



new
enterprise
forum

coaching. perfecting. connecting.

36

YEARS

1986 - 2021

NewEnterpriseForum.Org

NEF 36 Years Of Coaching Entrepreneurs

The Experience:

The entrepreneurial landscape has grown where universities are offering programs in developing and nurturing innovation. With the support of the state of Michigan, entrepreneurial incubators and accelerators have also grown. Entrepreneurs have received critical training in developing their products and services. Investor groups have increased in number as they are attracted by the opportunities of these early startups. Jobs have been created as startups received funding to progress into the growth phase of their businesses. All this activity has been based on the unifying idea that cultivating innovation is the key to a prosperous economy for Michigan and the United States.

It is common knowledge that entrepreneurs go out of business at an alarming rate. On the surface, it seems the return on startup investment is very low when measured by that statistic alone. What is difficult to measure are the overall benefits their experiences have on the economy. One failed business fosters knowledge on how to be more successful the next time. Another failed product becomes the seed for a better more successful product. This natural process affects all the people and organizations supporting entrepreneurs. Relationships and networks are developed that lead to opportunities for everyone involved whether it is with startups or growth stage businesses.

Being a part of New Enterprise Forum is participating in the growing entrepreneurial community. We get involved anticipating one thing and come away with so much more. We are inspired by the people we get to know. We learn about new technologies and successful business practices. We experience struggles with entrepreneurs during their business development. We are encouraged by their successes regardless of how large or how small. Out of our collective efforts, we are transformed into better business owners, professionals and entrepreneurial supporters. That is the New Enterprise Forum experience.

Happy Anniversary NEF with hundreds of companies coached and lives forever enriched!

The New Enterprise Forum Story

How It All Began:

For years, entrepreneurs who believe in the possibilities have gathered each month at the New Enterprise Forum to strengthen our entrepreneurial community. It started in the mid-1980's, when Ann Arbor had one venture capital firm, no forums for entrepreneurs or investors and little infrastructure to support an entrepreneurial idea. Even so, Tom Porter had a notion. It was a small idea at first and gained momentum as he discovered other like-minded people who believed they could establish a forum where business professionals could exchange ideas. He sold the idea to 18 people who formed a board and pooled their expertise and the New Enterprise Forum was born.

The volunteer group was astounded and encouraged by the attendance at those first few meetings. The tradition of NEF meetings has shown tangible results. Jobs were created, revenues were produced, funding was secured, and key people and advisors were employed.

Equally important are the tangible results: the meetings that evolve into business partnerships, the introductions that connect an attorney or banker with a startup venture who needs their early counsel, the 'hello' that starts a friendship and matches a job with a key employee. There is not a good way to track it all, but it is the heart of a thriving entrepreneurial community – coaching entrepreneurs, connecting them with resources, and perfecting their investor pitch. It has been at the core of the NEF mission since the beginning and continues to this day.

1986 Showcase Presenters:

Rolforge, Ken Belmont
CABA Medical products, Matthew Durda
Advanced Marketing Solutions, Jim Flickenger
Multives Corporation, Robert McCord
Personal Biographic Software, Vic Rosenberg – Bibliographic data management software
SoloHill Engineering, David Solomon
Arborworks, John VanRoekel
US TeleAd, Ray Waters – Public telephone advertising

1986 Awards:

American Association of Venture Capital Clubs National Winner – Representing NEF, Vic Rosenberg,
Personal Bibliographic Software
American Association of Venture Capital Clubs Top 5 National Finisher – Representing NEF, Ray Waters,
U.S. TeleAd

The Founding 1986 Board of Directors:

Tom Porter, President
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Chris Vaughn
Cliff Sheldon
Gerald Spencer
J. Downs Herold
Jacob Haas
Michael Ammann
Michael McCraw
Michael Nold
Michael Staebler

1987 Showcase Presenters:

Computerized Citation Systems, Doug Bacon – Ticket writer
Booms Stone Col., Richard Booms – Commercial marble/granite contractor
Positive Video Publishing, Eric Cress – Videos & teaching tools for elementary schools
Foot Technology, Jack Fluharty – Insole systems
Symorex, Dominic Imonti – High performance computer storage products
Wheel Plus, Inc., Armin Jocz – 100 mpg passenger car alternative
Protective Partition Systems, David Kahn – Clear protective shields for banks
Creative Design Technologies, Joe Kobylak – CAD software
Cold-A-Mation, Jack Lane – Robots for subfreezing environments
Keltech, Kenneth Lutz – Tankless water heater
Development Enterprises, Roger Mock – Wall Street board game for teens/adults
Image Dynamics, Pat Petraitis – Image processing software for the science industry
AM Compton Industries – Office furniture
Athletic Training Services – Trainers to reduce corporate worker compensation costs
Baytec, Inc – Turnkey network for dissimilar PCs
Business Images
GPS Systems, Inc. – Systems integrator & support for PCs
Health Science Corporation – Healthcare products/services
HEM Data Corp. – PC software for scientists & engineers
Holo Source – 3D holographic imaging
Integrated Personnel Systems, Inc. – HR software
RAM Industries – Stump eater for land clearing & recycling
Sportstar Computing, Inc. – Computer-based coaching aids

1987 Awards:

Best Presenter – Baytec, Jerry Robertson
Best Entrepreneurial Idea – Integrated Design, Jim Carroll
Most Tenacious – TN International, Todd Nessler

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J. Downs Herold

Jacob Hass
Jim Drenning
Michael Ammann
Michael Cleland
Michael McCraw
Michael Nold
Michael Stebler
Thom Coder
William Martin

1988 Showcase Presenters:

Marelco Power Systems, Peter Burgher – Automation of robotic welding operations
Integrated Design, Jim Carroll – Automated payroll process linking software
ToolBox Publications, Herb Cohen – Database summaries of published software reviews
Colding International, Bert Colding – Productivity & Acct software for the metal-working industry
Integrated Information Systems, Donald Criss, – Accounting software
Rocket Corporation, Hal Davis – Eray lithography for semiconductors
Friedman Productions, Alex Friedman – Independent TV & film production
Powerboard, Jim Gilligan – Solution-specific products for IBM after market
Hannah Information Systems, Bob Hannah – Electronic information on state legislative activity
Emerald Intelligence, David Kennedy – Magellan artificial intelligence software
Kirsch Technologies, Jerry Kirsch – Document & Info management software
Jelene International, Cynthia Koff & Celine Pickell – Personal care products
Masten Products, Mike & Cindy Masten – Microprocessor engine monitors for aircraft
Homerun Services, David Rhoades – Home remodeling
Obligo, Bill McDunnough – Adult game, state government during Blanchard
T-Mech, Michael Naughton – Thermal performance analysis software
Arbor Text, David Rodgers – Automation of robotic welding operations
Seidl Computer Engineering, Carol & Andy Seidl – Software programming tools
Soli-Tech, Casper Zublin – Treatment & disposal of oil field waste

1988 Awards:

Entrepreneur of the Year – Medstat Systems, Ernie Ludy
Best Presentation – Friedman Productions, Alec Friedman
Best Product Idea – Emerald Intelligence Inc., David Kennedy
Best Business Idea – Jelene International, Celine Pickell

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Kent Talcott

Lionel Korb
Lorraine Hendrickson-Uhlander
Michael Cleland
Michael Nold
Tavi Fulkerson
Werner Wahl
William Martin

1989 Showcase Presenters:

A Pouch, Cynthia Abdo – Ammunition holder for rapid reloading
Clean Tape, Inc., Len Antic – Tape & film cleaners
HomeTech Industries, Dave Barlow – Kitchen bath & home products
Open Networks Engineering, Alan Bilinski – Online technology partner
Animal Provider Organization, Jim Carpenter – Internet health services for domestic pets
Kare-Tek, Jim Davis – Software products for mental health & drug treatment
Diamond General Development Corp., Howard Diamond – Biomedical probes & sensors
Access Computer Products, John Drennan – Recycle & refill printer toner cartridge provider
BioQuant, Mickey Katz-Pek – Biosensors
Automated Dance Music, Michael Kessler – Music tapes for hotels & restaurants
Kirk Enterprises, John Kirkland – Eco-friendly panelized housing manufacturer
Medlift Corp., Donald Merry – Electro-mechanical hoist for the physically disabled
Paradigm Corp., Ron Pearsall – Manufacturer, marketer of designer area rugs
Chinese Computer Communications, Jonathan Tien – Tech to convert Chinese to English & visa-versa
Big Story Productions, Paul Turner – Full length feature film in Detroit
Woolzie Putter Company, Bruce Woolsey – Manufacturer of novel putter & other golf products

1989 Awards:

Entrepreneur of the Year – Symplex Communications, George Brostoff
Showcase Award – BioQuant, Mickey Katz-Pek
Showcase Award – Open Networks Engineering, Alan Bilinsky
Showcase Award – Access Computer Products, John Drennan

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Jim Drenning
Lionel Korb
Mary Campbell
Patricia Weber
Robert Gavin

1990 Showcase Presenters:

TriCounty Rubber Recyclers, Glenn Ballans – Recycle tires for resale to housing supply
Creative Edge Corp., Jim Belilove – Waterjet manufacturing equipment
Microvision & Control, David Bettinger – Personal electronic display for eyeglasses
Access Computer Products, John Coffey – Toner cartridge recycler
Travel Clubs, Inc., Bill Copkowski – Builder & seller of golf clubs
Davis Made, Inc., Dan Davis – Mobility device for disabled to stand
Lamb & Wool Improvement Project, Clayton Ernst – Planter of canola crop for a fuel alternative
Primex, Dennis Feheley – Trading company with rights to Puden Vla a yogurt alternative
Imagine, Inc., David Gregory – Multi-media product for training market
Clinical Information Systems, Doug Kassab – Microprocessor medical device for patient monitoring
All Truss Homes of America, Alfred Kloss – Patented home building with 25% in reduced costs
Woodward Communications, Stephen Newman – Rentable sound stage
Greff's Inc. (Kids Klub), John Sadler – For-profit day care center franchise
Shoshana Technologies, Stanley Sternberg – Object oriented processing system software platform
Argo Technologies, Dov Weizman – Software development tools for productivity
Masten Products, Mike & Cindy Masten – Aircraft engine monitoring instruments
Anodyne, Donald Merry – Lift for immobile patients

1990 Awards:

Entrepreneur of the Year – Ctext, Inc., Larry Moore
Best presentation – Frankenmuth Poultry Co., Les Dale
Best Business Idea – Clinical Information Systems, Inc., Doug Kassab
Best Product Idea – Davis Made, Inc., Daniel Davis

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Jim Drenning
Karen Schlanderer

Lionel Korb
Mark Clevy
Mary Campbell
Patricia Weber
Robert Gavin

1991 Showcase Presenters:

Mortgage Management Systems, Charles Busch – Nationwide services
Frankenmuth Poultry Co., Les Dale – Premium leaner & larger chicken product
Lexicom Publishing, Diane Durance – Contract publishing providing customized newsletters
ShuffleBowl Corporation, Donald liams – Family oriented board games
L'Express Grocery, Dean Jeffery – Electronic grocery shopping system
Hospital Financial Services, David Leonard – Purchase of hospital receivables for collection
AeroSport, Jack Lousma – Metabolic analysis equipment
Omni Jobs International, Lois Mayville – Handyman pros for residential markets
Material Handling Products Co., Robert Morgan – Converter of plastics to higher-grade polymers
James Games, James Muntz – Board & card games
Venture One Associates, William Peters – Manages assets of Corbes, AirFlo sports bag
Chemical Concept Corporation, Bert Ramsay – Patented chemical calculator for software education
Professional Communications, Gary Salton – Job listings via 900 number
Applied Engineering Technologies, Anthony Walsh – Prototype for predictive engineering
Promics Corporation, Donald Walters – Patient care management software
Tradco, Inc. – Quik-Ti system for joining steel bars

1991 Awards:

Entrepreneur of the Year – Aristoplay Limited, Jan Barney-Newman
Best Presentation – Lexicom Publishing Group, Diane Durance
Best Product Idea – Chemical Concepts, Bert Ramsey
Best Business Idea – Material Handling Products, Robert Morgan
Most Tenacious – Hardwood Designs, Bette Diem

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Vic Rosenberg

1992 Showcase Presenters:

Chateau Chantal, Robert Begin – Traverse City winery
Amphion, Ken Burkhalter – Materials handling systems for warehousing transportation
Scientific Corporation, John Dunn – Statistical quality control & analysis software
Environmental Awareness Products, Paul Harlieb – Catalogue marketing firm
Levy's Art Café, David Levy – Restaurant
LANSTAR International, Elizabeth Nofs – Clinical Data Management software for psychiatry
Arbor Research Corp., Blake Paterson – Oxygen generator technology for hospitals
Sojourner Farms, Maria Ringo – All natural pet foods & supplies
Professional Communications, Gary Salton – B2B telemarketing
Starboard Software, Gary Shelef – Sailboat racing game for Apple, Windows
Human Growth Systems, Kevin Watson – Skilled & unskilled home health personnel
Custom Engineered Technologies, James Wood – Software development for market niche products

1992 Awards:

Entrepreneur of the Year – Perceptron, Inc., Dwight Carlson
Best Business Idea – Arbor Research Corporation, Blake Paterson
Best Presentation – Sojourner Farms, Maria Ringo

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1993 Showcase Presenters:

Vetgen, Inc., George Brewer – Genetic testing services for dog breeders
GeoDemX Corp., Larry Brophy – Data management software for desktop mapping
Silicon Dragon, Sheila Cameron – Tools for role playing game market
Higgins D. Industries, Inc., Paul Higgins – Patented retractable garden hose guide
Hydro-Life International, William Larson, Jr. – Flotation spa for stress management
Kiosk Information Systems, Fred Montilla – Multi-lingual shoppers information system platform
Research Media, Inc., Paul Nors – Customized software for Microsoft Physicians Workstation
Inn Venture Sunset Lodge, Michael & Tammy Parker – Allegan County property for B&B
Aastrom Biosciences, Inc., Pat Powell – Technology to grow stem & progenitor cells
ServiceMax Tire & Autos Centers of Michigan, C. James Sabo – Re-fit of 27 Action Auto Centers
Triada, Ltd., Michael & Tammy Safford – Patented tech for data compression of storage & archiving
Agri Automation, Inc., John Wells – Automated programmable feeding system for veal calves

1993 Awards:

Entrepreneur of the Year – Mechanical Dynamics, Michael Korybalski
Best Business Idea – Kiosk Information Systems, Fred Montilla
Best Product Idea – Vetgen, Inc., George Brewer
Most Tenacious – Silicon Dragon, Inc. Sheila Cameron

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J. Downs Herold
Mickey Katz-Pek
Tom Porter
Vic Rosenberg

1994 Showcase Presenters:

Ryphon Publishing Co., Wukkuan Arlinghaus – Custom publishing of academic course packs
BELL Data Software Corp., Barry Belluci – Software applications with high-density barcode technology
Sequencher, Howard Cash – Manipulator of DNA information
Open Forum: Meet Mr./Ms. Right, Cynthia D-Amour – Relationship counseling locating services
Assay Designs, Inc., Russell Hart – Chemiluminescent immunoassay kits
CyberTech, Inc., Michael & Tammy Mansfield – Multimedia computer system for law enforcement
Fascom, Inc., Norman Nazaroff – Factory automation software & RFID products
Medical Cybernetic System, Sumer Pek – Computer products for health care professionals
I-Max Information System, Roger Short – Only large sheet-fed & web press in Michigan
Earthbound Environmental Creations, Inc., Ruth Ellen Stec – Products to educate public about nature
Cascade Technology Corp., Richard Stusek – Rugged, notebook computer for field applications
Tehnacraft Corp., Edward Tury – High quality gift items for catalogues
Tachyon Data Systems, Inc., Thomas Wilmoth – Automotive infra-red research firm

1994 Awards:

Entrepreneur of the Year – Access Computer Products, John Drennan
Best Presentation – Sequencher, Howard Cash
Best Business Idea – Assay Designs, Russell Hart
Most Tenacious – Agri Automation, Inc., John Wells

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Mickey Katz-Pek
Tom Porter
Vic Rosenberg

1995 Showcase Presenters:

North America One Real Estate Services, Jerry Bresser – Franchise of real estate brokerage services
Reach Industries, Inc., Barbara Franczyk – Patented dyes & mfg. processes for instant nail color
Natura, Steve Mickel – Natural food additives & flavoring for food processing
Vita Form, Marc Mueller – Fitness equipment “The Hammer”
Raggedy Ann’s Center, Antoinette Robinson – Franchise of computerized children’s day care centers
Solent High Intensity Soil Washing, Inc., Barry Shorthouse – Soil remediation equipment & services
Victoria Golf, Jeff Sunden – Right Distance System for golf course distancing
Image Set, Ralph Volk – Desktop publishing & digital color printing at one stop
Isthmus Corporation, Sandford Walke – Internet access & services
HEM Data Corp., Richard Walter – Data acquisition & analysis software for scientific engineering markets
Black & White Dairy Production Mgmt., Dwight Zimmerman – ROI improvement for dairy farmers

1995 Awards:

Entrepreneur of the Year – Network Express, Dick Eidswick
Entrepreneur Excellence – Medstat System, Ernie Ludy
Best Presentation – Vital Form, Inc., Mark Mueller
Most Tenacious – HEM Data Corporation, Richard Walter

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1996 Showcase Presenters:

Quantum Technologies, Brian Adsit – Mobile, locational tech products for the transportation industry
Sierra Medical Systems, Mike Broussard – Surface & mattress system preventing bed sores
Horizon Press, Robert Cavis – Copyright for four suspense novels for filmmaking
Biotherapies, Paul Ervin – Human proteins for therapeutic products
Accumed Systems, Mickey Katz-Pek – Medical devices for interventional cardiology
Corsa Instruments, Eric Kauppi – Data acquisition system for auto racers
Kennet Group, Kevin Kennet – Smart Shopping Network & Hawkins Printing & Mailing
MediTrac, Eric Labe – Patient self-management products, wireless pager
Advanced Modular Power Systems, George Levy – AMTEC power systems
Worker Bee Brewing Company, Paul Phillipon – AA Micro Brewery
Seidl Computer Engineering, Carol Seidl – Genitor product assists C & C++ coding

1996 Awards:

Entrepreneur of the Year – Coffee Beanery, Joanne Shaw
Best Presentation – Accumed, Mickey Katz-Pek
Second Time Around – Seidl Computer Engineering, Carol & Andy Seidl
Most Tenacious – Biotherapies, Paul Ervin
Entrepreneurial Excellence – Personal Bibliographic Software, Vic Rosenberg

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Gary Baker
Gretchen Waters
James Brady
Ray Waters
Tom Porter

1997 Showcase Presenters:

PhycoTech, Ann Amand – Environmental consulting computerized algae identification system
The Traverse Group, John Armstron – Services for contamination assessment & remediation
Diazem Corporation, Melvin Cabey – Separation media for analysis & process operations
Biomide, John Conway – Cancer treatment therapy products, patented compound
Safety Hi-Lites, Jeff Hymer – High-mounted tail light assemblies
Lynn Ltd., Mike Kurek & William Fry – Surgical instrument inventory systems
TM Entertainment, Mark Lipowski – Website game “Hot Seat”
Genitor Corporation, Carol Seidly – Software tool for C & C++ programming
Synthon Corporation, David Strack – High purity chiral building blocks for pharma industry
T/J Technologies, Maria Thompson – R&D nano-materials for storage & conversion devices
Appointment Net, Steven Wagstaff – Automated appointment scheduling & confirmation
Stardock Systems, Bradley Wordell – Game products “Galactic Civilization”

1997 Awards:

Entrepreneur of the Year – Aastrom Biosciences, Inc., Doug Armstrong
Best Presentation – TM Entertainment, Joe Hagner & Mark Lipowski
Best High Tech Concept for Commercialization – T/J Technologies, Maria Thompson

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Cliff Sheldon
Gary Baker
George Richmond
Gretchen Waters
James Brady
Keith Blurton
Ray Waters
Tom Porter

1998 Showcase Presenters:

Merg Corporation, Todd Bacon – Custom CAD/CAM engineered foot support
Rapid Wall Systems, Bill Beck – Precast concrete wall panels for basement crawl spaces
Global Capital Management Corp., Jim Bellenir – Finance contracts for manufactured homes
Blue Gill Technologies, Hal Davis – Financial software
eXchange Solutions, Jim Luke & Sue Sweeney – Web-based electronic marketplace
Advanced Solutions & Know How, Anil Menawat – “Affine” decision support software for mfg. firms
D/E Technologies, Colleen & William O’Neill – Virtual 3-D technology for TV & projection enhancement
Data-Pattern Index, Wesley Sampson – Data Analysis software for large databases
Thromgen, Alvin Schmaier – Anticoagulants for arterial thrombosis therapies
General Robotic Devices, Yansong Shan – Disposable non-latex catheter for colonoscopy
STAR, Cynthia Sikina – Electronic billing system for physicians
Cascade Technology Corp., Dick Stusek – LCD’s for mobile computing outdoors hands free applications
Innovative building Components, Larry Ward – Polymer porch & deck spindles, vinyl railing
Bay Port Aquacultural Systems, Forest Williams – Yellow perch aquaculture facility

1998 Awards:

Entrepreneur of the Year – Supply Tech Inc., Ted Annis
Best Presentation – D/E Technologies, Colleen & William O’Neil
Best Business Concept – STAR Ron Hirscht & Cynthia Sikina
The Entrepreneurs Entrepreneur – Tom Porter, 13 years of NEF service

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George Richmond	
Gretchen Waters	
James Brady	
Keith Blurton	
Ken Nisbet	
Lorraine Hendrickson-Uhlander	
Mike Ammann	

1999 Showcase Presenters:

XML Solutions, Michael & Tammy Bailey – SML products & services
SelectWare Technologies, Jeffrey Connors – “GameZone” internet-based source of gaming info
American Systems Technology Inc., Mike Ducker – Training/consulting firm with Chinese operations
INUX, Wayne Gray – Bulk, pre-configured consumer computer software products
Synergetic Micro Systems, Mike Justice – PC & OEM interface cards & software driver
QED Services, Dennis McNeely – Fluid Spring suspension system
Kera Cure, Riley Rees – Interactive wound dressing for pressure sores
Cerebral Works, Inc., Sunil Sharma – Web-based, staged competitive bidding platforms
Rosebud Solutions, Alicia Torres – Medical equipment management software for hospitals
Chimeri Plan Technologies, Lee Tregerman – Innovative tissue culture processes for plan cultivation

1999 Awards:

Entrepreneur of the Year – BlueGill Technologies, Hal Davis
Best Presentation – Rosebud Solutions, Alicia Torres
Best Business Idea – QED, Dennis McNeely
Most Tenacious – Synergetic Micro Solutions, Rick Goldstein

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Ian Sacks
Jeff Lipshaw
Ken Nisbet
Lois Marler
Lorraine Hendrickson-Uhlander
Michael Partsch
Sean Dykhouse
Tom Porter

2000 Showcase Presenters:

Invitations Now.com, Eudora Adolph – Integrated websites for event planning & marketing
Object Identification Systems, David Batkie – 3-D asset identification & monitoring systems
iKnowvator, Inc., Richard Clements – Software for business consulting solutions “Idea Manager”
iNetShelves.com, Richard Clements – Software for web/database development for retail stores
HomeRun Services, Diane Durance – Comprehensive home services
Marketing Jobs.com, Woody Haskins – Online recruiting resource
PDS Technology, Mary Juras – Web-enabled product suite for product development
SenSecure, Carin Krishnan – Intelligent recognition systems, fingerprint recognition
RU Reel products, Harley Luplow – Portable audio communication devices
Seeds Choices.com, Rick Mason – Website to purchase & research seed
GOTODoc.com, Alan Priest – Website to facilitate healthcare management
Adventures2K.com, Paul Stafford – Travel & recreation information publisher
Credendo Communications, Troy Stein – Synchronized video/PowerPoint software
Eberwhite Data Technologies, Dave Weinerth – Wireless telemetry for remote inventory monitoring

2000 Awards:

Entrepreneur of the Year – Genomic Solutions, Jeff Williams
Best Business Presentation – Homerun Services, Diane Durance
Best Presentation – Credendo Communications, Troy Stein
Best Business Idea – iNetShelves, Richard Clements

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Barbara Sprague-Davenport
Carol Seidl
Christopher Rizik
Cliff Sheldon
Don Walker
Gary Baker
Gary Hessenaur
Ken Nisbet
Lisa Kurek
Lois Marler
Lorraine Hendrickson-Uhlander
Patricia Curtis-Davenport

Rod Lowe
Tom Porter

2001 Showcase Presenters:

Portfolio Builders, Inc., Owen Bowers – Financial product eliminating brokerage commissions
CouponByDemand, James Dougherty – Virtual advertising & media
Envision Real Estate Software, Tom Ervin – Real estate property & agent marketing tools
Athena Data, Frank Hunt – Real time machine operating date for increased production
TerraSeer, Nicholas Jacquez – Environmental Analysis Software
Truck Emission Control Tech., Ray Kammel – Diesel emission technology converter
Intermodal Innovations, Christopher Kazor – Shipping system components
Manitu Communications, Alan Klein – Web-hosted tool for large project management
Osteomics, Michael Long – Bone growth outside the body
RetroAccess, Stephen Markel – Diamond Bullet spin off, improvement of website accessibility
Global DSL Communications, Matt Rooyackers – Broadband internet deployment using laser technology
Osantis, Oleg Svintsitski – Scanning, diagnosis & monitoring of osteoporosis
D’Vergent Design, Aaron Travis – Patented portable contact lens care kit “Lens Gear”
CoEnergies, Dennis Weston – High efficiency heating & cooling systems
Elationship Builders, Mike Whelan – Email marketing products & services

2001 Awards:

Entrepreneur of the Year – Esperion Therapeutics, Roger Newton
Best Presentation – TerraSeer, Nicholas Jacquez
Best Business Idea – Osteomics, Michael Long
Most Tenacious – Elationship Builders, Mike Whelan

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Karen Bantel	
Ken Nisbet	
Lisa Kurek	
Lois Marler	

2002 Showcase Presenters:

Adaptive Materials, Aaron Crumm – Solid oxide fuel cell stack
Power Laser Inc., Ralph Davis - Laser tech device for paint removal
Mobius Microsystems, Rick Goldstein – Silicon technology products
Interlink Networks, Mike Klein – Wireless authentication security
5nQ, Thaddeus MacKrell – Inventory management for clinics & hospitals
EximWare, Girish Minocha – Trade life cycle management for agricultural
Secure 24, Rich Pirrotta – Internet data security for banks
Visionary Enterprises, Stephen Prehn – Home monitoring technology
Molecular Therapeutics, Brian Ross – Non-invasive image of biological process
Unitech Pharmaceuticals, JJ Shaw, Cancer treatment
Xoran Technologies, Predrag Sukovic – Portable CAT scanner

2002 Awards:

Entrepreneur of the Year – GeneCodes, Howard Cash
Best Presentation – Adaptive Materials, Aaron Crumm
Best Business Idea – 5nQ, Thaddeus MacKrell
Best Business Solution – Eximware, Girish Minocha

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Jerry Sims
Karen Bantel
Ken Nisbet
Kent Talcott
Pradeep Chowdry
Rod Lowe
Sean Dykhouse
Tom Porter

2003 Showcase Presenters:

Integrated Sensing Systems, Michael Ammann – Micro drug infusion products
Herkules Equipment Corp., Todd Bacon – Programmable lifts
Sonetics Ultrasound, Jennifer Baird – 3D/4D ultrasound technology
Product Animations, Inc., Curtis Begley – VRTrain software for desktop simulation
Crime Cog, Tim Daley – Justice information system
PioCel Instruments Corp., Angelo Gaitas – Thermal microscope for semiconductor
Roger, Inc., John Gary – Training workout software
Afmedica, Mina Sooch – Scar tissue prevention

2003 Awards:

Entrepreneur of the Year – Assay Designs, Inc., Barbara Scheuer & Russel Hart
Best Presentation – Product Animations, Kurtis Begley
Best Business Model – Crime Cog, Tim Daley
Best Technology – Sonetics Ultrasound, Jennifer Baird

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Ken Nisbet
Kent Talcott
Rob Dutkiewicz
Paul Kirsch
Pradeep Chowdry
Ray Waters
Rod Lowe
Sean Dykhouse

2004 Showcase Presenters:

Campus K 12, Phil Cammillo – Educations software
XataWave, Tom Hines – Deployable alert system for remote emergency signal
QSS Engineered Systems Group, Tom Kelly – Software customization for high variation
DCM Associate, Deborah Marmarelli – Online training for hazmat business
Palo Verde ETS, David Rush – Hummingbird car
VenTech, Jeremy Sanger – Supplemental auto heater
Ennew Medical Devices, Mel Valkner – Patient transportation
AvaCore, Allen Dumont – Portable body cooling device

2004 Awards:

Entrepreneur of the Year – i3Statprobe, Inc., Lora Schwab
Best Presentation & Implementation of Business Plan – QSS Engineered Systems, Tom Kelly
Best Business Model – XataWave, Tom Hines
Best Technology – VenTech, Jeremy Sanger

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Ray Waters
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Sean Dykhouse
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2005 Showcase Presenters:

Self-Guided Systems, LLC, Paul Angott – Unmanned navigations systems
ChecktheCrib, Oliver Baer – Internet-based spare parts procurement
Accuri Cytometers, Jennifer Baird – Flow cytometer for research & clinical diagnostics
Coherix, Dwight Carlson – Digital holographic imaging
Rapid BioSense, John Cunningham – Bacteria/Virus detection technology
Mindwords, Terry Dunivin – Learning assistance software & learning center
ProSense Technologies, Neil Dueweke – Sensors for cargo shipping
ThreeFold Sensors, Judith Erb – Fiber optic sensors for bio diagnostics
EnCel, Doug Finch – Fuel cell partner
Presign, Todd Mielke – Web-based product life cycle management software
PMC Environmental Technologies, Ron Panter – Waste water cleansing technology to eliminate fats & oil
ElectroJet, Kyle Schwulst – Fuel injection technology for small engines
Spirit Shop, Todd Sullivan – Customized school merchandise

2005 Awards:

Entrepreneur of the Year – QuatRX, Robert Zerbe
Best Presentation – Check The Crib, Oliver Baer
Best Business Model – Mindworks, Terry Dunivan
Best Technology – ThreeFold Sensors, Judith Erb
Entrepreneurial Excellence – Accuri Cytometers, Jennifer Baird

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Ray Waters
Rob Dutkiewicz

Rod Lowe
Sean Dykhouse
Sonali Vijayavargiya
Theresa Carroll
Tim Richards

2006 Showcase Presenters:

Telurex, Clyde McKenzie – Thermo-electric heating & cooling systems
ERT Systems, LLC, Dennis Carmichael – System for tracking personnel & equipment
Hybra Drive Systems, Jim O'Brien – Hydraulic hybrid power train
MyST Technology Partners, Andy Seidl – Creates useful Web 2.0 products & services
Play Data, Tim Locke – Sports event video broadcasting system
Environmental Transportation Systems, Richard Marks – Electric, low speed vehicle under \$10k
TECAT Engineering, Laura Dillman – Wireless torque sensing
Creative ByLine, Brad MacLean – Web system for matching authors & publishers
Rapid BioSence, John Cunningham – Biosensor
BrideSpeak, Jon Poploski – Interactive speech recognition
Actium, Jim Collins – High touch, low cost retirement account services

2006 Awards:

Entrepreneur of the Year – Entyre, Dick Beedon
Best Presentation – ERT Systems, LLC, Dennis Carmichael
Best Business Model – BridgeSpeak, Jon Poploskie
Most Innovative Product – Hybra-Drive Systems Jim O'Brien

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Sonali Vijayavargiya
Theresa Carroll
Tim Peterson

2007 Showcase Presenters:

Omni Sciences, Inc., Paul Moore – Broadband technology with infrared biosensor
OtoMedicine, Inc., Peter Boxer – Hearing loss prevention vitamin
M-bots, Inc., Sridhar Lakshmanan – Robot for military sensing
The 9thXchange, Inc., John Bonaccorso – Consumer-to-consumer digital transactions
Buttoned Up, In., Alicia Rockmore – Organizing materials & products
TuneVUZ, Inc., Ron Suarez – Web-based software for music promotions
Procuit, Inc., Tom Meloch – Education software for memory-based testing
BioLumix, Ruth & Gideon Eden – Microbiologic testing
GeneVivo, Sean Ainsworth – Transgenic rodents
EdgeHealth, Keith Wittrup – Rehabilitation therapy device

2007 Awards:

Entrepreneur of the Year – Asterand Randal Charlton
Best Presentation – Razor Threat, Greg Guidice
Best Technology – GeneVivo, Sean Ainsworth
Best Business Strategy – BioLumix, Ruth & Gideon Eden

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Mahendra Ramsinghani
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Ray Waters
Rod Lowe
Sonali Vijayavargiya
Sreeram Veeragandham
Theresa Carroll

2008 Showcase Presenters:

Torrey Path, Peter Dresslar – Pharma & biotech decision software
Renovo Power Systems, Adarsh Das – Solar power inverter system
Pattern Clock, Yue Fan – Sophisticated alarm clock
Fontis Medical, Matt Gibson – Large molecule delivery process
MSignS, Jason Gilbert – 3D virtual sign language converter
Lambert Technologies, Todd Gross – Surface stress diagnostics for manufacturers
DevHive, Mike Burba – Software component service
SciTech, Earle Holsapple – Cancer drug
Ops Solutions, Jim Ryzner – Light guided system instructions
RealKidz, Merrill Guerra – Plus size kid's clothing & community
AureoGen, Ake Elhammer – Anti-fungal drug discovery
Hygieia, Eran Bashan – Glucose meter for diabetics
Clean Emission Fluids, Oliver Baer – Biofuel storage & dispensing
Vortex Hydro Energy, Gerry Roston – Wave energy

2008 Awards:

Entrepreneur of the Year – Health Media, Ted Dacko
Best Presentation – SciTech, Earle Holsapple
Best Business Model – Torrey Path, Peter Dresslar
Best Technology – AureoGen Biosciences, Ake Elhammer

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Sonali Vijayavargiya
Sreeram Veeragandham
Theresa Carroll

2009 Showcase Presenters:

Windsight, Peter Tochoryk – Wind measurement lasers
Dermanaut, Jonathan Baugh – Software for dermatologists
SPINN, Doug Dormer – Ubiquitous electronic medical record with consumer access
Ventech, Jeremy Sanger – Vehicle heating technology
Husk, Ian Dailey – Bio-friendly husk insulation
Blaze Medical Devices, Michael Tarasev – Viability test for banked blood
Grade Check, Shelia McBride & Al Bacon – Web software guiding high school athletes to college
Bandals, Tom Sesti – Sandals with exchangeable tops
Audiallo, Aaron Nelson – Hearing aid microchip
BioLogic Engineering, Chuck Cole – Advanced rehabilitation & workout equipment
Advanced Battery Concepts, Ed Shaffer – Biopolar battery technology
Algal Scientific, Paul Horst – Algae-based waste water treatment
DEEN, Tekisha Lee – Diversity job search website

2009 Awards:

Entrepreneur of the Year – Handy Lab, Sundu Brahmasandra & Kalyn Handique
Best Presentation – Dermanaut, Jonathan Baugh
Best Business Model – Algal Scientific, Paul Horst
Best Technology – Audiallo, Aaron Nelson

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Phil Tepley
Ray Waters
Rick Galdi
Skip Simms
Theresa Carroll
William McPherson

2010 Showcase Presenters:

Inventure Enterprises, Robert Fulk – Integrated background check software
Current Motor, Peter Scott – Electric scooter
FamilyMint, Jeff Eusebio – Software for kid's money management
RetroSense Therapeutics, Sean Ainsworth – Pharma solution to treat blindness
In-Pore Technologies, Gerry Roston – Nanoparticle additive for polymer materials
Knowledge Watch, Don Hogan – Integrated news feed
IX Innovations, Ian Dailey & Greg Marek – Picometer to measure low voltage
Local Orbit, Erika Block – Software connecting local food growers & suppliers
SendGCash, Bill Clark – Software to facilitate inter-company cash transfers
GPX Software, Rick Goldstein – Financial modeling

2010 Awards:

25th NEF Anniversary Lifetime Achievement Award – Dick Sarns
25th NEF Anniversary Tom Porter Leadership Award – Tom Porter
Entrepreneur of the Year – Arbor Networks, Farnam Jahanian
Best Presentation – FamilyMint, Jeff Eusebio
Best Business Model – Inventure Enterprises, Robert Fulk
Best Technology – RetroSense Therapeutics, Sean Ainsworth

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Ray Waters
Rick Galdi
Skip Simms
Uzma Ahmad
Wayne Harvey
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2011 Showcase Presenters:

MitoStem, Jim Eliason – Research reagent & instrument firm for stem cell harvest & storage
Therapy Charts, Ryan Dibble – SaaS electronic patient records for therapist industry
Sunapten, Jim Mobley – Therapeutic vaccine technology cancer & autoimmune diseases
My Interactive Vision, Jim Jung – Cell phone technology to display live info on public TVs, bars, etc.
Fusion Coolant Systems, Tom Gross – Next generation coolant fluid systems for mfg. industry
Electromotive, Inc., John Sabino – Efficient, low-cost small motor for vehicles
GCI Global Healthcare Solutions, Naren Balasubramaniam – Alternative solutions for medical tourism
CYJ Enterprises, Carole Johnson – Web-based system connecting families & medical professionals
Brio Device, Hannah Hensel – Medical intubation device
ArborWind, Dilip Nigam – Vertical axis wind turbine
3D Biomatrix, Laura Schrader – Cell & tissue growth tools for drug testing & discovery
Next Gen Metabolomics, Inc., Felice DeJong – Biotechnology stress measurement technology

2011 Awards:

Entrepreneur of the Year – Accuri Cytometers, Jen Baird
Best Presentation – Sunapten, James Mobley
Best Business Model – Fusion Coolant Systems, Tom Gross
Best Technology – NextGen Metabolomics, Felice DeJong

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2012 Showcase Presenters:

Varsity News Networks, Ryan Vaughn – Website platform to generate new revenue for youth athletics
LogiCoul, David Stout – Technology to increase rechargeable battery capacity
Vestaron, Bob Kennedy – Non-toxic to vertebrates & environment-friendly insecticides
Advanced Cooling Therapies, Eric Kulstad – Patient cooling technology to improve patient outcomes
Sterility, Hal Zeima – Body-worn hand sanitizer & recording system for hospitals
SurClean, Susan Sprentall – Laser paint removal system for the commercial aircraft industry
Patient Provider Communications, Jon Baugh – Sophisticated patient to nurse communication system
HistoSonics, Christine Gibbons - Prostatic histotripsy system

2012 Awards:

Entrepreneur of the Year – Compendia Bioscience, Dan Rhodes
Best Presentation – Patient Provider Communications, Jon Baugh
Best Business Model – Advanced Cooling Therapies, Kirk Kulstad
Best Technology – HistoSonics, M. Christine Gibbons

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2013 Showcase Presenters:

Eco-Fueling, LLC, Paul Chandler – Diesel assist technology to improve fuel economy
Coliant Corporation, John Swiatek – Powerlet connects electrical devices to motorcycles
ONL Therapeutics, Rali Kerppola – Ophthalmic therapy preventing vision loss to retinal disease
Ad Adapted, LLC, Molly McFarland – Banner ad apps for mobile phones & games
Avegant Corp., Edward Tang – Head mounted displays for military, medical & consumer industries
ENT Biotech, Andrea Dickson – Novel disposable tool for removing tonsils & adenoids
GAPro System, Herb Gibson – Risk management solution provider for the insurance industry
Ornicept, Justin Otani – Software analytic tech measuring interactions between birds & wind farms
Fusepoint, Udi Naamani – Software platform to improve sales for independent auto repair shops

2013 Awards:

Entrepreneur of the Year – Livo Connect, Jake Sigal
Best Overall Presentation – ENT Solutions, LLC, Andrea Dickson
Best Presentation – Ad Adapted, Molly McFarland
Best Business Model – GAPro, Herb Gibson
Best Technology – Avegant Corp., Edward Tang

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Ray Waters
Shannon Beeman

2014 Showcase Presenters:

Roomations, Katie Miller – B2C interior design for average homeowners
PHASIQ, Shuichi Takayama – Protein biomarker validation for prediction & drug efficiency measurement
A2B Bikeshare, Agar Strother – Bike sharing for metropolitan areas
PicoSpray, Lihang Nong – Fuel injection systems for small engines
DataSpeaks, Dennis Nash – Software for repurposing drugs
Foodjunky.com, Travis Johnson – Online food ordering service
Genomenon, Mark Kiel – Genomic sequencing analysis software
Myfab5, Omeid Seraifipour – Online restaurant ranking application
Simpathic, Dan Reiss – Tablet based learning program for medical students
Exodynamics, Mushir Khwaja – Surgeon interactive back braces
Advanced Interactive Response Systems, Valerie Obenchain – Oxygen system alarms

2014 Awards:

Entrepreneur of the Year – Carcode SMS, Steve Schwartz
Best Presentation – Roomations, Katie Miller
Best Business Model – A2 Bikeshare, Ansgar Strother
Best Technology – Genomenon, Mark Kiel

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Ray Waters
Sarika Gupta
Sheu-Jane Gallagher
Stefan Sysko
Steve Schwartz
Terry MacEwen
Viktor Brandtneris

2015 Showcase Presenters:

Blue Water Satellite, Milt Baker – Satellite geological exploration
Pelico, Amer Abughaida & Imen Alem – Wheelchair manufacturer that can go up stairs
Mountain Labs, Alex VanDerKolk – Software mgmt. platform to broker access to sensitive health info
MakerOS, Mike Mocerri – Operating system for 3D printing business
Mobileteer, Dave Alexander – Brandable Wi-Fi & promotions platform
Transcuro, Lauren Shampo – Post acute care services matching
ContentOro, Bob Chunn – Reputable content provider for websites
Do-TheDoc, Dimitris Papageorgiou – Secure messaging platform for healthcare organizations
Workit Health, Lisa McLaughlin – Software platform providing care & support to substance abusers

2015 Awards:

30th NEF Anniversary Tom Porter Leadership Award – Tom Kinnear
Entrepreneur of the Year – Cohort FS, LLC, Elizabeth Ziph
Best Presentation – Workit Health, Lisa McLaughlin
Best Business Model – ContentOro, Bob Chunn
Best Technology – Blue Water Satellite, Milt Baker

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Patti Glaza
Ray Waters
Sarika Gupta
Scott Taylor
Stefan Sysko
Steve Schwartz
Viktor Brandtneris
William McPherson

2016 Showcase Presenters

AOE Medical, Arianna Carley – Medical device that solves the problem of patient transfer
Odeum Learning, Ian Natzmer – Software that reshapes how teachers engage students with content
Alchemie, Julia Winter – Providing mobile games for higher education in organic chemistry
LegalEase, Tariq Hafeez – Software platform capitalizing on a visionary legal eco-system
TrueJob, Scott Goci – Software platform that changes how you find your next job
Brightable, David Vanker – Software for collaboration, team communication and project management
PlanetXLaw, Bert Tiger Whitehead – Software uniquely enabling lawyers to provide more legal services
Parabricks, Mehrzad Samadi – Genome sequencing software from data to insight in just one hour
Ripple Science, Nestor Lopez-Duran – Software system to manage research participants more efficiently

2016 Awards

Entrepreneur of the Year – RetroSense, Sean Ainsworth
Best Presentation – Ripple Science, Nestor Lopez-Duran
Best Business Model – PlanetXLaw, Bert Tiger Whitehead
Best Technology – Parabricks, Mehrzad Samadi

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Scott Taylor
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2017 Showcase Presenters

Melius, AkkeNeel Talsma – Software point-of-care improvement solution
MySwimPro, Fares Ksebati – Personalized workouts to swim smarter
Clingfish, Tasneen Bowe – Vacuum accessory for aluminum-bodied vehicles
Carrot Pass, Michael Antaran – Mobile app that rewards people financially for walking
Spellbound, Christina York – Mobile technology to distract children during medical treatments
Mi Padrino, Kimberly Gamez – Event software for the global Hispanic event market
Circadian Risk, Daniel Young – IOS apps and SaaS for security professionals to increase efficiency
TwoScoreTwo, Sam Savant – Blockchain technology for the supply chain
Clicktivated, Chris Roebuck – Technology to make ads interactive to convert to sales

2017 Awards

Entrepreneur of the Year – Groundspeed, Jeff Mason
Best Presentation – Spellbound, Christina York
Best Business Model – Mi Padrino, Kimberly Gamez
Best Technology – Clicktivated, Chris Roebuck

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Jay Mahler
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Steve Field
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2018 Showcase Presenters

Mandy & Pandey, Christopher Lin - Teaching American Kids Chinese with interest and fun.
CoPilot Vision Systems, John Gray – A rear view vision system for the commercial heavy-duty trucks.
MedKairos, Michael Moore – MedKairos is automating the cancer biopsy assessment process.
Advaita, Sorin Draghici – Advanced tools to improve drug development and patient care.
Ascape Audio, Paul Schrems – A wireless technology design company with true wireless earbuds.
HLX Engines, Evan Collins – Building an innovative multi-fuel combustion engine for increased efficiency.
SmileBond, Dr. William C. Vuillemot – Helping dentists to deliver brilliant smiles to their patients.
Legacy Shave, Mike Gutow – A unique and patented technology for better shaving experience.

2018 Awards

Entrepreneur of the Year – Dug Song, Duo Security, Inc.
NEF Rising Star of the Year – Lisa McLaughlin, Workit Health
Best Presentation – Pathware, Inc. (Formally MedKairos), Michael Moore
Best Business Model – SmileBond, Dr. William C. Vuillemot
Best Technology – HLX Engines, Evan Collins

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Ray Waters

2019 Showcase Presenters

EagleView Imaging, Francis Glorie, CEO
eScapes Network, Robert Oklejas, Co-Founder & CEO
Giggso, Ravi Venugopal, Founder & CEO
InheRET, Dr. David Keren, CEO
Life Magnetics, Kevin Hagedorn, Ph.D., Founder & President

2019 Awards

Entrepreneur of the Year – Danny Ellis, Skyspecs
NEF Rising Star of the Year – Fares Ksebati, MySwimPro
Best Presentation – InheRET, David F. Keren, MD
Best Business Model – eScapes Network, Robert Oklejas
Best Technology – Life Magnetics, Kevin Hagedorn

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Jay Mahler
Bill Mayer
Bill McPherson
Joe Morrison
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Anne Perigo
Steve Schwartz
Scott Taylor
Ray Waters

2020 Showcase Presenters

AuraLab, Robert Alexander, Co-Founder & CEO
CardioGenerics, Bill O'Neil, Founder & CEO
Connect to My Attorney, Peter Staver, Founder & CEO
eSimplify, Pradeep Kalmat, Founder & CEO
Modus, Ali Alhimiri, Founder
RIZZARR, Ashley Williams, Founder & CEO
ZoomBroom (Aceleon), Randy Kuchuck, Co-Inventor and CEO

2020 Awards

Entrepreneur of the Year – WorkIt Health, Robin McIntosh & Lisa McLaughlin
Best Presentation – RIZZARR, Ashley Williams
Best Consumer Product – ZoomBroom, Randy Kuchuck
Best Technology – CardioGenerics, Bill O'Neil

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2021 Showcase Presenters

Anthony Montalbano, Backboard
Harvey Goodman, Eebu Health
Jason Yaeger, Tenacity Cloud
Nicolas Theoret, Centri
Will Jeffrey and Brian Winn, Will Winn Games
Patrick Ciccarelli, Plumly
Nicholas Kristock, KindKatch
Don Goeman, Quint

2021 Awards

Best Presentation – Nicholas Kristock, KindKatch
Best Technology – Harvey Goodman, Eebu Health
Best Business Model – Don Goeman, Quint
Entrepreneur of the Year – Mike Vichich, Co-founder and CEO of Wisely
Rising Star - Kabir Maiga, Co-Founder and CEO of PassiveBolt

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