

**Press Release Date: Immediately (5/17/2019)**

**Title: Top Winners of The Gauntlet Business Competition**

**From: The Advancement Foundation**

Announcement from The Gauntlet Awards ceremony (took place Thursday, May 16, 2019 at the Vinton War Memorial). This was the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Gauntlet Business Program & Competition (started with 122 entrepreneurs/84 businesses that participated in the 10 weeks of training and then 50 of those businesses went on to participate in the business competition portion)!! The following is a list of the Gold Division winners (top 12 winners) with their localities and total value of their cash and in-kind prize packages. All 50 businesses won prize packages based on their needs for their startups or expansions to further advance their business goals and strategies!! Congratulations to all 50 participating businesses, and graduates, of the Gauntlet Business Program & Competition!! Thank you to all the 2019 Sponsors, Localities, Partners, Mentors, and Community Leaders that make this program a success!! Special thanks to our lead sponsors WFXR and State Farm for your support and community advocacy!! Lastly, immense gratitude to each participating locality including Roanoke County, Roanoke City, Botetourt County, Alleghany Highlands, and the Town of Vinton!!

- **12<sup>th</sup> Place- Valley Cryotherapy**
  - Roanoke County
  - TOTAL: \$4,575.00
- **11<sup>th</sup> Place (tie)- The Foundry**
  - Roanoke City
  - TOTAL: \$9,380.00
- **11<sup>th</sup> Place (tie)- The Harvest Collective**
  - Roanoke City
  - TOTAL: \$9,245.00
- **10<sup>th</sup> Place- Born Again Custom Woodworks**
  - Alleghany Highlands
  - TOTAL: \$6,399.00
- **9<sup>th</sup> Place- Keely Massie Photography**
  - Alleghany Highlands
  - TOTAL: \$6,595.00
- **8<sup>th</sup> Place (tie)- Advanced Racking**

- Botetourt County
- TOTAL: \$9,745.00
- **8<sup>th</sup> Place (tie)- Downshift Outfitters**
- Roanoke City (expanding into Roanoke County)
- TOTAL: \$7,245.00
- **7<sup>th</sup> Place- Accelerated Academics**
- Roanoke County
- TOTAL: \$10,145.00
- **6<sup>th</sup> Place- Honeycomb Grove**
- Alleghany Highlands
- TOTAL: \$14,045.00
- **5<sup>th</sup> Place- Quest Knight Enterprises**
- Alleghany Highlands
- TOTAL: \$7,845.00
- **4<sup>th</sup> Place- Why Knot Boat With Us**
- Roanoke County
- TOTAL: \$11,929.00
- **3<sup>rd</sup> Place- Easy Workings**
- Alleghany Highlands
- TOTAL: \$17,345.00
- **2<sup>nd</sup> Place (tie)- IVO Limited**
- Alleghany Highlands
- TOTAL: \$18,845.00
- **2<sup>nd</sup> Place (tie)- Roanoke Neuromuscular**
- Roanoke County
- TOTAL: \$18,185.00
- **1<sup>st</sup> Place- Formable Grabber**
- Alleghany Highlands
- TOTAL: \$21,095.00

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**Check out some of The Gauntlet Business Program & Competition 2018 media links:**

<https://www.wsls.com/video/gauntlet-awards>

[http://www.roanoke.com/business/energy-company-wins-gauntlet-business-competition/article\\_90491661-521a-59c2-8336-42cad870fdde.html](http://www.roanoke.com/business/energy-company-wins-gauntlet-business-competition/article_90491661-521a-59c2-8336-42cad870fdde.html)

<https://www.virginiafirst.com/news/good-news/winners-announced-at-the-gauntlet-business-competition/1191163832>