

Jeff Knauss – Entrepreneur, AI Strategist & Visionary Leader

Jeff Knauss is a serial entrepreneur, AI strategist, keynote speaker and angel investor with a proven track record of building, scaling, and exiting high-growth businesses.

As CEO & Co-Founder of Arcovo AI, he leads the transformation of how businesses operate by creating AI employees that eliminate manual processes, accelerate growth, and free teams to focus on high-value work.

Previously, Jeff was the CEO & Co-Founder of Digital Hyve, a full-service digital marketing agency that grew into an 8-figure powerhouse, ranking 52nd on the Inc. 5000 list of fastest-growing private companies in the U.S. Under his leadership, Digital Hyve became one of the most successful independent agencies in the country.

In 2021, Jeff orchestrated a highly successful financial exit, selling his 8-figure revenue company to an independent agency and securing a lucrative return after 7 years of scaling the business. Equally important, he structured the deal to ensure all 56 employees became employee-owners in the acquiring company through an ESOP, creating lasting financial benefits for his team.

He has been recognized and featured in *Entrepreneur Magazine*, *Adweek*, *Inc. Magazine*, *Fortune Magazine*, *Facebook Success Stories*, and more.

Beyond his ventures, Jeff is an investor and advisor to multiple companies across AI, fintech, commercial real estate, and hospitality—including ownership of 3 restaurants - XO Taco, Hidden Fish, and Clover's.

He currently serves on the Board of Directors for Community Financial System, Inc. (NYSE: CBU) and the SUNY Oswego Foundation, with past board roles at Byrne Dairy, United Way, Food Bank of CNY, and other major organizations.

Jeff's achievements have earned him widespread recognition. He was awarded an Honorary Doctorate in Humane Letters from SUNY Oswego and was the youngest honoree ever of the prestigious lifetime achievement "Crystal Ball Award", recognizing exceptional business leadership and community impact.

In 2021, Jeff and his wife launched the Knauss Family Foundation, dedicated to breaking cycles of generational poverty through education, children's health, and career development.

A sought-after speaker on entrepreneurship, leadership, AI, and business strategy, Jeff captivates audiences with his insights on scaling companies, leveraging AI, and navigating the future of work.

He lives in Skaneateles, NY, with his wife, Heta, and their two children, Max and Lila.