



# MIKE NOVOGRATZ



Michael “Edward” Novogratz was born November 26th, 1964, in Alexandria, Virginia. He is the son of West Point football lineman and 1958 Knute Rockne Award (best lineman) winner Robert, Sr. and Barbara. He grew up with 6 siblings in Alexandria Virginia.

Novogratz attended Fort Hunt High School where he was a stand-out on the wrestling mat. Novogratz came from a family with a storied wrestling tradition - his older brother John Novogratz wrestled at William and Mary University and his father Robert Novogratz wrestled at Blair Academy. Novogratz was a four-year varsity competitor and team captain for his high school wrestling team in Virginia and finished as a state runner-up.

He continued his wrestling career at Princeton University, where he earned his A.B. in economics and was again a stand-out on the wrestling mat. At Princeton, Novogratz was captain of the team, and was a two-time All-Ivy League selection, EIWA place winner, and NCAA qualifier. In his senior season, he advanced to the round of 12 at the NCAA Championships, all of this while participating in the Army ROTC program.

After Princeton, Novogratz joined the New Jersey National Guard where he served as a helicopter pilot. After finishing his time in the National Guard, Novogratz

began his career with Goldman Sachs in 1989. He was elected partner at Goldman in 1998. Among the positions that he held at Goldman were president of Goldman Sachs Latin American and the head of fixed income, currencies and commodities risk in Asia. In March 2002, Novogratz joined Fortress Investments in time to take the company public through its February 9, 2007, initial public offering. Novogratz led Fortress’s Macro Trading Business for 13 years.

Even as Novogratz career was taking off he never strayed far from the sport of wrestling. Around the time Fortress went public, Novogratz launched Beat the Streets New York to build wrestling in New York City Schools. In 2007, the Public Schools Athletic League fielded 19 wrestling teams. This year, there are 80 high school, 36 middle school programs and 4 training centers - in total, the organization helps support nearly 3,000 wrestlers, about 85 percent of whom qualify for free school lunches. Beat the Streets had grown to over 14 cities across the nation.

Beyond Beat the Street Novogratz has stayed a part of the sport of wrestling at the Olympic level. From 2009-2012 Novogratz was the Team Leader for USA Wrestling and led the team to the London Olympics. When the sport was almost cut in 2013, Novogratz played a leading role

in forming the Committee for the Preservation of Olympic Wrestling which led the movement to ensure the sport was not eliminated. Most recently Novogratz has helped raise the Living the Dream Medal Fund, that pays out cash prizes of up to \$500,000 to Olympic and World Championship medalists.

Novogratz commitment to using his success to help make the world a better place doesn’t stop with wrestling. Novogratz is board chair of the Friends of Hudson River Park, Vita Sport Partners, and the Jazz Foundation of America and also sits on the board of NYU Langone Hospital, and is a longtime supporter of the Acumen Fund, led by his sister Jacqueline Novogratz. Most recently, Novogratz helped launch the Bail Project, which aims to free hundreds of thousands of Americans incarcerated for their inability to pay cash bail.

Finally, Novogratz has made time to raise four children - Nacho, Anna, Gaby and Christian - with his wife, Sukey Novogratz. Currently, Novogratz lives and works in Manhattan as CEO of Galaxy Digital Holdings.

We are proud to welcome Mike Novogratz into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame as an Outstanding American and for his lifetime of service to the sport of wrestling.