



## Vanessa Z Chan

Vanessa Chan is an Entrepreneur, Angel Investor, Speaker and Educator. Her focus throughout her career has been at the interface of innovation, technology and business where she is adept at translating technology/product assets to meet unmet needs. This has helped her to drive innovation-based growth across B2B, B2C and DTC organizations.

Vanessa was a partner at McKinsey & Company for 13 years where she co-led their innovation practice, helping Fortune 100 companies with deep R&D portfolio commercialize their technologies. After McKinsey & Company she went on to found re.design, a company that redesigns consumer products to solve consumer gripes and launched her first product, Loopit, tangle-free stylish headphones. Loopit's reception has been phenomenal starting with a successful Kickstarter campaign (doubling their goal), reaching the finals on the Today Show's Next Big Thing and receiving a nomination for Rad Girls Product of the Year Award. Loopit is currently sold on QVC (where Vanessa has appeared), Touch of Modern, Grommet and her on-line store, [www.redesign.studio](http://www.redesign.studio). She also is a full Professor of Practice at Penn's School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, where her focus is on innovation and entrepreneurship.

Vanessa continues to write and speak on 1) the journey from corporate executive to entrepreneur, where she inspires others to take a more entrepreneurial approach to their endeavors and 2) work-life integration, where she shares how to be a hands-on parent in a dual-income family where both partners have intense careers. Vanessa's journey has been covered in various news outlets including the WSJ, The Washington Post, a best selling book (I Know How She Does It), CBS News, and various podcasts including "Women Killing It!".

When she's not inventing new things, you can find Vanessa helping others succeed as the co-President of the Philadelphia Chapter of Ellevest Network and supporting new startups both as an active partner Robin Hood Ventures (an angel investing group) and as the chair of the BRIC (Business Resource Innovation Center) for the Free Library of Philadelphia. She also is on the Innovation Business Development Advisory Council for United Technology Corporation (a \$55B industrial conglomerate) and the Advisory Board for Charge-it-Spot. Vanessa is also passionate about K-12 education and is an active Trustee for Springside Chestnut Hill (SCH) Academy and a founding member of SCH's Venture Incubator Advisory Board, where she has helped K-12 students bring their ideas to life, including her daughter's own invention.

Vanessa earned a Ph.D. from MIT and a B.S.E from the University of Pennsylvania, both in Materials Science and Engineering and holds three patents. Vanessa is married to Mark van der Helm and lives in Chestnut Hill, PA with their two children Karina and Ariana. She is an avid mountain biker, skier and world traveler.