

green
town

GreenTown Rockford

November 12 | Embassy Suites Rockford Riverfront



Accelerating Creatives & Entrepreneurs & ACE Event

PANELISTS



Sully Cadengo
Owner,
President



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Content



Heather Wick
Business Enterprise Manager



Spitty Tata
Program Manager

ACCELERATING CREATIVES & ENTREPRENEURS REGIONAL

INNOVATION ECOSYSTEM

Coworking Spaces

Eigerlab
Makerspaces
RRDP
SWIFTT

Coaches

SBDC
Eigerlab
RRDP
NICNE
SCORE

Events, Clubs

1 Million Cups
ThinkBig Expo
Fast-pitch
ACE Expo

Minority Resources

EntrepreunHer
SWIFTT
ThinkBig
Black Chamber
Hispanic Chamber
IL DCEO

Incubators & Accelerators

Gener8or
Eigerlab

Local Economic Dev

Growth
Dimension
City of Rockford
Greater Freeport
Partnership
Chambers

Courses & Workshops

Libraries
Innov8 & Cre8 Podcasts
Start-up Weekend
Venture Program

Makerspaces

Rockford Makerspace
Rockford Public Library
Discovery center
Rockford Public Schools

Academic Programs

Rockford University
Kikifers Academy
RPS 205

Funding

RLDC
Angels
Banks

Prototyping

Eigerlab
Makerspaces

ACCELERATING CREATIVES & ENTREPRENEURS - ACE

Future State

Imagine if we are a globally recognized hub for aspiring entrepreneurs and innovative companies. What would that look like?

Why Is it important?

An Innovation ecosystem creates an active flow of information to transform ideas into reality. It guides entrepreneurs to launch innovative solutions. Innovative communities diversify the economy and draw in talent making it a more desirable destination for growth.

Objectives

SUPPORT NETWORKS: Build a network for entrepreneurs and innovators to quickly and easily navigate to the resources they need for their ideas.


BRAINPOWER: Increase innovation and entrepreneurship talent in our region.

QUALITY PLACES: Develop infrastructure and environment that assists and invites innovative talent to our region.

NEW NARRATIVES: Establish and communicate the story for the strength of our region's innovation ecosystem internally and externally.

SUPPORT NETWORKS

Network of Entrepreneurial Service Providers in the Region

PRIMARY AUDIENCE SERVED <small>Resource Providers may offer services in one or more of Audience Served' Categories.</small>	FINANCIAL CONSULTING	INTERNSHIPS / STUDENT PROGRAMS	LEGAL SERVICES	MANUFACTURING / LOGISTICS	MARKETING / SALES	MENTORING / COUNSELING	NETWORKING / EVENTS	PLANNING / MANAGEMENT	R&D / COMMERCIALIZATION	REGULATORY COMPLIANCE	SELLING TO GOV & CORPORATIONS	SPACE	WORKFORCE / HR / TALENT	MINORITY	WOMEN	 Navigating Entrepreneurs and Innovators mybizcompass.com <small>Compass partners are committed to the success of entrepreneurs, by guiding them to the best network resources throughout the business lifecycle.</small>		
	FINANCIAL	INTERNSHIPS	LEGAL	MANUFACTURING	MARKETING	MENTORING	NETWORKING	PLANNING	R&D	REGULATORY	SELLING TO GOV	SPACE	WORKFORCE	MINORITY	WOMEN	RESOURCE PROVIDERS	PHONE NUMBER	WEBSITE
Concept / Start-Up							•						•			Transform Rockford	(815) 713-0339	transformrockford.org
				•	•		•	•	•			•	•			Rockford Public Library	(815) 965-7606	rockfordpubliclibrary.com
	•				•	•	•	•	•				•			Venture Entrepreneur Program - Growth Dimensions Economic Development	(815) 547-4252	growthdimensions.org
	•	•				•						•				gener8tor	(515) 954-9646	gener8tor.com
	•	•					•						•			Maker Lab - Rockford Public Library	(815) 966-2723	rockfordpubliclibrary.com/maker-lab-at-the-hart-interim-library
		•					•						•			Rock River Development Partnership	(815) 315-1326	rockfordcitymarket.com
		•			•		•	•					•	•	•	Rockford MakerSpace	(815) 277-9367	rockfordmakerspace.com
Established					•	•	•	•					•			Illinois Small Business Development Center at the Rockford Chamber of Commerce	(815) 316-4301	rockfordsbdc.org
					•	•	•	•					•			Northern Illinois Center for Nonprofit Excellence	(815) 753-8733	niu.edu/nicne
		•				•	•	•				•	•	•		The Parks Chamber of Commerce	(815) 633-3999	parkschamber.com
All							•					•				The Workforce Connection	(815) 395-6619	theworkforceconnection.org
						•	•			•		•				Belvidere Area Chamber of Commerce	(815) 544-4357	belviderechamber.com
	•			•			•	•		•						City of Belvidere	(815) 547-7177	ci.belvidere.il.us
		•	•	•		•	•	•			•	•				City of Rockford	(779) 348-7419	rockfordil.gov
	•					•	•	•					•			EIGER/lab	(815) 965-3522	eigerlab.org
	•			•		•	•	•	•				•			Fox Valley SCORE	(630) 877-5538	foxvalleyscore.org
					•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			Greater Freeport Partnership	(815) 233-1356	greaterfreeport.com
	•				•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			Growth Dimensions Economic Development for Belvidere & Boone County, IL	(815) 547-4252	growthdimensions.org
	•	•							•							Region 1 Planning Council	(815) 319-4181	r1planning.org
		•					•	•						•	•	Rockford Area Arts Council	(815) 963-6765	artsforeveryone.com

BRAIN POWER & TALENT

ACE – Online Resources

Launch815.com



NEW NARRATIVES

theaceevent.com

LOCATION:

Discovery
Center

March 2-3, 2022

PURPOSE: Bring Entrepreneurs and Service Providers together in one space

PANEL DISCUSSIONS with entrepreneurs and their challenges

LECTURES, KEYNOTES, ROUNDTABLE, and Q&A

BOOTHS for provider services and entrepreneurial products

Focus on special challenges for **MINORITY ENTREPRENEURS**

SOCIAL in the evening to meet and connect kicked off by local Shark Tank winner



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