



News Release: Esprit Venture Challenge to Boost Social Entrepreneurs

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Esprit Venture Challenge to Boost Social Entrepreneurs

Boulder Chamber to Reward Startups That Do Good While Doing Well at Reinvented Esprit Entrepreneur Event

The Boulder Chamber celebrates the 31st year of its signature Esprit Entrepreneur event by highlighting its exciting Esprit Venture Challenge on November 18 at CU-Boulder's beautifully renovated Touchdown Club.

Introduced at last year's event, the Esprit Venture Challenge enables leading area startups to compete for big cash prizes. This year's competition will spotlight Boulder's leadership in both fostering entrepreneurship and promoting social responsibility. The Esprit Venture Challenge also will feature a special competition for student entrepreneurs to encourage tomorrow's responsible business leaders. It's all part of the reinvented Esprit Entrepreneur event as the Boulder Chamber partners with NewCo Boulder to deliver a new and exciting experience.

Boulder County businesses less than two years old who are principally focused on delivering social benefit and aiming to achieve a sustainable ROI can register at <https://www.publicprize.com/esprit-venture-challenge#/home> by the deadline of October 10, 2015. Approved entrants will be posted online for community members to review and a final winner will be selected from among the top three businesses by audience vote at the November 18 Esprit Entrepreneur event. The winning business will receive a cash award of up to \$10,000. In addition, the top student-run business will receive a \$1,000 award.

"The 2015 Esprit Venture Challenge is seeking the most innovative new company creating positive social change as well as profits," stated John Tayer, Boulder Chamber President and CEO. "We want to show that America's Startup Capital is also leading the social entrepreneurship wave!"

About the New Esprit Entrepreneur

This year the Boulder Chamber has re-envisioned its signature Esprit Entrepreneur event, joining forces with NewCo Boulder, the innovative festival platform that features "businesses on a mission": identifying, celebrating and connecting companies that create positive changes in our society. This new partnership will create an exciting mashup of awards, networking and storytelling along with great food and drink for a truly memorable experience. It will all take place November 18 and 19.

The Boulder Chamber will also be recognizing distinguished Boulder entrepreneurs with the following awards:

Entrepreneur of the Year: For an individual or business that, in their success, demonstrated an innovative spirit, determination and values that exemplify the Boulder community's brand of entrepreneurship.

Entrepreneurial Legacy Award: For an individual or businesses with a legacy of success, bold vision and values that is a model for other entrepreneurs and businesses to follow.

Send your nominations to events@boulderchamber.com by September 28. Nominations should be 500 words or less and include relevant information about your nominee.

Find out more about Esprit/NewCo 2015 and register at <http://boulderpreneur.com/>

This year's sponsors for Esprit Entrepreneur include Elevations Credit Union, EKS&H business advisors, The University of Colorado Boulder, Colorado PERA, Terrapin Care Station, Google, Anthem Blue Cross/Blue Shield, BizWest, and the Boulder Daily Camera.

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