

Derek J Gable, West Coast Innovations

Derek Gable is an internationally renowned inventor, product developer for over 40 years with dozens of his creations making it to the market place. Gable has approximately 60 patents in categories as diverse as toys, infomercials, entertainment machines, games, medical devices and systems for showing real estate. Gable is also a successful entrepreneur, teacher and inspirational speaker.

Born in England he worked in many interesting jobs in the inventing and creative fields, including jet engines, projectors of all kinds, robots for the auto industry, machines for making chocolate for Cadbury (a real life Willy Wonka). Gable was brought to the USA by Mattel in 1968 where he ran a large part of the think tank for about 16 years. He was responsible for creating and/or managing many big hits including Masters of the Universe and items for Barbie, Hot Wheels, large promotional dolls, games, preschool etc.

Gable invented the recording Lock Box system for showing Real Estate in 1979 and along with a partner formed a company to produce and market the system. The company was successful for 15 years, produced over 1.5 million units, controlled 80% of the business worldwide and employed over 200 people.

Gable is very interested in sharing his experiences and has been an active teacher and mentor for many years. Gable runs a class called “I have this great idea but don’t know what to do with it” where he steps budding inventors and innovators through the process of inventing, protecting, developing, marketing and licensing their concepts.

Gable still invents and is an inspirational speaker on all kinds of creative, business and life improvement areas in venues from business to clubs to cruise ships.

For the past 10 years Gable has been a guest speaker in all the local Junior High and High schools presenting to many thousands of students from 11 years and up. His favorite topic is a guide to Success and Happiness.

For the past 10 years Gable has run a 4 month program for young entrepreneurs in conjunction with the local Chamber of Commerce. This Adventure has taken about 30 students, annually, ages 12 to 20 from creating a business through all the steps to putting their concept in front of potential judges and investors.

Gable focused on improving confidence, how to lead and inspire, how to communicate and make Powerful Presentations. Two of the participants in this local program made it into the National finals and achieved 4th and 3rd places in the country in two consecutive years. In 2022, Gable was honored with the Palos Verdes Citizen of the Year award for his work teaching at the Young Entrepreneurs Academy and his many volunteer hours in the schools and local clubs. Gable has also helped small businesses with their growth, new products and problem solving.