650) 575-7727  
[brianne@landispr.com](mailto:brianne@landispr.com)  
[www.landispr.com](http://www.landispr.com)

## Founder David Landis Retires October 1 as President of Landis Communications Inc.

### *General Manager Sean Dowdall Promoted, Becoming Agency's New President*

**SAN FRANCISCO (Sept. 8, 2021)** [David Landis](#), who founded San Francisco-based [Landis Communications, Inc.](#) (LCI) at his kitchen table in 1990, is retiring October 1 after a 43-year career in marketing communications. [Sean Dowdall](#), LCI's current General Manager, has been promoted to be the agency's new president.

"I started this integrated communications agency with the lofty goal of creating a corporate culture that values employees, clients and those in need. Our commitment to the community, award-winning work and partnership with clients is a testament to the teams who have worked at LCI for more than 30 years," stated Mr. Landis. "During that time, we've donated hundreds of thousands of dollars – and volunteer hours - to San Francisco Bay Area nonprofits. LCI's staff is ready to take the next step in the agency's evolution and I'm excited to see what's next."



*LCI President David Landis*

"David is a true example of someone succeeding by following his passion," said Sean Dowdall, president of LCI. "He has run LCI based on the tenets of superior client service, creativity and service both to the community and our employees. The business he built has shaped the industry and led service evolution - whether that was the rise of social media and digital marketing, joining an international public relations network like the [Public Relations Global Network \(PRGN\)](#) or focusing on employee well-being. I'm humbled to be following in those footsteps."

LCI specializes in serving clients representing a diverse array of industries, including: consumer technology, B2B, healthcare, the environment, consumer products, hospitality and nonprofits. It is one of the last remaining independent communications agencies in San Francisco. Over the past 31 years, Mr. Landis has worked with notable LCI clients, including: [Match.com](#), [Old Navy](#), [Whole Foods Market](#), [UCSF](#), [Save the Redwoods League](#), [Centre for Neuro Skills](#), [Graton Casino and Resort](#), [Velodyne Lidar](#), [Peninsula Open Space Trust](#), [Project Open Hand](#), [PRC](#), [Global Alzheimer's Platform Foundation](#), [San Francisco Symphony](#), [iTradeNetwork](#) and many more. LCI is the recipient of numerous awards recently and over the decades: America's #1 PR Firm (Ragan's Ace Awards); two national IABC Gold Quill Awards; a national PRSA Sabre Award; PR News Agency 100 Elite; Forbes Top 200 U.S. Agencies; and PRSA SF's Agency of the Year and Campaign of the Year.

Mr. Landis taught public relations in the MBA program at San Francisco's Golden Gate University. A recipient of numerous awards, he is a published writer and has been a featured speaker at numerous industry conferences, as well as a guest lecturer at Stanford University, the University of California-Berkeley, University of San Francisco, and Golden Gate University. David currently writes for Forbes and the San Francisco Business Times, as well as penning a food/restaurant column for the [San Francisco Bay Times](#) called "[The Gay Gourmet.](#)" He is also the Curator of [Amateur Music Network](#), where he interviews stars of opera, symphony, jazz and Broadway.

Prior to launching LCI, Mr. Landis served as Public and Community Relations Director for [KPIX TV](#), the San Francisco CBS affiliate. While there, he helped the station win both a Peabody Award and a National Emmy Award for the groundbreaking AIDS Lifeline nationally-televised AIDS education series. Before his work in television, Mr. Landis was PR Director of the San Francisco Symphony, where he helped open San Francisco's Davies Symphony Hall. Mr. Landis is a Past President of [PRGN](#).

An out gay businessman, he is a lifelong champion for LGBTQ+ causes and is proud that LCI is certified by the National Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Landis currently serves on the boards of San Francisco's [Friends of Alta Plaza Park](#), [ODC](#) (San Francisco's modern dance company and school) and [Project Open Hand](#), which serves meals to vulnerable populations. Mr. Landis is especially proud that the San Francisco Business Times named the agency a [top Bay Area corporate philanthropy donor](#) for the past two years. Landis is a graduate of Northwestern University, where he majored in classical piano.

#### **About Landis Communications, Inc. (LCI)**

LCI's motto is: "We believe in ideas that create change. We craft compelling stories. And, we communicate." Celebrating 31 years in business and based in San Francisco, LCI is an award-winning, full-service public relations, marketing communications, digital and social media agency that offers a unique mix of expertise in corporate, consumer, technology, B2B, B2C, healthcare, environmental and nonprofit public relations. Ragan's ACE Awards named LCI America's #1 Small Agency and America's #1 Healthcare PR Agency. LCI also is the San Francisco/Silicon Valley member agency of the Public Relations Global Network ([www.prgn.com](http://www.prgn.com)), with 50+ agency affiliates worldwide. For further information about LCI, visit [www.landispr.com](http://www.landispr.com).

**MEDIA, PLEASE NOTE:** For more information, photos or to interview David Landis, please contact Brianne Miller at (650) 575-7727 or [brianne@landispr.com](mailto:brianne@landispr.com).

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