



## YLG SPOTLIGHT

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**Why are you a ULI member?** I enjoy the industry diversity of ULI. Everyone has a distinct set of valued priorities and goals when approaching a project. Learning to embrace these different points-of-view has provided invaluable growth in my career.

**What does ULI mean to you?** ULI is a tremendous network of professionals that has endless resources. The Young Leaders Group in particular has introduced me to like-minded young professionals that are growing in their

respective careers and industries and will be the future leaders of our region. I have not only developed a great professional network but also personal friendships from my involvement in ULI.

**What is your current job and what types of projects are you working on now?** I am a Project Architect and currently leading the Century Plaza Hotel and Development in Century City, CA. The renovation of the historic hotel will be upgrading it to a 5-star operator (Fairmont Hotels) with 394 keys and 66 branded residences. It is part of a larger, mixed-use development in collaboration with other design firms Pei Cobb Freed, Rios Clementi Hale and Marmol Radziner. The development will also include two 46-story residential towers, 93,000 square feet of retail, four levels of below grade parking, and several public outdoor garden spaces. The hotel is scheduled to open by Christmas of 2018 with the remainder of the development is expected to be completed by 2020.

**How did you end up in your current job and who or what inspired you to enter the field you're in?** I grew up playing with Legos and building toy models. It was only natural that I transition to doing the same but on a bigger scale!

**What do you think you'd be doing if you weren't working in your current field?** I would be traveling the world seeking adventure and blogging about it!

**What traits do you think define a successful leader?** Honesty and decisiveness. You must be able to trust and follow others in order for others to follow you.

**What do you do in your spare time?** I've been meaning to get to the stack labeled 'spare time' in my to-do pile.

**What has been the most important lesson in your career that you would like to pass along?** Don't burn bridges. The world and our industry is a small place, you never know when you will cross paths with those from your past again.

**Favorite quote?** "Don't limit your challenges, challenge your limits." - Jerry Dunn