

14th Minnesota Entrepreneur Kick-off

Schulze Hall and Auditorium
University of St. Thomas – Minneapolis Campus
Tuesday, March 25, 2025

- 12:00 Registration and Networking with Co-hosts and Sponsors
- 12:30 Welcome Andrew Donahue – SBDC
- 12:35 Introduction Patrick Donohue – EO
- 12:40 Keynote ***The Entrepreneurial Mindset Advantage***
The HIDDEN LOGIC that Unleashes Human Potential
Gary G. Schoeniger – Founder & CEO
Entrepreneur Learning Initiative (ELI)
- 1:00 Founders Forum UST - Greater MSP
Nick Tietz – ILT Academy
Lisa Finck, Rainbow Hair Hats Christine Metzko – Initiator Fellows
Funwi Tita, Better Greens LLC Missy Meidinger – Wright Cnty
- 1:25 Building an Ecosystem Jason Amundsen Stacy Nimmo – Red Wing Ignite
Financing Operations Locally Laid Egg Company Kailin Oliver – MN Cup
Water Now
- 1:40 Founding and Scale-up Financing Todd Williams – Scale Bank
Structuring and Funding Transitioning Brian McDonald – SBA
Kirsten Kennedy – MNCEO
Rick Brimacomb – Brimacomb
- 2:10 Co-host Introductions Jay Sachetti – IVMF (Bunker Labs)
- 2:15 Announcements, Networking and Hors d'oeuvres Matthew Thielen – Northwestern Mutual
- 2:35 (Optional) – Expert AMA - Tech Conversations Schulze Auditorium
Robotics, Data, AI Applications, XR, IP, Software Development, Financing, Exits, Mktg
Lab651
Grumbles Law
Minnesota Innovates
- Please Watch here for Featured Experts Announcements
- 3:25 Reconvene & Introduction of Founder Insights Emily McCarthy – Applied AI
Josh Braaten – Daisy Rob Cimperman – Launch MN
Cihan Behlivan - BETA
- 3:45 Dr. Elizabeth Klodas – Step One Foods Shannon Schlecht - AURI
Christiaan Engstrom – Bullpen!
Kate LaBrosse – Naturally MN
Katie Hjelmstad Severt – Let’s Talk Women

4:15 Lifter Award

Lois E. Josefson – GMDS

4:25 Ecosystem Discussion with Lifter Awardees

Patrick Donohue – Hill Capital
David & Sara Russick – Gopher Angels
Rick Brimacombe – Brimacombe
Al Cornish – gener8tor
Southwest Initiative Foundation

4:55 Closing and Announcements

Chris Holland – Crown College

5:00 Reception & Light Buffet

5:30 Conclusion