

"Stories in Medicine" Panelists



Andrea Dean, 2015 Scholar
Registered Nurse at UC Health

Andrea is a Registered Nurse in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at Poudre Valley Hospital in Fort Collins, Colorado. She graduated from the University of Colorado Colorado Springs with her B.S. in Biomedical Sciences in 2019 and then went to CU Anschutz and obtained her accelerated B.S. in Nursing in 2020. Prior to working in the NICU, she worked in inpatient adult oncology at University of Colorado Hospital for two years. She is passionate about the important role that nurses play in healthcare – providing compassionate care to patients and families, improving quality and safety, and connecting the many moving parts of the healthcare system.



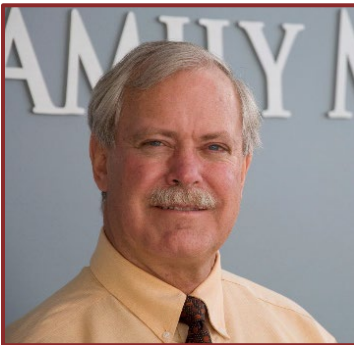
Andrew Astin DO, 2009 Scholar
Primary Care Pediatrician in Rural Western Colorado

Andrew grew up on the Western Slope in Delta, CO and currently works in his hometown as a general pediatrician. He has a particular interest in preventing and treating pediatric obesity with fitness and nutrition. Andrew attended CU Boulder from 2009 to 2014, during which time he took 2 years off to serve a mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in the western side of El Salvador. He then attended the Campbell University School of Osteopathic Medicine in North Carolina and completed his residency in pediatrics at the University of Tennessee Health Sciences Center in Memphis.



Aparna Kailasam MD, 2009 Scholar
Gynecologic Oncology Fellow at the Mayo Clinic

From Colorado Springs, Aparna attended DU for a dual undergraduate/MBA program. She then went to medical school at Creighton University School of Medicine. She completed her OBGYN Residency in Hartford, CT, at St. Francis Hospital Trinity Health. She is currently completing her GYN Oncology fellowship training at Mayo Clinic. She is looking forward to joining a gynecologic oncology practice with a busy surgical load, opportunities for teaching, and the chance to continue to be engaged in advocacy efforts for gynecologic cancer care. In her free time she enjoys traveling, exploring new cities, and playing with her two-year-old Australian Shepherd, Theo.



Calvin Wilson PhD, 1966 Scholar
Retired Clinical Professor, CU Anschutz

Dr. Wilson has been involved in the development of Family Medicine education around the world. His activities have included development of the first Family Medicine program in Ecuador, development of the Family Medicine program at the University of Colorado Hospital, implementation of a Primary Health Care continuing education program for the Ministry of Health of Jordan, and assisting the University of Rwanda in the development of various specialty residency programs.

"Stories in Engineering & Applied Science" Panelists



Chip Bollendonk, 2012 Scholar

Mechanical Engineer Laboratory for Atmospheric and Space Physics

Chip graduated from CU Boulder in 2017 with his B.S. and M.S. degrees in Mechanical Engineering and a Minor in Leadership. He works at the Laboratory for Atmospheric and Space Physics at CU Boulder, where he designs and builds spaceflight instruments to enable cutting edge space, earth, and climate science. Prior to his time at LASP, Chip worked in consulting and contributed towards various missions including ULA's Vulcan, Blue Origin's New Glenn, and Sierra Space's Dream Chaser. He is a passionate University of Colorado alum and previously served on the CU Alumni Association Board of Advisors, in addition to mentoring senior design teams each year.



Jake Vendl, 2015 Scholar

Space Operations Engineer at SpaceX

Jake earned a master's degree in aerospace engineering from the University of Colorado Boulder and took a job right out of college with Ball Aerospace in Boulder. However, he found himself discontent within a few months. In February 2021, he landed at SpaceX on the Space Operations team, where he found more opportunities to effect change than he could have ever imagined. One of his roles is as a voice communicator between mission control and spacecraft during manned spaceflight missions. Another hat he wears is as 'operation developer' to help chip away at the question: how, *exactly*, can we land humans on the Moon in coming years?



Michaela "Micky" Masciarelli, 1984 Scholar

Systems Engineer at Ball Aerospace

Micky Masciarelli is an aerospace engineer with a bachelor's degree from the University of Colorado and a master's degree in industrial engineering from the University of Houston. She worked for many years at Johnson Space Center as a crew trainer, working with the astronauts in the simulators. Micky trained them on the control and propulsion systems of the shuttle, preparing them for their flights. Then she worked as a consultant, volunteer, and mom. Currently Micky works as a Systems Engineer at Ball Aerospace (now BAE) where she supports the design and operations of space vehicles, including working on the James Webb Space Telescope.

"Stories in Engineering & Applied Science" Panelists



Noelle Cochran P.E., 1982 Scholar

Risk Manager, Vice President at AECOM

Noelle received her B.S. in civil engineering from the Colorado School of Mines. She specialized in environmental site remediation for most of her career and managed projects for numerous private and governmental clients. As a Regional Risk Manager, she provides risk management guidance and support to business units with approximately \$1 billion in annual revenue. Noelle supports architecture, construction management, water/wastewater, and environmental projects. She also develops and provides training on business and project risks. Noelle is active in several professional organizations and has served on committees and held various officer positions.



Soeren Walls, 2013 Scholar

Senior Software Engineer at Google

Soeren has been working as a software engineer at Google for just over 6 years. From singing with Google's acapella group *Alphabeat* for an audience of hundreds at the Fox Theatre in Redwood City (later released on Spotify) to presenting tech talks on microservice architecture to thousands at Cloud Next 2019 in SF and London, he has tried to make the most of his first and only full-time job since graduating from Colorado College with a B.A. in computer science and theatre. He's currently a tech lead in Cloud EngProd working to reduce toil across 90% of GCP's revenue streams. Keeping up with the latest AI trends and pickleball are his go-to hobbies these days.

"Stories in Politics & Law" Panelists



Brad Hattenbach JD, 1987 Scholar
IP Counsel at REP Fitness

Brad is a two-time University of Colorado Boulder Alum, having earned his B.A. in communication with an emphasis in physics before returning to the university for his JD. For the past 25 years as an IP attorney, Brad has helped companies create value by protecting their intellectual property. Brad has developed and managed patent and trademark registration portfolios, negotiated technology licensing agreements, provided pre-market product design clearance, and analyzed potential acquisition portfolios. He also provides patent expertise and analysis in response to accusations of infringement or in contemplation of enforcement of patent rights through litigation.



JulieMarie Shepherd Macklin PhD, 2004 Scholar
Academic Director of the Presidents Leadership Class at CU Boulder

JulieMarie currently works at CU Boulder as an Associate Teaching Professor and the Academic Director for the Presidents Leadership Class. She attended CU Boulder where she received her undergraduate degree and PhD in Political Science. Her passion for state and local politics has been demonstrated by her experience as a Board of Education Member for Aurora Public Schools, CiviCO Governor's Fellow, and Commissioner for the Colorado Independent Congressional Redistricting Commission. Additionally, JulieMarie has worked at the Spark Policy Institute, the US Government Accountability Office, and the Colorado Department of Education.



Justin Kidd JD, 1998 Scholar
Justice of the Peace at the Marion County Justice Court

From Pueblo, CO, Justin earned his bachelor's at the University of Denver, his master's at Carnegie Mellon University, and his JD at the University of California-Berkeley. Throughout his undergraduate and graduate career, Justin was honored to be selected as a Boettcher Scholar, Truman Scholar, a Point Scholar, and a member of the USA Today All-American Academic First Team. After law school, Justin was selected as an Honors Attorney for the Oregon Department of Justice, where he served as an Assistant Attorney General. In 2021, Governor Kate Brown appointed Justin as the Justice of the Peace for Marion County, Oregon, where he serves today.



Rebecca Love Kourlis JD, Boettcher Trustee
Arbitrator & Mediator at Aegis ADR

Rebecca Love Kourlis, a former Colorado Supreme Court Justice, earned both her B.A. in English and her JD from Stanford. She co-founded the University of Denver Institute for the Advancement of the American Legal System in 2006 before establishing Aegis ADR, focusing on arbitration, mediation, and public policy dispute resolution in 2019. With a diverse legal background spanning natural resources, water, and mineral law, she brings extensive expertise to her work. Honored with prestigious awards including the ABA Justice Center's John Marshall Award, she remains actively engaged in the community and is involved in several nonprofit boards across the state.

“Stories in Entrepreneurship” Panelists



Kalen Acquisto, 2009 Scholar

Director at Denver Angels, Professional Photographer

Kalen is an entrepreneurial community builder and a natural connector with a deep passion for sustainable economic growth in her hometown of Denver. Kalen is the founder and principal photographer of Kalen Jesse Photography Co. and specializes in business and personal branding photography, weddings, lifestyle and events. She is also a Principal and Director at Denver Angels Investing. Kalen has supported entrepreneurs and economic development efforts for over a decade by directing Entrepreneurship at Downtown Denver Partnership, working as a Program Manager at El Pomar Foundation, and running a startup in New Zealand for a few years.



Maithreyi Gopalakrishnan, 2011 Scholar

Founder & CEO of Liquidifi

Maithreyi Gopalakrishnan is the Founder and CEO of two active companies. The first is Liquidifi, a business with a published mobile app and Colorado Registered Investment Advisory Firm designation making the global fixed-income market more accessible to individual investors. The second is PrecisionTerra, a company commercializing research in GPS signal tracking from the University of Colorado Boulder and building a software-defined GPS receiver. Maithreyi holds an M.S. in management science and engineering from Stanford University and an M.S./B.S. in engineering physics from the University of Colorado Boulder.



Nicholas Newby, 2006 Scholar

Co-Founder, Managing Partner at NuView Analytics

Nick is a seasoned entrepreneur and data expert, known for their leadership as Co-Founder and Managing Partner at NuView Analytics since July 2018. With a background spanning from real estate investment to risk modeling, Nicholas has honed skills in SQL, financial modeling, and statistical analysis. Armed with a master's in economics from the University of Colorado Boulder, Nicholas brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to every project, backed by years of experience in diverse sectors including finance, technology, and academia.



Ross Palmer, 2004 Scholar

Founder, Aloa Digital Agency

Ross Palmer attended Colorado College and studied abroad in the Netherlands his junior year. He ended up staying in the Netherlands for 8 years, marrying a Dutch woman and building a career in dance music as a DJ, solopreneur, and working at a record label in Amsterdam. In 2015 he moved to Los Angeles, starting a digital marketing agency that he still runs today, Aloa Agency. His passion is studying alternative career paths, hosting a podcast that has just crossed 200 episodes of entrepreneurs and non-profit leaders who have “taken the road less traveled”.