



Conrad Prebys

Born in South Bend, Indiana, Conrad Prebys was raised in a blue collar, ethnic, working class neighborhood where the mindset was to complete high school and then work in the local factories of Studebaker or Bendix. When he was 8 years old, he developed a heart condition where the doctor informed him that he would lead a sedentary life and could never do manual labor. It was decided that he would learn the piano as a way to make a living when he was an adult.

The turning point in his life was an inspirational high school drama teacher. This teacher exposed him to culture and the arts. The teacher was also influential in encouraging Conrad to further his education. Conrad was the first of five brothers to attend and graduate from Indiana University. He was also the first one in his entire neighborhood to go beyond high school. To this day, Conrad attributes his appreciation for the theater, music and his success in business to this inspirational teacher.

Conrad went from delivering newspapers at the tender age of 8 to achieve success with Progress Construction Company and various real estate enterprises in California and Texas. Conrad is inspired to share his good fortune with the San Diego community. His generosity has included capital and operating gifts to the Boys and Girls Clubs of East County, the San Diego Zoo, the San Diego Opera, the Old Globe Theatre, UCSD Music Centre, the La Jolla Music Society, Scripps Mercy Hospital, Sanford/Burnham Medical Research Institute in San Diego and Orlando Florida, the Salk Institute and San Diego Hospice.

Conrad's interests include classical music, travel and football.