

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 Lyle Wright – 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 Danielle Campeau – University of St. Thomas
- Lisa Finck, Rainbow Hair Hats Christine Metzko – Initiator Fellows
Funwi Tita, Better Greens LLC Missy Meidinger – Wright Cnty
- 1:30 Building an Ecosystem Jason Amundsen Valarie Lockhart– Red Wing Ignite
Financing Operations Locally Laid Egg Company Kailin Oliver – MN Cup
Water Now
- 1:45 Founding and Scale-up Financing Todd Williams – Scale Bank
Structuring and Funding Transitioning Kirsten Kennedy – MNCEO
Rick Brimacombe – Brimacombe
Entrepreneurship by Acquisition Jay Sachetti – IVMF (Bunker Labs)
- 2:10 Introductions – Networking - Refreshments Matthew Thielen – Northwestern Mutual
- 2:15 Networking
- 2:30 (Optional) – Expert AMA - Conversations Schulze Auditorium
Applied AI, Robotics, Data, XR, Software Dev, IP, Cybersecurity, Cloud IT, Life Sciences,
Financing, Strategic Growth, Exits, Acquisitions, Operations, Marketing, Resources
20+ Featured Experts – See the Presenter Tab
- Christopher Ebbert - Lab651
Ben Ihde - Greater MSP
Bryan Kravis - Grumbles Law
David Anderson - KonnectXR
Dave Neville - Minnesota Innovates
- 3:20 Reconvene

3:25	Introduction of Founder Insights	Emily McCarthy – Applied AI
	Josh Braaten – Daisy	Cihan Behlivan – BETA Rob Cimperman – Launch MN
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
	David and Sara Russick	
4:30	Ecosystem Discussion with Lifter Awardees	Patrick Donohue – Hill Capital Rick Brimacombe – Brimacombe Al Cornish – gener8tor Claire Meyers - Southwest Initiative Foundation
4:55	Closing and Announcements	Chris Holland – Crown College
5:00	Reception & Desert Buffet	
5:30	Conclusion	