

Delaware's premier funding competition for
technology and technology-enabled startups
led by underrepresented founders.

Startup302 Pitch Competition 2024



startup302

startup 302



STEERING COMMITTEE



Noah Olson
Director of Innovation

Erica Crell
Manager of Innovation

Created in 2017, Delaware Prosperity Partnership (choosedelaware.com) is the nonprofit public/private organization that leads Delaware's statewide economic development efforts to attract, grow and retain businesses; build a stronger entrepreneurial and innovation ecosystem; and support private employers in identifying, recruiting, and developing talent.



Ayanna Khan
President & CEO

The Delaware Black Chamber of Commerce is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting economic empowerment and growth within the Black business community in Delaware. It serves as a vital resource for Black entrepreneurs, business owners, and professionals, offering support, networking opportunities, and advocacy for the advancement of their businesses and economic well-being.



Darren Stephenson
Program Manager

We are a nationally ranked venture capital firm and accelerator that brings together startup founders, investors, corporations, job seekers, universities, musicians, and artists. The gener8tor platform includes more than 75 programs spanning startup accelerators, corporate programming, speaker series, conferences, skills accelerators, and fellowships.



Emiliano Espinosa
Program Director

The Chesapeake Agriculture Innovation Center (CAIC) connects farmers, value-added producers, and CPG companies in Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia to the resources that they need to start and grow their businesses. We support ventures from the idea stage to the established with the aim of enhancing their business savvy and acumen.

STEERING COMMITTEE



Dora Cheatham
Executive Director

DESCA was formed in 2010 as the Delaware Sustainable Chemistry Alliance to build an ecosystem around the region's strong foundation of chemistry, biochemistry and materials science. Since then, DESCA has driven its mission, gradually evolving along the way as we uncovered regional needs. Today, DESCA has three areas of focus:

- Convening industry leaders in the public and private sectors on emerging issues and trends in technology.
- Driving innovation and collaborative partnerships between major strategics, startups and universities.
- Connecting students to industry with a goal of harmonizing the development of talent with industry.

EVA ENTERPRISES, LLC. **Troy C. Farmer, MSW, CCM, CPC, CLC, CGC**
CEO & Founder

Troy Farmer is a business and organizational development consultant, learning and development trainer, speaker, and Certified Master Coach specializing in developing enterprise leaders to identify and implement SMART SOLUTIONS in their business. She has helped thousands of emerging and current business owners/founders launch a new business or grow a current one through SMART SYSTEMS. She recognizes that economic growth is supported by economic development when businesses are sustainable and viable.



Cathy Halloway
Incubator Manager

The Emerging Enterprise Center is a business incubator and accelerator initiative of the New Castle County Chamber of Commerce that offers 5000 sq. ft. of affordable office, conference and co-working space, business training, mentorship, and networking opportunities.

STEERING COMMITTEE



**INNOVATION
SPACE**

Marcie Reilly

Director External Engagement & Partnerships

As one of one of the nation's leading and largest incubators and accelerators for startups in the physical sciences, The Innovation Space offers best-in-class lab space, collaborative office space and virtual programs accessible anywhere in the world, Innovation Space is supporting innovation on a global scale.



Alysse Bortollo

Director of Economic Development

Since 1922, Our mission has been simple – accelerate business growth for Delaware's businesses, leverage the New Castle County Chamber of Commerce to build awareness, grow revenue, and develop new business relationships. The Chamber helps you grow your business through networking, business training, referral groups, marketing opportunities, and more.



Sarah Mailloux

Associate State Director

For over 40 years, the Delaware SBDC delivers FREE and confidential professional consulting services to help innovators, startups, and existing businesses with 0-500 employees formulate and execute strategies to grow and succeed. Our innovative, inclusive, and impactful solutions have helped grow Delaware's economy.



Daniel Anzueto

Community and Volunteer Manager

StartOut accelerates the growth of the LGBTQ+ community to drive its economic empowerment, building a world where every LGBTQ+ entrepreneur has equal access to lead, succeed, and shape the workforce of the future.

STEERING COMMITTEE



Salaika Adams
Program Manager

The Women's Business Center at True Access Capital (WBC) provides in-depth, outcome-oriented business services to women entrepreneurs. WBC training includes courses on business planning, business financing, social media, and marketing.



UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE
HORN ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Troy Wilford
Director of Commercialization Program

Horn Entrepreneurship serves as the creative engine for entrepreneurship education and advancement at the University of Delaware. Our mission is to empower world changers by developing and delivering world-class entrepreneurship programs that help students gain knowledge, skills, entrepreneurial capacities, firsthand experiences, and connections to propel their success.



Sara Crawford
SaraCrawford.com

As the former Director of the Women's Business Center at True Access Capital for 8 years and an outstanding member of Delaware's entrepreneurial ecosystem, Sara has extensive insight about small business, entrepreneurship, community/economic development.