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**Top WOW Moments** 

to Celebrate

Helping Nashville be the best place in America to start and grow a business is our first priority. We do this through connecting entrepreneurs to the resources they need to start and grow a business. In 2021, we served 2008 entrepreneurs on their journey through the entrepreneurial lifecycle. When entrepreneurs succeed in their business, it keeps our economy moving forward through job creation and revenue generation. And while we are still navigating a pandemic, working hard to connect entrepreneurs with resources, this year's results are proof that our economy is thriving.

> We are here to celebrate and elevate our entrepreneurial community.

Launched corporate partnership with Mitsubishi Motors North America.

**Lightning 100 partnered with Renew Nashville** and the EC to generate audio commercials for new business. Nashville companies such as 312 Pizza, Miller's Florist, Perfectly Cordial, and more have used these resources to release their own ads.

Hosted the McWhorter Circle in-person at the Conservation Hall at the Tennessee Governor's Residence. This society of leaders and visionaries helps promote economic development through entrepreneurial job growth and revenue.

**Hosted Pitch for Good: Tennessee Tough** Edition in coordination with the Tennessee Titans.

Twende program went statewide, allowing us to serve entrepreneurs of color beyond Nashville. It has grown from 20 to 60 founders engaged in the new class.

Inaugural Telehealth Academy for earlystage innovators and entrepreneurs to learn from experts across the country in telehealth and virtual care.

Companies for all the cohorts in **Project Healthcare, Project Music & Entertainment and InFlight graduated** with the most revenue and funds invested in the history of the EC.

Launched new mini-series of Circle Back podcast, hosted by NFL legend Eddie George.

> Launched expansion of Project Music & Entertainment.

The NEXT Awards broke in-person attendance and fundraising records. We also inducted four into the Entrepreneurs' Hall of Fame.

Axial Healthcare raised \$70M.

**Current Project Healthcare companies raised** \$22M.

### **Our Profile**

**Vision:** Make Nashville the best place in America to start and grow a business.

Mission: Connect entrepreneurs with critical resources to create, launch and grow businesses.

**Team:** A talented, passionate team who leads best-in-class programming.

> *2,008* Number of entrepreneurs served

2,090 Jobs created

\$18M Revenue generated in 2021 Program

\$119M Capital raised as reported by program companies

## **Our Board**

2022 Board of Directors





























**Our Community** 

The EC community is a diverse group by gender, race, age, and sexual orientation. We help level the playing field for all.















































Courtney Ross





Saurabh Sinha





















Shani Dowell















Female or non-binary

7%

17% Over 45 years old



### **How We Serve Entrepreneurs**

**PROGRAMS** 

Project Healthcare

Project Music &

Entertainment

Renew Nashville

Telehealth Academy

**MEMBERSHIPS** 

PreFlight

Twende InFlight

Connect

CoWork

Incubate

Amplify

SERVICES **Event Space Rental** Lockboxes Meeting Room Rental Navigation Studio Rental Video Production

**Podcast Production** Photography

#### **EVENTS NEXT Awards** Pitch for Good Circle Back Podcast

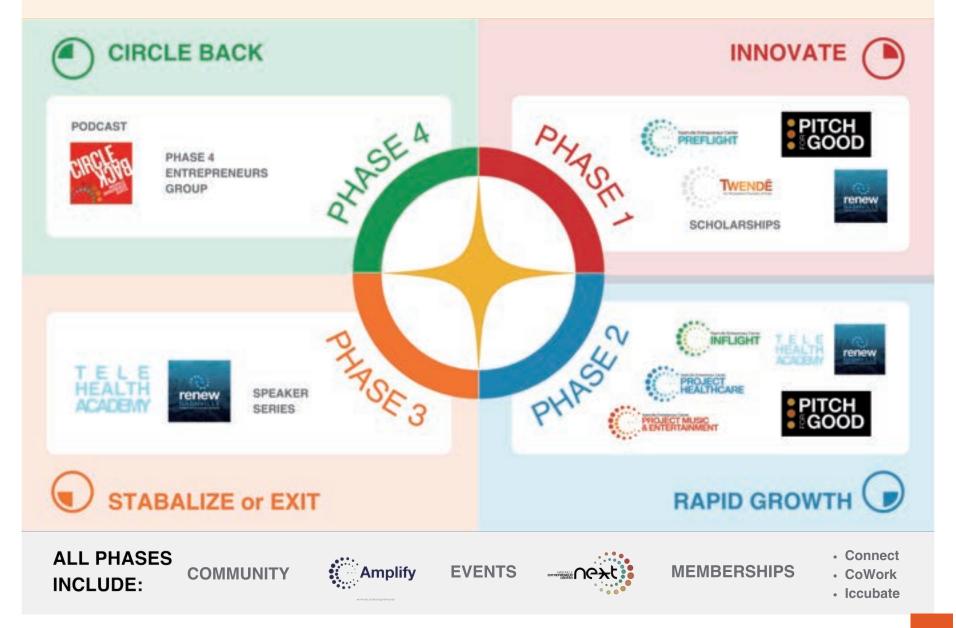
**Speaker Series** 

39% LGBTQ+ BIPOC

# **Equip Entrepreneurs**

Our Programs

### THE ENTREPRENEUR'S LIFECYCLE







## Nashville Entrepreneur Center **PREFLIGHT**

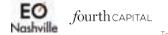
PreFlight is a 14-week program that walks first-time entrepreneurs step-by-step from "I have an idea" to "I have a business." The intent is to empower entrepreneurs with knowledge and support as they bring their business to life.

This is Phase 1 of the Entrepreneurial Lifecycle. This program provides weekly interactive coursework with our network of mentors and successful entrepreneurs who offer support as they begin to establish a solid business foundation.

**Program Partners** 











# of Entrepreneurs Served in 2021

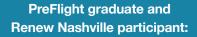
18 **BIPOC** participants (51% increase)

> 2014 Year founded

Female participants 57% increase

## **WOW MOMENT**





On Veterans Day, November 11, 8pm, two Nashville entrepreneurs and business partners appeared LIVE on "America's Big Deal!" on the **USA Network. Amy Cotta from Franklin, TN,** and her business partner, SFC (RET) Joseph James of Hendersonville, TN, were selected to appear on this groundbreaking series that invites entrepreneurs from across the country to sell their ready-to-ship products on-air in real-time to live home viewers.













### **Our Programs**



Nashville Entrepreneur Center

# TWENDE

Twende is Kiswahili for "let's go." This is the spirit of the EC's program driving the growth of Nashville's entrepreneurs of color.

Twende is a year-long program for entrepreneurs of color in all industries looking to significantly grow their businesses, and gain access to world-class curriculum, a supportive community, and individualized mentorship.

### **Program Partners**























**EPICENTER** 





Program expanded statewide

2019

22 Graduated teams signed on for another year

82% Female

18%

262% Average annual revenue growth

**WOW** helps business executives create humancentered work approaches to increase engagement, productivity and for women in the workplace.

Added 20 hours of capacity per week for an executive experiencing burnout.

Taught her framework to more than 1,000 employees since 2020.

Achieved \$1.7M for clients in continuous improvement savings in 12 months.

Facilitated an internal employee forum to build value-added relationships between employees and managers.

**Increased Engagement by** 177%.

## **WOW MOMENTS**



MinTech Agency is a **Diversity Tech Recruiting** 

InnerG opened an innovative juiceria and yoga studio, based in north Nashville, TN.



and Staffing company with a focus on connecting Black and Latinx talent to



PreFlight and Twende alumna Karen Williams and her company MinTech Agency were highlighted in the national publication, Essence.



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### **Our Programs**



Nashville Entrepreneur Center

# **PROJECT MUSIC** & ENTERTAINMENT

**Project Music & Entertainment is a year**long program that serves all aspects of the entertainment industry--from music to sports and gaming--all to foster innovation, nurture growth, and drive the future of the entertainment industry.

The program was developed with help from the Country Music Association (CMA) to bring music, technology and business leaders together to accelerate the development of industry-changing startups.

100+

2015

Entrepreneurs in 2020-2021 cohort

42% **BIPOC** participant Mentors dedicated to mentoring/advising

ICONIC MOMENTS







### **WOW MOMENTS**

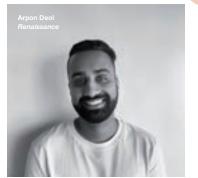
















Project Music 2020 Alumn ArtistWorks provides online music instruction where master musicians teach through their Video Exchange® Learning concept and platform. It was acquired by TrueFire Studios, connecting leading names to online music education.





















Nashville Entrepreneur Center

# PROJECT HEALTHCARE

**Project Healthcare is Nashville's leading** healthcare entrepreneurship initiative: driving transformation in the healthcare industry through tailored programming and connections.

This program leverages relationships with Nashville's healthcare industry giants and provides unmatched access to the top experts and resources in the field.





10+ Leading industry companies speaking

100+ Mentors/advisors dedicated to program

> 16 # of entrepreneurs in 2021-2022 cohort

2017 Year founded

**AxialHealthcare Rebrands** as Wayspring, Raises Care Solution.



Rare Disease Data Trust helps healthcare providers discover rare diseases. They raised

**WOW MOMENTS** 

**\$475K** 

in capital and are based in Nashville.

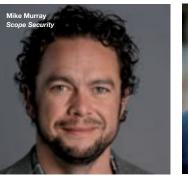
















Darvis raised \$1M, generated \$2.6M in revenue, relocated from San Francisco to Nashville.



GeneXsure is Nashvillebased and helps users understand geneticsbased family risk for cancer, cardiac and other illnesses. They generated

in revenue in 2021.

GeneXsure Co-founders Rvan Brebner and Laura Robbins', Advocatia named Healthcare "Emerging Winner" at NEXT Awards: form strategic partnership with OLIVE and Unite Us.

ADVOCATIA

Founder Mike Murray's Scope Security raised \$20M

scope

Lineus Medical, founded in 2015, offers controlled separation in an IV line, so that it is harder to pull out the IV catheter. It completed \$3M in Series B Funding Round for a total of \$6.4M to support the development and launch of the company's first medical device SafeBreak Vascular.



### **Program Partners**



### Nashville Entrepreneur Center

## **TELEHEALTH ACADEMY**

The inaugural Telehealth Academy was an immersive, 8-week program for healthcare providers who accelerated telehealth during the pandemic and needed to step back, reassess and develop a roadmap to integrate it into their care delivery strategies post COVID.

Telehealth has been a long time in the making but made huge advances with the onset of COVID-19, resulting in:

Digital therapeutics

The intersection of mental health and emotional well-being with medical care

Applied data science

Partnerships between industry leaders, incumbents and technology, innovation, and investment

Solutions to industry challenges, such as staffing challenges, clinician burnout, quality, safety, cost, access, and equity

The program targeted Nashville's top healthcare leaders by addressing:

Policy, business models, technology, whole-person care and consumerism.

### **Corporations and Entrepreneurs Learning Together**

### **Employer Models**

amazon care

Premise Health

Kristen Helton, Amazon Care

Jami Doucette, MD. Premise Health

nealthcare corporations

18 Months of rapid implementation of elehealth, virtual care and digital health technologies

70 Startup founders

26

30 Ambassadors

360 Registered attendees

## 31 Executive Speakers





Classic Entrepreneurs (Oron Afek, Marjorie Morrison, Jonathan Bush, Nick Desai, Lyle Berkowitz, MD)



6 Health Systems (VUMC, HCA Healthcare, Atrium Health, Mayo Clinic, Intermountain Healthcare, Mass General Brigham)

Associations/Policy (Center for Connected Health Policy, The Keckley Report, the AMA, Business Group on Health)







9 Technology Companies (Vim, Olive, Zus Health, Psych Hub, Caregility, OneView, Teladoc, HeyRenee, MeMD)

**Program Partners** 











## Nashville Entrepreneur Center INFLIGHT

The year-long InFlight program addresses the unique challenges facing Nashville-based entrepreneurs in any industry who are generating revenue and are looking to grow or scale.

This accelerator-level program features monthly activities with interactive classroom sessions with world-class curriculum, a supportive peer-group, connections to Nashville business leaders and personalized, hands-on attention through dedicated case managers.











\$600,000 to Average Annual Revenue growth

5.3 to 9.8 Average FTEs growth

> 2018 Year founded

Teams representing 9 industries

### **WOW MOMENTS**







CUE Audio uses highfrequency, inaudible audio signals to transmit data via any sound-based media.

Growth of employees from 5 to **22** FTEs in less than a year, many of whom are located in Nashville.

Revenue grew from 500k to **\$2.5***M* annually. <**⊪**>CUE

Possip helps schools get real-time feedback from arents using a multi-lingual engagement platform to gather information.

Crossed over the **\$1**M annual revenue mark.

Grew to 14 team members and continues to hire. **₽**POSSIP

Pivot Technology School is a 20-week accelerator teaching data analytics, software development, cyber security and healthcare analytics.

Annual revenue grew from \$150,000 to **\$650**k and is now at 15 FTEs.

Landed Amazon, Shipt and Deloitte as customers.

Founder Josh Mundy named 2021 NEXT Award Winner.



**Program Partners** 





### **Our Programs**



Nashville Entrepreneur Center

## STABILIZE **OR EXIT**

## **Speaker Series**

Our signature speaker series allows our community to learn from elite entrepreneurial leaders in Nashville and beyond. These events have drawn hundreds of entrepreneurs across the lifecycle, from entrepreneurs just starting out, to Phase 3 entrepreneurs looking for the next step.



**Cliff Goldmacher** Songwriter, Music Producer, Entrepreneur, and Educator February 22, 2021



**Brian Fox** Founder of Confirmation May 12, 2021



**Henry Hicks** President and CEO of the National Museum of African American Music October 12, 2021



**Sharon W. Reynolds** President and CEO, DevMai Products September 14, 2021



Dr. Josh Axe Co-founder, AVO Ancient Nutrition and Founder of DrAxe.com November 9, 2021

### **Our Programs**



## CIRCLE **BACK**

Once entrepreneurs exit the Lifecycle, they have the opportunity to come back to help entrepreneurs at earlier stages of the Lifecycle. They are able to contribute to the ecosystem.

The Circle Back podcast supports this phase- it features an array of exceptional entrepreneurs as they revisit the moments that defined their paths. After a successful first season, "Circle Back" will return for season two to share insights and learnings from highly esteemed Nashville entrepreneurs.

2021 CircleBack series was made possible by the Beth and Randy Chase Family































## Membership

Being an entrepreneur can sometimes feel like constantly fighting a lonely, uphill battle. This is where the EC comes in. It helps you connect with others through events, networking and workshops.

We offer three different levels of membership for people looking to connect with our resources, advisors and affordable downtown Nashville space.

#### CONNECT

#### **COWORK**

Connect +

Access to member-specific events & workshops

Free wifi

CoWork Members: 150

### **INCUBATE**

CoWork+

Dedicated desk space

24/7 building access

Access to virtual resources. Slack community

Meetings with network Advisors

**Incubate Members: 47** 

### **WOW MOMENTS**





Long-time EC member and founder of Renee Bobb Training and Development Firm, Renee was named the Dr. Paris Love 2021 Military/Entrepreneur Award Winner.





irsitour) was a semi-finalis in the global Founders Live pitch competition.

> FOUNDERS LIVE



Scott Campbell with Persist Nashville distributed more than 133 microgrants to students totaling \$20,769.



## **Amplify Membership**

Our 300+ network of business experts differentiates the EC from other entrepreneurial organizations and cities around the world. These business experts come from all industries and all functions of business to walk alongside our entrepreneurs.



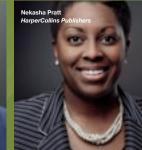
28%

Entrepreneur satisfaction 4.82/5

Advisor satisfaction 4.47/5

















# Mobilize the Ecosystem

Our Community





Renew Nashville continued to provide advanced critical COVID responses to founders and small business owners who were negatively affected by the pandemic. This year, Renew Nashville partnered with Lightning 100 to record audio commercials.

26
Spots written and recorded

932
Total diverse entrepreneurs served through either Navigation or Renew

Nashville

Total companies selected and given a chance to get their spot on air

485
WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS
served through
either channel
(37% increase)

472
BIPOC ENTREPRENEURS
served through
either channel
(40.5% increase)

## **Scholarships**

With the help of generous corporate, individual and foundation donors, the EC has provided 92 scholarships since 2015. Our programs make a real difference. With the hundreds of businesses in our high-touch programs, 84% are still in business today. That's 8 times the average survival rate of new businesses. For every \$1 invested in a scholarship, scholars have generated \$7 in investment and \$4 in revenue.

### **Scholarship Recipients**





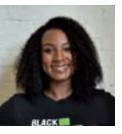














## Pitch for Good

Pitch for Good is a series of seven virtual monthly pitch events. Its purpose is to highlight and support Nashville's entrepreneurs focusing their innovation on solutions which benefit our community and world.

### **\$38,000** in grants awarded in 2021



### **Topics included:**



Black Founders Healthcare

Music & Entertainment

Nashville Only

Tennessee Tough

Data Analytics/ Al



#### Thank you to our sponsors, who made this season possible:















Nashville has a 'family' feel...vibrant and growing at record rates. It is truly watching people's dreams become their rea<mark>lity.</mark> - Elliott Noble

For those people who have a spark inside them, the EC provides a breath of air that helps fan that spark into a flame.

- Governor Phil Bredeson









# Optimize the Model

## Supporting Partners

### **2021 Supporting Partners**

Partners who give to support our mission:













John R. Ingram







BASS BERRY \* SIMS











**In-Kind Partners** 





DEX Score & Win - thanks to the Preds for selecting the EC as a charity partner for this competition series.

### **Partners**

As a non-profit organization, the EC relies on the generous support from donors to give time, money and expertise to fuel the EC's Mission. We work with individual donors, the business and investor communities, foundations, and local, state and federal governments to provide the resources needed to help entrepreneurs turn their ideas into a reality.

Combining this support with the EC's experience in delivering world-class programming and connections to industry leaders, allows the EC to help entrepreneurs increase their likelihood of success.

**Supporting Partners** provide philanthropic support which fuels the EC's mission to equip entrepreneurs and innovators with the critical resources to create, launch and grow businesses.

**Program Partners** are aligned with one or more of the EC's signature entrepreneurial education programs to provide program funding industry insights and business expertise to help entrepreneurs build their businesses.

**Innovation Partners** have a unique opportunity to identify and help influence entrepreneur solutions and innovations that align with the partnering company's vision and strategy.



Clayton McWhorter, the EC's founding Chair, helped hundreds of entrepreneurs and leaders throughout his life and is remembered for the four guiding principle that were his legacy to those he mentored.

Be Prepared
Find a Mentor and Be a Mentor
Act Like an Owner
Give Back

## Special thanks to The McWhorter Circle

#### **Platinum**

Jane and Greg Allen

**David Baxter** 

Lucius Burch

Betsy and Ryan Chapman

Beth and Randy Chase

Dan Crockett

Kevin and Katie Crumbo

Dana and David Curtis

Mark Deutschmann

Sherry Deutschmann

Joe Galante

Angela Humphreys and Joe Cashia

Stephanie and John Ingram

Darren Metz

Phylanice and Turner Nashe

Anissa Nelson-Carlisle

Pam and Phil Pfeffer

Linda and Art Rebrovick

Joe and Dorothy Scarlett

Dee Anna and Hubie Smith

Leah and Jim Sohr

Jimmy Spradley

Kathy and Jon Yarbrough

#### Gold

Nancy Allen, John Burch, & Matt King/FCA Venture Partners

Erin and Allen Baler

Sarah and Bo Bartholomew

Angela and Jerry Bostelman

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Mary and Bill Brennan

Judith Bright

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Sandra and Dean Chase

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Kimberly Pace-Furse and David Furse

Noel Geer

Christie and Landon Gibbs

Debbie Gordon

Carlana and Aubrey Harwell

Chris Hefley

Malinda and Joe Ivey

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Saurabh Sinha

Holly and Clint Smith

Andy Faught/Abby Spaulding/Continuum Planning Partners

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David Waddell/ Waddell & Associates

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Ed Woodside