

Elise S. Mitchell

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Founder, [Mitchell Communications Group](#)

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Elise is an executive coach and leadership consultant working with founders and their executive teams to navigate the complexities of growth.

She is a three-time founder – most notably the founder of Mitchell Communications Group, which was a top 10 fastest-growing public relations firms globally, and a two-time *Inc.* 500/5000 fastest growing company. Under her leadership, her agency grew more than 500% in five years working with many well-known consumer brands including Walmart, P&G, Hilton and Tyson Foods.

In 2013, Elise sold her firm to Tokyo-based Dentsu, Inc., taking on a global role to lead M&A for the company's public relations investments. She left in 2019 to found her own consultancy, Velocity Collective.

Recognition of her business accomplishments includes: Entrepreneur of the Year (NAFE), Agency Professional of the Year (*PRWeek*), a Top 50 Power Player in Public Relations (*PRWeek*), a Top Speaker to See (*Huff Post*), and a 2019 inductee into the ICCO Hall of Fame. Her firm was twice named national Agency of the Year (*PROvoke* and *PRWeek*).

Elise is a passionate advocate for entrepreneurs. She serves as an advisor and investment partner with [New Road Capital Partners](#) and [Valor Ventures](#). She serves on the board of advisors for biomass industry innovator [Sweetwater Energy](#). She also serves as the founding board chair for [Endeavor Northwest Arkansas](#), which provides financial, intellectual and cultural capital to help accelerate fast-growing entrepreneurial companies.

Elise is the author of a best-selling [book](#) on leadership and her writings have appeared in *Entrepreneur*, *Huff Post* and *Mashable*. She has spoken across the U.S. and in 12 countries and is represented by [Big Speak](#) speakers bureau. Most recently she served as global president of the International Communications Consultancy Organization, based in London, which represents more than 3,500 public relations agencies in 66 countries.

Elise is a graduate of executive education from Harvard Business School, the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth College and The Aspen Institute. She received a master's degree from the University of Memphis and a bachelor's degree from Abilene Christian University, where she also serves as a member of the board of trustees. She is an adjunct professor for Syracuse University's Newhouse School. Elise is certified by the International Coaching Federation and the [NeuroLeadership Institute](#), accredited by the Public Relations Society of America and a member of the society's College of Fellows.

Elise and her husband, Raye, live in Nashville. They are proud parents of two adult children, Mackenzie and Jackson. When she's not working with clients, you can find Elise motorcycling with her husband, running the trails near their home or planning their next trip off the beaten path.