



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

“The Venture Club of Indiana’s 11th Innovation Showcase - The Winners Are Announced”

Indianapolis, Indiana – August 23, 2019 – After an hour of hard deliberation and amid thunderous applause, the 4 winners of Venture Club of Indiana’s 11th Innovation Showcase were announced --

First Place for \$10,000 -- Pinpoint Pharma (<https://www.petsgetit.com/>) – Arun Giridhar

Second Place for \$6,000 - Plan Forward (<https://www.planforward.io/>) - Megan Lohman

Simba Chain (<https://simbachain.com/>) – Joel Neidig

Third Place for \$4,000 – Frost Control Systems (<https://frostcontrols.com/>)– Bradley Tener

With a dead heat tie for second place, Chris LaMothe of Elevate Ventures volunteered to increase the prize package by \$6,000 to accommodate the two winners.

With nearly 400 attendees, the Innovation Showcase was packed!

Excitement filled the air as 20 companies from across the state of Indiana pitched to a room filled with over 100 investors! The goal of the Venture Club of Indiana is to increase the amount of capital and talent available to venture and angel investors to fund Indiana’s most innovative entrepreneurs drive Indiana job creation and economic growth! Following the first-annual Indiana Next Level Fund Summit held at the Heritage Group’s, The Center, the attendees poured into the Entrepreneurs’ Expo for lunch.

The Showcase kicked off with serial entrepreneur, Don Brown, CEO of LifeOmic, sharing his vision for the future of healthcare through a more personalized holistic evaluation process. Dr. Don Kuratko, former Venture Club President and IU Kelley professor, masterfully emceed the pitch competition peppering the space between each of the 20 pitches with tidbits of history highlighting the growth of entrepreneurship in Indiana.

Jeff Ready, CEO of Scale Computing, recounted his past winning of the “Venture Idol” (precursor to the Innovation Showcase) and interviewed two other past winners, Kristen Nunery, CEO of myCOI (2016 winner) and Bob McShane, CEO of PowderCoil Technologies (2007 winner). Each of the past winners shared stories about how the Innovation Showcase helped jump start their growth and discussed the tremendous advantages Indiana offers to startups looking to launch and scale!

The pitches ended and while the judges sequestered themselves. Jane Martin, retired Venture Capitalist took the stage to share her insights gained over five decades in venture capital on both coasts

and in Indiana. The program concluded with an all-woman venture capital panel led by Teri Willey (IU Ventures), Stephanie Campbell (Artemis Capital), Lesa Mitchell (Heritage Group Accelerator powered by Techstars) and Dana Wright (MATH Venture Partners).

The winners were announced with congratulations from the judges and board members of the Venture Club. All followed by a grand VIP reception that continued the celebration for all of the out-of-town guests.

A special thank you to all of the Innovation Showcase sponsors: Elevate Ventures, Barnes & Thornburg, LLP, Purdue Foundry, Purdue Ventures, HG Ventures, 50 South Capital, Signature Bank, Innovation Connector, Deftly Creative, Lux-Writes, When You Leave The Room, Novel CoWorking, VisionTech, Allos Ventures, Katz Saper & Miller, Ontario Systems.

Also, a special thank you to our Regional Pitch Competition sponsors & partners: Start Ft. Wayne Combine, Gutwein Law, Ingen, MatchBox, Growth Alliance, 1517 Fund, Purdue Northwest Big Sell, The Root, and Launch Terre Haute.

Another Showcase enters the record books, and the Board of the Venture Club looks forward to next year's 12th Innovation Showcase. Stay tuned for more announcements to come!

Media Contact

Travis Stegemoller

Venture Club of Indiana

Email Address for publication: info@ventureclub.org

Phone Number: 317.231.7815

About Venture Club of Indiana

Venture Club of Indiana is a member-based, volunteer-led organization that thrives on the ideas and efforts of its members since its inception in 1984. As a catalyst for increased investing in Indiana business, the Investor focused Venture Club of Indiana is dedicated to helping entrepreneurs, investors, and the professional community convene to network, creating opportunities for education and information sharing through its programs and monthly luncheon meetings. For more information about membership, please check our website at www.ventureclub.org.

About The Innovation Showcase

The Innovation Showcase is Indiana's premier, carefully curated startup pitch event for capital sources to connect with fundable companies. Adding a dedicated reach to the entire state of Indiana, "The Road to the Showcase" reached 10 cities around the state creating the path to the Showcase by bringing some of the best startups in Indiana. "Where Capital Meets Innovation"