Colorado's top thinkers of 2012: Business

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Last month, we asked Denver Post readers and staff to help us come with a list of great thinkers in Colorado, folks whose accomplishments or ideas made them stand out as we looked back at the year's events. Post editors narrowed the list of dozens down to these winners. (Have a different opinion? Let us know what you think by leaving a comment below this article.)

Business

WINNER:

John Posthumus is an intellectual property attorney who was key in Denver's successful push to land a regional U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, which is forecast to have a $440 million economic impact on the state in the first five years it's open, according to Heather Draper of the Denver Business Journal. Posthumus put in more than 1,000 pro bono hours on the patent office project, which resulted in the USPTO's July 1 announcement that Denver was picked for a satellite office, along with Dallas and San Jose, Calif., Draper wrote. (bit.ly/VPQjAf)

HONORABLE MENTIONS:

Jim Deters, a big force behind Denver Startup week, which debuted in October 2012, and founder of tech incubator company Galvanize.

Ding-Wen Hsu, co-founder and majority shareholder of Pacific Western Technologies Ltd., one of the fastest growing businesses in the state. She's also a founder of the Colorado Dragon Boat Festival. She was inducted into the Colorado women's Hall of Fame in March 2012.

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