

ABOUT BRUCE ARBIT

Bruce Arbit, founder and president of Melarbit Partners, has more than 20 years of professional fundraising, marketing and organizational/business development experience in the not-for-profit and private sectors including Beth Israel Medical Center/Continuum Health Partners; Leukemia & Lymphoma Society; Lighthouse International; Jacob Riis Neighborhood Settlement House; Contact Fund; Housing And Neighborhood Development Services (HANDS); Patriot Bank; Hon Bets Companies; among others. In 2006, he established Melarbit Partners. Given his 'blended' background, and deep commitment to economic and social mobility, Bruce has developed a distinct approach to fundraising and resource development that goes beyond traditional practice, to maximize revenue generation and long-term enterprise viability and impact.

Bruce has been a strong proponent of working across sectors and taking an entrepreneurial approach to social sector engagement, long before there were terms such as social entrepreneurship and impact investing. He has a special interest in new forms of social enterprises/businesses; testing new approaches to philanthropic/social sector engagement; and local community investing.

Bruce is a graduate of New York University where he holds a masters degree in Public Administration from the Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service. He also has completed the Institute for Not-for-Profit Management at the Graduate School of Business, Columbia University. Earlier, he obtained a bachelor of science in Business and Marketing from the University of Maryland, College Park.

For the past eight years he has served as an Expert Advisor in Strategic Philanthropy with NYU's Catherine B. Reynolds Foundation Program in Social Entrepreneurship. More recently he has served as a founding member of the Board of Advisors for Fairleigh Dickinson University's Center for Excellence in Leadership, Governance and Philanthropy. He teaches classes in building/creating an organizational culture of fundraising and philanthropy and social entrepreneurship.

Additionally, Bruce speaks and writes on a variety of topics related to opening new possibilities in fundraising, philanthropy and challenging established norms. [Click here](#) to see archived versions or to sign-up for his monthly blog, *More than Money*.

Bruce is a resident of Asbury Park where he is actively involved the city's revitalization efforts.

The name Melarbit comes from a 'blend' of **Melamed** and **Arbit**. Steve Melamed was Bruce's step-father, business coach and friend for close to thirty years until he passed away in December, 2010. Steve, along with Bruce's mother, Betsy, are extremely independent, self-made, enterprising people who launched a number of successful ventures, including Bayside Betsy's a Provincetown (Cape Cod) institution. Much of the work of Melarbit Partners has been inspired by this relationship.

Bruce is passionate about cooking, local travel, the beach and eating good food.