

A black and white photograph of Tommy Spaulding, a man in a suit and glasses, speaking on a stage. He is gesturing with his hands. In the background, there is a large screen displaying a city skyline. The audience is visible in the foreground, silhouetted against the stage.

“Defining your leadership philosophy is the most important decision you make as a leader”

TOMMY SPAULDING

Tommy's Bio

Tommy Spaulding is the Founder & President of Spaulding Companies, a leadership development, speaking, training, and executive coaching firm based in Denver, Colorado. A world-renowned speaker on leadership, Spaulding has spoken to hundreds of organizations, associations, educational institutions, and corporations around the globe. His first book, *It's Not Just Who You Know: Transform Your Life and Your Organization by Turning Colleagues and Contacts into Lasting, Genuine Relationships*, published by Penguin Random House in 2010, quickly climbed to the top of the *New York Times*, Wall Street Journal and USA Today national bestseller lists. His new book, *The Heart-Led Leader*, published by Penguin Random House in October, 2015 is a *New York Times* and #1 Wall Street Journal national bestseller and was also listed on Inc.com's Top 100 Business Books of 2015.

Spaulding rose to become the youngest President & CEO of the world-renowned leadership organization, Up with People. In 2000, Tommy founded Leader's Challenge, which grew to become the largest high school civic and leadership program in the state of Colorado. He is the Founder & President of the Global Youth Leadership Academy as well as the National Leadership Academy, a leading national non-profit high school leadership development organization.

Previously, Spaulding was the Business Partner Sales Manager at IBM/Lotus Development and a member of the Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) program. He received a BA in Political Science from East Carolina University (1992); an MBA from Bond University in Australia (1998), where he was a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar; and an MA in Non-Profit Management from Regis University (2005).

In 2006, Spaulding was awarded the *Outstanding Alumni Award* by East Carolina University (ECU) and in 2007, Spaulding received an Honorary PhD in Humanities from the Art Institute of Colorado. In September, 2012 Spaulding was named by *Meetings & Conventions Magazine* as one of the 100 MOST FAVORITE SPEAKERS in the nation.

Tommy resides in the Denver metro area with his wife and children.