

BRIAN BURKHART believes in ‘*Making Waves*’. Of course, living in Phoenix, AZ means those waves aren’t of the aquatic variety. He operates multiple businesses as either a founder, CEO, or partner, and takes an active role in building those brands. One of those companies – SquarePlanet – was recently named an Inc. 5000 company.



A sought after consultant and keynote speaker, Brian works with some of the world’s leading brands, including Google, Red Bull, Amazon, Northern Trust, McDonald’s, Discover, Jim Beam, Zico Coconut Water, Stryker, United Airlines and Citibank. He’s prepped ten firms that have appeared on TV’s *Shark Tank* and worked with dozens of TED presenters, CEOs, authors, renowned personalities and entrepreneurs around the globe.

In addition to his extensive experience, Brian enjoyed six years as an adjunct lecturer at Northwestern University’s prestigious Farley Center for Entrepreneurship. Today, Brian collaborates with Arizona State University, directly through the office of the President, and also sits on the Board of Advisors at the Colangelo School of Business at Grand Canyon University.

Brian’s first book, *Stand for Something: The Power of Building A Brand People Authentically Love*, is an Amazon #1 bestseller and you can regularly catch him as the host of the SquareStories podcast, a bi-monthly expose of the most fascinating people in business today.

A former Disney cast member as well as the host of The Hot Hamburger, a corporate game show produced by McDonald’s famous training entity ‘Hamburger University,’ Brian has traveled to 51 countries and counting, studied the human condition and believes deeply in the power of love over hate.

Brian and his wife Shawna are struggling ceramic artists who can often be found covered in clay at their studio in downtown Phoenix or hiking one of the many local trails. A die-hard fan of the beloved Chicago Bears, Brian is a collector of classic Japanese woodblock prints and a self-described obnoxious foodie.