

# Featured Alumni - Andy Klein (PLC '92)

## September 2017



Principal  
Westside Investment Partners

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PLC alumnus, Andy Klein (PLC '92), truly knows the value of community. Andy started Westside Investment Partners at the age of twenty-four – allowing him to build communities in Colorado as a real-estate investor and developer. To this day, his company has acquired and sold over \$750 million in assets. In a typical day, Mr. Klein orchestrates all his company's activities. His company works with office space, retail, apartments, industrial, mobile home parks, raw land, and notes secured by real estate. Westside Investment Partners specializes in rejuvenating degraded and undermanaged properties. This

includes researching potential new development sites, making bids on properties, and overseeing the design process of his new communities. He enjoys his work particularly because he gets to see the tangible impact he has on peoples' lives. When asked what inspires him, he responded that his work is his passion. He gets to wake up in the best city and country, work with his best friends, and create a community from the ground up. He stated that he loves the impact a new community can have on a family, even years later after its construction.

Andy Klein seemed to always be destined for the real-estate industry. From when he started his education at CU Boulder, he knew his future would be related to finances and real-estate. He said his brain was wired for math, and that real-estate provided a tangible way to impact the world. He graduated in three years, taking large course loads to accomplish this feat. He said at the time he wanted to graduate without debt and start his career. After graduation, he became an investment banker on Wall Street. While there, his firm had an opening in Los Angeles where he worked in real-estate acquisition and management. Eventually, Andy returned to Colorado to start his own business. Having rushed through college, Andy was always in a hurry to do everything. He regrets this now, and wishes he could have taken his time and enjoyed more instead of rushing into the real world. To current freshman, he suggests keeping an open mind and an open heart. *"Take as much in, learn as much as you can, and say 'Yes' as much as you can. If someone is going to do something, go with them. If someone wants to take you somewhere, try it. Try every new type of food, experience, volunteer, or whatever it is that you can afford."*

Today, Andy lives in Cherry Hills and is a father of three. He loves Colorado, especially the weather, all the people, and the opportunities for recreation. He considers Colorado home and is very grateful he gets to live and work here. In his free time, he is an accomplished boxer. While in the boardroom he may be known as Mr. Klein, in the ring, he goes by "The Hebrew Hammer."

When asked to reflect on how PLC influenced his education at CU Boulder, Andy was truly grateful for everything PLC had done for him. One of his mentors during his education was the Director of PLC at the time, Adam Goodman. Still good friends, Mr. Goodman provided Andy with guidance he had never been exposed to throughout the rest of his life. Furthermore, he spoke highly of the PLC community and family he encountered at CU Boulder. He had great respect for all the other PLCers in his cohort and considered them a "second family." Even today, he regularly runs into PLC alumni at dinner and during his business meetings. He described PLC as being everywhere in his life, and that is the beauty of PLC.

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