



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Where Capital Meets Innovation!
The 2022 Innovation Showcase Promises Big Names, Great Insights Plus
Networking with Investors, Hot Hoosier Companies and an Exciting Class of Startups**

INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana (July 28, 2022) - - Despite the challenging economy, Indiana's investors and innovators remain bullish on commercializing, fundraising, investing and scaling new technology companies. To celebrate this untiring spirit, [the Venture Club](#) of Indiana has announced that the 14th Annual Innovation Showcase will be held Wednesday, August 31, at [The Center](#) | The Heritage Group in Indianapolis.

For more than 38 years, the Venture Club has been laser focused on attracting investors interested in funding Indiana startup companies. Under the banner "Where Capital Meets Innovation," the Showcase will bring together investor groups from across the nation, five hot Hoosier startups and past Showcase winners, and a rising class of 21 Indiana startups to pitch for thousands of dollars in prizes and the attention of potential investors.

New Collaboration (Ind)Venture

By partnering with [50 South Capital](#), [Elevate Ventures](#) and [TechPoint](#), the Innovation Showcase is the hub of two additional events that expand the traditional one-day Showcase into a three-day (Ind)Venture bonanza for investors to network and meet one-on-one with Indiana's most game-changing startup companies.

Kicking off with an invitation-only investor reception the night before the Showcase, the (Ind)Venture collaboration includes 50 South Capital's Indiana Next Level Fund Summit on Wednesday, August 31, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at The Center. After the Summit, attendees will join the Showcase's Entrepreneur's Expo for a walking lunch. The Innovation Showcase's main stage will come alive a 1:00 p.m. with special guest speakers and the pitch competition. On Thursday, September 1, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., TechPoint will host breakfast for the investors and startup companies followed by an invitation-only curated VC Speed Dating event at the Bitwell Center in Indianapolis. Separate registrations are required for each event.

Innovation Showcase Chairperson Sandy Wilcox promises big names and great insights. "The journey of a startup company is never dull; it's more of a suspense novel with unexpected twists and turns. This year, we're digging into the real lives of entrepreneurs with some hard-hitting sessions with past Innovation Showcase winners that are among some of the hottest early-growth companies in Indiana. Many of these companies are still raising money, so for investors, it's a great opportunity to get insights beyond the pitch decks."

The three special sessions are:

- *The Road After The Showcase* featuring 2021 Innovation Showcase winners Rajan Kumar, CEO of [Ateios](#) (first place) and Steve Booher, founder of [Smart Apply](#) (second place). Samantha Ginther of High Alpha will moderate.
- *In the Fire* featuring Jeff Middlesworth, the new CEO of Boardable. Neenah Jain, Partner and CFO at Armory Square Ventures, will moderate.
- *Crossing the Chasm: From Venture to Growth* featuring Kristen Nunnery, CEO of [myCOI](#), and Matt Weirich, CEO and co-founder of [Realignc](#). Both are past winners of the 2016 Innovation Showcase. Don Aquilano of Allos Ventures will moderate.

The Showcase will also welcome keynote speakers Joanna Milliken, CEO at Emarsys and RJ Talyor, former co-founder and CEO of Pattern89, now operating partner at High Alpha. They will co-present *Global Digital Transformation: What It Is, Why It's Important and What Startups Need to Know*.

Twenty-one startup companies have been nominated by local venture capital investors to compete in the Innovation Showcase pitch competition. There will be four fast-paced rounds of pitches throughout the afternoon. Winners will be announced at 5:00 p.m. A VIP networking reception will follow for investors, pitch presenters, sponsors, and other attendees.

Sponsors of the 2022 Innovation Showcase include a Who's Who of the state's innovation ecosystem: [Allos Ventures](#), [Armory Square Ventures](#), [Barnes & Thornburg](#), [Deftly Creative](#), [Elevate Ventures](#), [50 South Capital](#), [Gener8tor](#), [HG Ventures](#), [High Alpha](#), [IEDC](#), [KSM](#), [Purdue Ventures](#), [Signature Bank](#), [TechPoint](#), and [VisionTech Angels](#).

The public is invited to attend Indiana's premier event for investors and game-changing startup companies. **Details on The Innovation Showcase and ticket information are available [here](#).**

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