

Mike



MIKE KERSHNER

**ENABLER
SINCE 2018**

Mike grew up near Philadelphia, USA, before moving to Los Angeles for college then spending nearly 15 years working in the film industry. He met his wife, Heather, in Los Angeles and together they moved to Singapore in 2015. They've lived in Singapore ever since, travelling extensively throughout APAC and loving every minute of learning about all the different cultures, histories, and meeting so many wonderful people in the region. Mike is currently a Talent Manager at Oliver Wyman.

If you had to write a book, what will the title be? Why?

"Funny, I Don't Feel Old." I believe two keys to happiness are trying to stay young at heart and having an insatiable appetite to continue to learn new things. Though age eventually catches up to all of us (I'm completely out of ideas about what to do about my belly), these two qualities help me counterbalance the sometimes-unpleasant physical ageing part ;).



How did you get to know PS and how did you become involved?

A mutual friend introduced me to Victoria and Olli in January 2018, only a few months after they got PeopleStories off the ground. They put me to work right away and, after visiting the community in Cambodia in April 2018 for School For Life, I was hooked!

Why PeopleStories?

I was initially looking to volunteer in Southeast Asia because of a growing sense to payback the warm and welcoming communities in Singapore and other countries we've experienced while living here and during our travels throughout the region. When I met Victoria in Singapore and she explained with such passion what she wanted PeopleStories to do and be about, I realized immediately that it was the perfect chance for me to be able to give back a little.

If you could say something to your 10-year-old self, what would it be?

If there is something you are passionate about, try it. Some of the worst mistakes in my life came from not trying something because I was too nervous or unsure of myself. Maybe it's cliché, but I do believe that it's far better to try something and struggle or fail at it than to not try at all.

If you are granted 3 wishes to make the world a better place, what would those wishes be?

- 1) Understanding. We're not all the same, and that's good and what makes life interesting. What's important is to try to understand another person's perspective and how they arrived at it.
- 2) Opportunity. I wish everyone the opportunity to pursue their dreams.
- 3) Love. Life is more fulfilling when you have someone to share it with ;).



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