

DENVER. THE BEST RETURN ON LIFE.

Matthew Joblon
CEO and Founding Partner, BMC



Matt Joblon is a Founding Partner and Chief Executive Officer of BMC, a Denver-based real estate investment firm. He is also an ambassador and founding board member of the *Denver. The Best Return on Life* campaign.

As CEO, Matt is responsible for BMC's strategic vision, capital formation, and risk oversight, with deep experience in governance, capital markets, and long-term stakeholder value creation. Since founding BMC in 2010, Matt has led more than \$4 billion in transactions, including acquisitions, recapitalizations, and developments. Under his leadership, BMC has grown to manage \$3 billion in assets under management and recently closed its inaugural \$150 million investment vehicle.

Beyond his roles at BMC and with the *Denver. The Best Return on Life* campaign, Matt remains an active philanthropist with a strong commitment to strengthening the Denver community, serving on the boards of National Jewish Health, Colorado Concern, and the Cherry Creek North Business Improvement District. He received a B.B.A. in Entrepreneurship and Real Estate Finance from Babson College, where he also competed as a four-year NCAA Division III lacrosse player.

Walter Isenberg
Co-founder and Executive Chairman, Sage Hospitality Group



Walter Isenberg is an award-winning hotelier, restaurateur, and placemaker who has a deep understanding of how to create places people go to, not through.

Walter launched Sage Hospitality Group in 1984 with Zack Neumeyer and today serves as the company's Executive Chairman of the Board. In that role, he remains actively engaged in shaping Sage's long-term strategy, culture, and growth, building on a legacy that includes not only a long history of successfully operating hotels across the country but also dozens of major adaptive reuse projects that have transformed neighborhoods, like the complete renovation of Denver's historic Union Station.

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As an ambassador and founding board member of the *Denver. The Best Return on Life* campaign and on other fronts, Walter remains active within the Denver community, mentoring the next generation of leaders while volunteering in various capacities. Long-time Denver residents, he and his wife Christie share a passion for giving back to the community, having earned numerous honors for their community contributions along the way. They enjoy traveling the world and spending time with their adult daughters Nicole and Tirunesh.

Kent Thiry

Entrepreneur, Philanthropist, Co-founder of the Thiry-O'Leary Foundation



Kent Thiry is a philanthropist, business advisor, civic leader and former executive chairman of the board of directors at DaVita, where he served as chairman and CEO from 1999 until 2019.

Widely recognized during his time at DaVita for an inventive approach to leadership and organizational culture, Kent currently serves as an ambassador and founding board member of the *Denver. The Best Return on Life* campaign, while holding seats on the Harvard Business School advisory board and on the global board of The Nature Conservancy.

Kent also serves as co-chair of Unite America, a philanthropic venture fund that invests in nonpartisan election reform, and is founder and chair of the CEO group Colorado Thrives, which works to advance economic mobility for all Coloradans through inclusive growth and innovation. In 2020, Kent and his wife, Denise O'Leary, founded AdvanceEDU, a school designed for young adults who need to work while they pursue a job-oriented college degree. The two are also founders of the Thiry-O'Leary Foundation, an organization that supports various education, environment, and civic causes.

Kent earned his B.A. in political science, with distinction, from Stanford University in 1978 and his M.B.A., with honors, from Harvard Business School in 1983.

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Willy Walker

Chairman and CEO, Walker & Dunlop CEO



Willy Walker is chairman and chief executive officer of Walker & Dunlop. Under Willy, the company has grown from a small, family-owned business to one of the largest commercial real estate finance companies in the U.S., while also earning a spot on *Fortune's* 100 Best Companies to Work for 2026 list. Willy received the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year award in 2011 and was named Financier of the Year in 2017 and 2020 by *Commercial Property Executive*.

An ambassador and founding board member of the *Denver. The Best Return on Life* campaign, Willy serves on the board of the U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Foundation and the Harvard Business School Board of Deans Advisors. He previously served on the boards of St. Albans School, the Mortgage Bankers

Association, and Children's National Medical Center.

Willy earned his Master's Degree in Business Administration from Harvard University and a Bachelor's Degree from St. Lawrence University. He's an avid runner, skier, and cyclist, and has run the Boston Marathon in 2:36.

Evan Zucker

CEO, Academy Partners Group



Evan Zucker is CEO and co-founder of Academy Partners Group, a private investment firm based in Denver with a variety of real estate and property technology related business interests in the U.S. and Mexico.

A current member of the National Jewish Health Board of Directors, a role he has held since 1993, Evan is also an ambassador and founding board member of the *Denver. The Best Return on Life* campaign. He has been involved with a variety of philanthropic and charitable causes over the years, serving on the boards of several nonprofit organizations, including on the Board of the Denver Zoo and also as a member of Colorado Concern.

Prior to co-founding Academy Partners Group, Evan was Partner at Ares Management Corp. and Chair of the Ares Industrial Real Estate Group. He also served as Principal at Black Creek Group, a real estate private equity and investment management firm that he co-founded in 1993. Ares Management Corp acquired Black Creek Group's U.S. real estate business in July 2021. He holds a B.A. in Economics from Stanford University.

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Kourtny Garrett

President and CEO, Denver Downtown Partnership



Kourtny Garrett is President and CEO of the Downtown Denver Partnership, a role she has held since 2022. She is also an ambassador and founding board member of the *Denver. The Best Return on Life* campaign.

With 25 years of experience in developing livable communities, Kourtny is fueled by a passion for cities. Her expertise is rooted in building social, cultural and economic vibrancy, creating places for people that provide access and opportunity for all. Garrett has expanded her work nationally and globally through research and participation in the International Downtown Association, German Marshall Foundation, Brookings Institute and the International Business of Cities.

Kourtny sits on the Board of Directors of VISIT DENVER and the CAP Advisory Board of the CU Denver College of Architecture and Planning. Before joining the DDC in 2022, she served for six years as CEO of Downtown Dallas, Inc., an organization she joined in 2002. In her two decades there, the organization brought in more than \$11 billion of investment, established public-private partnerships that brought more than 40 vacant buildings back to life, and helped engineer a steady rise in downtown residents from a few hundred to more than 13,000. She was named to the Dallas 500 Most Powerful Business Leaders list from 2016 to 2021 and to the Dallas 40 Under 40 list by the *Dallas Business Journal*.