

▶ TOP 50 FAMILY-OWNED COMPANIES

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2018 TOP 25 YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

ACHIEVERS DRIVEN BY AMBITION, COMPASSION

BY LISA RYCKMAN

Yes,

they're young — and smart, driven and successful. Chosen from hundreds of nominations by a judging panel of editors, business leaders and former winners, *ColoradoBiz's* 2018 Top 25 Young Professionals are standouts not only in their companies, but in their communities as well. They include Alisha Brown, who has dedicated her career to the health and well-being of the residents in low-income neighborhoods in northeast Denver. And math teacher Phillip Hutcherson, owner of Colorado Springs-based SAGE Affordable Tutoring, who understands the struggles of low-income students firsthand and seeks them out to offer free services. And there's something more:

Many have worked to make their companies more diverse and inclusive from the inside out. Alexandra Metzl, a shareholder at Denver law firm Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, created a task force at the firm to identify ways to enhance gender diversity at all levels and firm offices. At Rubin Brown, Strategic Client Development Manager Molly Osadjan-Rudolf has helped expand diversity through the Women's Inclusion Steering Council and her office's vision committee.

Read on to find out more about this select group of up-and-coming young professionals and their limitless potential.

ALEXANDRA METZL, 34

Shareholder, Brownstein Hyatt
Farber Schreck,
Denver
BHFS.com

In five years at Brownstein, Metzl has worked to change the face of the law firm. In 2014, Metzl conceived and co-founded the firm's Women's Leadership Initiative (WLI) to develop the firm's female attorneys and policy professionals into leaders in their respective practice groups, the firm, the communities where they live and the larger legal and lobbying professions. Last year,

she launched the Gender Diversity Task Force, a small working group of senior attorneys and firm management to identify ways to enhance gender diversity at all levels and firm offices. The result was a commitment to achieve Mansfield Rule Certification by June 2018, requiring the firm to affirmatively consider women and attorneys of color — at least 30 percent of the candidate pool — for leadership and governance roles, equity partner promotions and lateral positions.

A specialist in middle market M&A and private equity transactions, with a current emphasis on the consumer products industry, Metzl became a firm shareholder in January 2016. In 2016, she was named co-chair of the firm's Summer Associate Committee as a result of her ongoing commitment to mentoring law students and junior associates. Since 2006, Metzl has served as a board member of the International Breast Milk Project, which provides donor breast milk to infant HIV/AIDS orphans in South Africa and other disaster-stricken countries around the world.

SARAH HUMBARGAR, 27

Vice President of Development Services,
Downtown Partnership of Colorado Springs
DowntownCS.com

In her four years at Downtown Partnership, Humbargar has created and honed numerous new policies and processes that have resulted in demonstrable economic growth for downtown Colorado Springs. She launched a successful Holiday Pop Up Shop program, implemented the first State of Downtown Report and was project lead on a massive update to downtown's land-use master plan and plan of development. During her tenure, downtown has reached a street-level vacancy rate of less than 2 percent, due in part to her efforts. Humbargar's Experience Downtown Master Plan and Plan of Development engaged thousands of stakeholders and resulted in a highly praised plan approved by the Colorado Springs City Council in November 2016. Humbargar is involved in professional associations locally and statewide, including the Urban Land Institute, Downtown Colorado Inc. and the International Downtown Association. She will be serving as board chair in 2018 of Peak Startup, the lead nonprofit supporting entrepreneurial and economic growth in the Pikes Peak region.

SEAN MALEY, 35

Partner, CRL Associates,
Denver
CRLAssociates.com

Maley is the youngest-ever partner at CRL Associates, the public affairs firm headed for most of its 30 years by Maria Garcia Berry. Maley's knowledge of the intricacies of Denver's planning and zoning codes made him a participant in creating the city's first-ever form-based zoning code and multiple other area plans completed in the last decade. His leadership has led to the approval of more than 30 land-use negotiations that added new and improved amenities across the region, including multiple redevelopment efforts in Cherry Creek and view plane protections at Coors Field. The father of three boys under 7, Maley still finds time to volunteer at the Colorado Neurological Institute, the Jefferson County Economic Development Corp. and First Tee of Denver, an organization that teaches golf to youth as well as life lessons and values.