



Walter Isenberg

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Walter Isenberg is the co-founder of Denver-based Sage Hospitality Group and serves as the company's President and Chief Executive Officer. Sage Hospitality Group and its four business divisions are known throughout the industry as leaders in hotel and restaurant management, development, real estate investment, placemaking and brand building. In his role, Isenberg directs the efforts of all divisions including operations, real estate investment, strategic design and brand development, with an emphasis on community giving and teaching the next generation of great leaders.

Isenberg co-founded Sage Hospitality in 1984 with partner Zack Neumeyer, and the pair have worked diligently together for more than 30 years to grow the company into what we know today. Sage's history in hospitality includes adaptive re-use of historic buildings, including the complete renovation of Denver's historic Union Station. The companies exceptional place-making and brand building skills were brought to life with the development of the full city block mixed use project, Dairy Block. The company has grown through ground-up development, acquisitions and third-party management. Sage is known to have strong relationships with major hotel brands like Marriott, Hilton, Hyatt and IHG. Sage has also developed proprietary hotel and restaurant brands. Today the more than 20% of the company's assets are unique and distinctive independent properties. In 2006, Sage formed the Sage Restaurant Concepts, which creates and operates unique, high-volume restaurants adjacent to its urban hotels, upping the value and profits for Sage's investors.

Sage Hospitality has been consistently recognized for its significant commitment to corporate citizenship. The company was the first recipient of Marriott International's "Spirit to Serve Award,"

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which is given annually to a franchise partner that lives the vision to be an outstanding corporate citizen. Over the years the company has been recognized by customers and brand partners for its' exceptional commitment to customer satisfaction. Sage Hospitality Group has also been an industry leader in implementing green operating practices, committed to developing Gold and Silver LEED certified hotels as well as making it a company-wide mission to make each of its hotels and restaurants as environmentally friendly as possible. Sage's development team has also won numerous awards including ULI Global award of Excellence and has been nationally recognized as a leader in historic preservation.

A graduate of Cornell University's School of Hotel Administration, Isenberg is a member of the American Hotel Lodging Association Board of Directors and has served on the Marriott International Owner Advisory Board. Isenberg was honored as the 2020 Most Admired CEO by the *Denver Business Journal*, and was inducted into *Hospitality Design's* Platinum Circle in 2017. In 2010, Isenberg was inducted into Denver & Colorado's Tourism Hall of Fame, which is the highest award given by Denver's travel industry. Active in the community, he currently serves on the boards of Visit Denver, The Downtown Denver Partnership, Colorado Concern and the Metropolitan State University of Denver Board of Trustees.

Isenberg and his wife Christie have two daughters, Nicole and Tirunesh, residing in Denver.