

**Candidate for Member-at-Large**  
**(1 July 2024 – 30 June 2028)**



**Ben Fried**  
Venture Partner  
Rally Ventures  
U.S.A.

**BIOGRAPHY**

Since 2022, Ben Fried has been a venture partner at Rally Ventures, an early-stage venture capital firm that primarily invests in enterprise technology startups. From 2008 to 2022, he worked at Google, where he was Chief Information Officer, leader of its New York offices, and general manager of its domain businesses. From 1994 to 2008 he worked in the Technology department at Morgan Stanley, an investment bank, where he led the firm's internet technologies efforts and its software development infrastructure teams.

As Google CIO, Fried led a multi-disciplinary organization of software engineers, product managers, user experience designers and researchers, site reliability engineers, systems integrators, and many other subfields as the organization grew from hundreds of employees to thousands, and opened development centers in Europe, Asia, and multiple U.S. locations.

Fried has been an active volunteer for the ACM for nearly 20 years, serving on the editorial board of *Queue* magazine since 2004, as a founding member of the Practitioner Board, on the audit committee, the nominating committee, the 2018 CEO search committee, and the Software System Award committee.

In addition, Fried co-chairs Columbia University's President's Council on Data and Society (the external board of Columbia's Data Science Institute), serves on Columbia Engineering's Board of Visitors and Columbia Entrepreneurship. Fried is also a director of Symphony Space, a New York City arts organization.

Fried received a B.A. in Computer Science from Columbia University in 1988.

## STATEMENT

I first connected with the ACM as a freshman in college, when I stumbled upon its publications in the university computer center library. I loved programming, and I couldn't wait for new installments of Jon Bentley's *Programming Pearls* column.

I've been a practitioner my entire career, often pushing the state of the art to solve hard enterprise problems, first as a software and systems engineer and then as a builder and leader of diverse international technical teams. In everything I did, that early exposure to an interconnected world of research and advanced practice formed my approach and professional worldview.

Like me, half or more of the ACM's members are also practitioners, and my most meaningful volunteer contributions have been supporting this community, hoping to replicate for others the impact the ACM has had on me. On *Queue*'s editorial board, I've planned and authored content; as a founding member of the Practitioner Board, I proposed the case studies program; while on the software system award committee, I prioritized recognizing practical impact.

Now, I seek election so I can be a voice for this vital part of the ACM membership. Computing continues to evolve ever faster, and so do the needs of its practitioners. I hope to be a member-at-large to help guide ACM toward better connecting practitioners to research and education, and to advocate for how the organization with its global scale can foster the diversity and inclusivity that is essential to advancing research, education, and practice.