



JAKE JABS CENTER  
FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP

BUSINESS SCHOOL



# THE CLIMB

JAKE JABS BUSINESS PLAN COMPETITION

**SPRING 2026**  
**Sponsorship Opportunities**

# ABOUT THE COMPETITION

THE CLIMB | Jake Jabs Business Plan Competition is an annual pitch competition and workshop event series open to all CU Denver students. Backed by the Jake Jabs Center for Entrepreneurship at the University of Colorado Denver and renowned entrepreneur, Jake Jabs, THE CLIMB helps current students and aspiring founders transform innovative concepts into viable businesses through mentorship, education, financial support, and real-world industry exchanges. With more than 600 mentor hours shared and \$1.2 million awarded to date, the competition continues to grow and shape student experiences, local businesses, and the entrepreneurial community in Colorado and the Rocky Mountain West.

## 2026 CASH AWARDS

**First Place** – Up to \$20,000

**Second Place** – Up to \$10,000

**Mission-Driven Award** – Up to \$5,000





## WHY SPONSOR THE CLIMB?

Sponsoring THE CLIMB puts you and your organization at the forefront of Denver's emerging entrepreneurial talent. This is your chance to give back, inspire the next generation, and be remembered as a supporter who believed in others' dreams when it mattered most. Plus, this competition is a great opportunity to gain recognition and grow awareness for your brand. The relationships formed throughout THE CLIMB extend far beyond the event itself, creating long-term value through mentorship, collaborative projects, and goodwill that elevates you as an invested community partner and champion of entrepreneurial thinking.

## SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

### Platinum - \$15,000

Be at the heart of this annual celebration of innovation! This premiere package is completely customizable and offers total visibility across the event series.

### Gold - \$10,000

Gain significant brand exposure as one of the leading advocates for Denver's brilliant young minds and their groundbreaking ventures.

### Silver - \$7,500

Become a valued partner to receive access to networking, brand recognition, and inclusion in sponsor listings.

### Bronze - \$5,000

Plug your organization into a growing network that supports entrepreneurship education.



# SPONSORSHIP TIERS & BENEFITS

	PLATINUM	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE
Multi-month marketing, PR, and social media promotions recognizing your company as a sponsor pre- and post-Pitch Night	✓	✓	✓	✓
Big brand alliance with the University of Colorado Denver and the legendary entrepreneur, philanthropist, and CEO of American Furniture Warehouse, Mr. Jake Jabs	✓	✓	✓	✓
Company logo published as a sponsor on all marketing and promotional pieces (e.g., TV displays at Pitch Night, event program, competition application and materials, email invitations and reminders, social media posts, event website, workshop promotions, on-campus flyers, etc.)	✓	✓	✓	✓
One (1) company ad in full-color program	<b>Full back cover ad</b>	<b>Full pg.</b>	<b>½ pg.</b>	<b>½ pg.</b>
Reserved and premier seating at Pitch Night	<b>16 guests</b>	<b>16 guests</b>	<b>8 guests</b>	<b>4 guests</b>
Two tickets to this fall's JJCE Scholarship Soiree	✓	✓		
"About Company" description included on all official Pitch Night press releases	✓			





## ABOUT THE JAKE JABS CENTER

The Jake Jabs Center for Entrepreneurship (JJCE) is a multidisciplinary resource center located in the University of Colorado Denver Business School. Emphasizing real-world experience, JJCE is dedicated to educating and empowering undergraduate and graduate students to think and act entrepreneurially. Through its academic programs, student clubs, and events, the Center provides door-opening networking and mentorship opportunities for students of all backgrounds, whether they go on to launch their own startup or join an existing organization. The Jake Jabs Center for Entrepreneurship's current academic offerings include a BSBA major, undergraduate minor, Master's in Entrepreneurship, MBA specialization, and professional non-degree certificates at both the undergraduate and graduate level.

## SPONSORSHIP CONTACT

**Clair Seville**, Associate Director of Operations

**Phone:** 303-315-8500

**Email:** [clair.seville@ucdenver.edu](mailto:clair.seville@ucdenver.edu)

## EVENT DETAILS

All events are free and open to the public.

### THE CLIMB | Pitch Night

**Date:** Thursday, April 23, 5:00 – 8:00 PM

**Location:** Jake Jabs Event Center,  
CU Denver Business School,  
1475 Lawrence St, Denver, CO 80202