

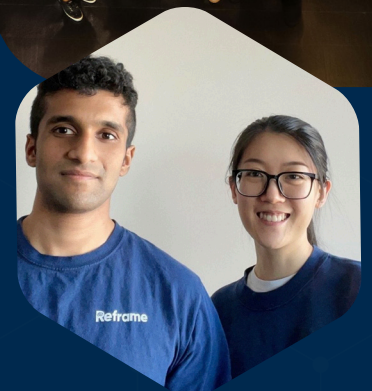


Georgia Tech CREATE-X®

INSTILLING ENTREPRENEURIAL CONFIDENCE



2014
—
2024



DECADE OF SUCCESS



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Mission

CREATE-X is a Georgia Tech initiative to instill entrepreneurial confidence in students and empower them to launch successful startups. The broader goal of this initiative is to provide the knowledge, skills, abilities, and experiences that will give Georgia Tech graduates the confidence to create their own future and confidently pursue entrepreneurial opportunities.

Core Values



EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATION

CREATE-X incorporates experiential and curricular programming where students can receive course credit that counts toward graduation. In addition, students explore entrepreneurship through the ultimate experiential learning mode – launching their own startups with seed funding, legal assistance, and intensive coaching.



ENTREPRENEURIAL CONFIDENCE

CREATE-X provides the knowledge, skills, mentorship, and experiences that give Georgia Tech graduates the confidence to create their own future and confidently pursue entrepreneurial opportunities.



REAL-WORLD IMPACT

The emphasis in CREATE-X programs is on "Impactful Startups," or in other words, startups that are likely to have long-term impact as opposed to only short-term gain.



THE FOUNDING OF CREATE-X

CREATE-X, a transformative program dedicated to igniting the entrepreneurial spirit within the Georgia Tech community, has its roots in a visionary concept that emerged from the minds and partnership of ECE professors Steve McLaughlin and Raghupathy 'Siva' Sivakumar, former Biomedical Engineering Chair Ravi Bellamkonda, Georgia Tech Professor Emeritus and former Vice Provost for Graduate and Undergraduate studies Ray Vito, and entrepreneur and Georgia Tech alumnus Chris Klaus.

The idea for CREATE-X began to take shape in 2013 through a series of visioning exercises. The program's founders initially used the name "Create Your Own Job" as a placeholder, but eventually coined it "CREATE-X" when they realized the program encompassed a broader scope,



transcending job creation. They connected with Klaus, who was interested in promoting student entrepreneurship and established a \$2 million fund to support CREATE-X.

CREATE-X, as we know it today, emerged from a pressing issue. After participating in programs like the InVenture Prize competition and Capstone Design courses, students desired resources to further develop their startup ideas. To address this

CREATE-X Timeline

2013

The idea of CREATE-X begins to take shape through a series of visioning exercises.



2018

CREATE-X grows to include more than 2,000 students and 75 faculty member mentors.

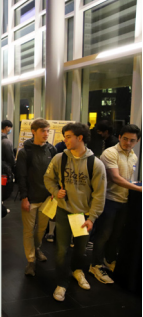
2014

With the support of Georgia Tech leadership and seed gifts from alumni donor Chris Klaus and the Marcus Foundation, CREATE-X begins.

2014

The original CREATE-X program consisted of eight teams, a foundation upon which the future of CREATE-X would be built.





gap, the visionaries behind CREATE-X aimed to keep Georgia Tech students engaged over the summer, encouraging them to intern for themselves. The original CREATE-X program consisted of eight teams, a foundation upon which the future of CREATE-X would be built. Through different methods, the program began experimenting with its cornerstone principle of instilling entrepreneurial confidence in students. Sivakumar started teaching the Startup Lab class along with Keith McGregor at VentureLab, and the first associate director of the Learn program, Joy Harris, created a Saturday course, Startup Academy, for students who couldn't participate in regular sections of Startup Lab. CREATE-X also launched its Creative Scholars Program and Cribb Scholars.

CREATE-X's commitment to nurturing student innovation led to the introduction of the Idea-to-Prototype (I2P) program. This initiative enabled students to dedicate their entire summer to working on their prototypes. With the support of faculty mentors, the promise of course credit, and a small

stipend for materials and supplies, students were empowered to bring their ideas to life.

Over the years, through the efforts of the CREATE-X team and its stakeholders, the program evolved. It widened into three distinct but interconnected branches: Learn, Make, and Launch, to cater to the multifaceted needs of entrepreneurial students.

And over the past decade, the impact of CREATE-X has been staggering, with the total valuation of companies stemming from the program exceeding \$2 billion. This success story is reflected in the participation of over 34,000 students and the launch of more than 560 startups.

CREATE-X is igniting a revolution of innovation at Georgia Tech, propelling the institution towards unprecedented heights. It has ambitions to become the nation's top startup campus and launch 300 startups each year, evolving from into a movement. Fundamentally, CREATE-X works to ensure that every student at Georgia Tech can, in some way, be touched by CREATE-X's life-changing impact.



2021

CREATE-X ranked #1 startup accelerator in Georgia and #2 in the Southeast by BIP Capital Report.



2022

Startup Launch surpasses the milestone of accepting 100 ventures.



2021

Cloud-based software company Stord becomes the first CREATE-X startup to reach over \$1 billion valuation, creating around 275 jobs since 2016.



2024

To date, CREATE-X has launched more than 560 startups with a total valuation of over \$2 billion.

CREATE-X BY THE NUMBERS



\$2B
Total valuation

34,081
Students
Involved




560+
startups
overall




366
CREATE-X
Events

22,651
Student attendees
at CREATE-X events



27%
Startups with one or more founders from an underrepresented minority group*



46%
Startups with one or more female founders*

Donors

Your generous gifts are making a significant impact on the lives of students and beyond. We'd like to thank those who have supported the mission of CREATE-X to instill entrepreneurial confidence in students and empower them to launch successful startups.

- » **Chris Klaus**
- » **The Marcus Foundation**
- » **Jim Pope**
- » **Ashlee Townsend Cribb (Cribb Scholarship)**
- » **Keen Foundation**
- » **Michael Tennenbaum**



"I'm incredibly proud of what CREATE-X has done in terms of making a potential generational impact for so many founders. A lot of the effects we can't directly see or measure, but we know that simple things have had huge impact."

—**RAHUL SAXENA**
Director, CREATE-X



"Students who have entrepreneurial confidence are more likely to try new things. They're more likely to be innovative. They're more likely to make a contribution to the campus. Even if they never launch a company, which most of our students are not, 99% of them are not going to launch the next unicorn, but the skill set of entrepreneurship equips our students to lead more fulfilling and more productive lives no matter where they are. Whether you're at Google, Intel, Microsoft, Facebook, they all want employees with entrepreneurial confidence, and so having this skill set in our students is valuable."

—**JOY HARRIS**

Former Associate Director of Learn, Director of Women and Engineering in the College of Engineering, and Director of the Engineering for Social Innovation Center



CREATE-X Council

- » **Behrooz Abdi**
- » **Omar Balkissoon**
- » **Robin Bienfait**
- » **Bob Friday**
- » **Adam Fuller**
- » **Gennadiy Gurevich**
- » **Kolby Hanley**
- » **Chris Klaus**
- » **Sigmund Lee**
- » **Charles Mackarvich**
- » **Jim Pope**
- » **Marcus Ruzek**



The InVenture Prize at Georgia Tech is a faculty-led innovation competition for undergraduate students and recent BS graduates of Georgia Tech.

Sponsors and Collaborators

Every year, CREATE-X hosts numerous hackathons, keynotes, competitions, and other events, which attract thousands of students. These events are not only through our efforts but through collaboration with other Georgia Tech organizations and off-campus partners, enhancing our reach and fostering positive outcomes for our students.

- » **Fusen**
- » **John Lanza and Foley Hoag**
- » **P&G**
- » **Sony**
- » **Amazon Alexa Fund**
- » **Troutman Pepper**
- » **Bennett Thrasher**
- » **AWS**
- » **Stripe Atlas**
- » **Speechworks**
- » **Microsoft for Startups**
- » **Google for Startups**



CREATE-X has been able to expand programming abroad in Medellín, Columbia through partnership with the Enterprise Innovation Institute (EI²).



CREATE-X supports entrepreneurial focused student organizations like Startup Exchange through sponsorships and through collaborations like this speaker event where our founders gave insight into the startup journey.

Campus Collaborators

- » **Georgia Tech Venture Capital Club (GTVC)**
- » **Startup Exchange**
- » **HackGT**
- » **Hacklytics**
- » **SUSTAIN-X**
- » **ATDC**
- » **VentureLab**
- » **EI2**
- » **Bioclicity**



EGHI/GT Global Health Hackathon is a collaboration between Emory Global Health Institute (EGHI), Georgia Tech's CREATE-X, the Coulter Department of Biomedical Engineering at Georgia Tech & Emory, and The Hatchery Center for Innovation. The competition offers an experiential learning and entrepreneurial experience for students to address global health challenges.

External Collaborators

- » **Emory Global Health Institute**
- » **Global Center for Medical Innovation (GCMI)**

Jim Pope Fellowship

The James G. and Dee H. Pope Faculty Fellows Endowment Fund, established in 2020, has significantly impacted Georgia Tech's CREATE-X program, fostering entrepreneurial learning and whole-person education. With a generous contribution from Jim Pope (EE 1965), retired president and CEO of Hazlehurst & Associates, Inc., the endowment fund has facilitated the appointment of Jim Pope Fellows, who serve as instructors, mentors, and advisors to students in CREATE-X.

Jim Pope's vision is rooted in the belief that students must develop an innovative and entrepreneurial mindset to excel in the workforce. The CREATE-X program has enriched students' entrepreneurial skills and confidence with the involvement of faculty, particularly in underrepresented disciplines. Through the fellowship, it has extended its impact to faculty members themselves, promoting research commercialization.

The program has garnered great support from the Georgia Tech community. It continues to grow and accept applications for future cohorts, showcasing the institution's dedication to shaping the future of entrepreneurship in education. Jim Pope's commitment to making this initiative permanent further underlines the value it brings to the university by shaping the entrepreneurial leaders of tomorrow.

Georgia Tech has a growing demand for entrepreneurial education and support. In 2023, ~17K applications to Georgia Tech selected entrepreneurship as an interest among 50K total applicants. Of those applicants, ~1200 of those enrolled in Georgia Tech. Entrepreneurial Culture is growing with the quality of students. As a result of this growth, CREATE-X expanded Startup Lab from 4 to 7 full sections in Fall and Spring.

As the entrepreneurial culture at Georgia Tech expands, the fellowship plays a crucial role in meeting this demand by providing resources and mentorship to both students and faculty. It supports the integration of entrepreneurial thinking across various disciplines, encouraging students to develop innovative solutions to real-world problems. By empowering faculty to incorporate entrepreneurial activities into their teaching, the fellowship enhances the overall educational experience for students.

2,500
Students introduced
to entrepreneurship
through Jim Pope
Fellowship initiatives

11
Georgia Tech
departments
represented

25
Fellows

"As CREATE-X scales toward its vision of serving 100% of Georgia Tech students, increasing the involvement of our faculty in the program is critical, and this is especially important for disciplines that are not typically associated with entrepreneurship. Jim Pope's fellowship program will allow us to attract the best of our faculty and train them in entrepreneurial methodologies and curriculum."

—RAGHUPATHY 'SIVA' SIVAKUMAR
Founding Director, CREATE-X

The fellowship's impact is evident through the contributions of Georgia Tech faculty members.



» Kelly Griendling, a lecturer at the Daniel Guggenheim School of Aerospace Engineering (AE), incorporated entrepreneurial assignments into her aerospace engineering courses, leading to a significant increase in entrepreneurship elements throughout AE.



» Olufisayo Omojokun, who directs the Division of Computing in the College of Computing (CoC), has empowered faculty to employ entrepreneurial activities in their teaching. He has also given them the opportunity to use entrepreneurial activities for their career advancement. And with students, he annually impacts 400 of them through a CREATE-X module in CS1331 and shares assignments with outside institutions.



» Nian Liu, Associate Professor in the School of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, actively encouraged students in his class to launch a project through Startup Launch. In Spring 2022, Liu created an entrepreneurship provoking project in ChBE/ME/MSE 4759 (Electrochemical Energy Storage and Conversion) where 38 students formed 9 diverse teams. Each team created a technically sound business idea, and 3 teams applied to CREATE-X's Startup Launch program. One student emailed: "I really valued the project groupwork, as my team members brought diverse insights to a problem outside what I would typically work on."



» Lauren K. Stewart, Williams Family Associate Professor in the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering (CEE), secured \$1 million in funding and space for maker spaces, enhancing creativity and entrepreneurship for CEE students, faculty, and staff.



CREATE-X PROGRAM AREAS

CREATE-X is organized into three categories: LEARN, MAKE and LAUNCH. These entrepreneurship programs are open to all students, from incoming freshmen to Ph.D. students. Georgia Tech faculty, researchers, and alumni also have the opportunity to participate in the program through our summer accelerator.



3,348
Learn students

1,849
Startup Lab students



22,561
Student attendees
at CREATE-X events

Startup Lab

Startup Lab is a class for the startup curious—Georgia Tech students who want to explore building their own company. The three-credit undergraduate course teaches evidence-based entrepreneurship and customer discovery, covering concepts like ideation, teaming, MVPs, and the business model canvas. Startup Lab blends in-class lectures and real-world learning with instructors and guest speakers, supporting students as they embark on their entrepreneurial journey.

75
Special courses

Workshops

Each semester, CREATE-X welcomes thousands of students to a range of workshops focused on topics related to forming a start-up. Workshops include:

- » Legal Buzz - Attorneys offer free legal advice to entrepreneurs on forming a company, patents, IPs, equity, and more.
- » Meet Your Co-Founder - Students meet potential co-founders needed to apply to Startup Launch during a speed networking event.
- » Startup Ideas - Students share their ideas for Startup Launch with members of the CREATE-X team for on-the-spot feedback and advice on turning projects from an idea into a viable startup.
- » Startup Spotlight - Knowledgeable entrepreneurs and Startup Launch alumni from various industries share their experiences forming companies that solve strategic challenges.

1,241
Tech Venture students



"Women are often taught perfection and not bravery. And a big part of entrepreneurial confidence is gaining the confidence to take risks. The Female Founders program is specifically creating a cohort and a community of women and non-binary founders in which they can begin to share their ideas and concepts and receive coaching to build the confidence to share their startup ideas in other environments."

—SARA MARTIN
Co-founder, Female Founders

FEMALE FOUNDERS

The Female Founders program is committed to fostering entrepreneurial confidence among women and non-binary founders. It marries the principles of CREATE-X Startup Lab with aspects of the CREATE-X Startup Launch program, providing an environment where participants can learn Lean start-up methodology and receive tailored coaching for their ventures.

The program instills entrepreneurial confidence by offering a unique space where founders can take risks and break away from the pressures of perfectionism. By creating a supportive community of women and non-binary founders, Female Founders aims to build founders' confidence, preparing them for success in broader CREATE-X programs, including Startup Launch.



183
Women and
Non-Binary
Founders



\$12.2M
Funding



46
Workshops

"Georgia Tech is asking, 'What are we doing to be a school that supports students who want to do startups, start something of their own, take their own path, take their own risks? And how do we mitigate those risks for them while they're here?'"

—ROXANNE MOORE
Associate Director, Learn



17
Events

"Women that we have graduated from our program three years ago are finding wild success. Our teams in the past three years have raised close to \$5 million in diluted and non-diluted funding, and the more important thing to me is they're coming back to continue to build community and to share their knowledge and their experience back with other founders."

—SARA MARTIN
Co-founder, Female Founders



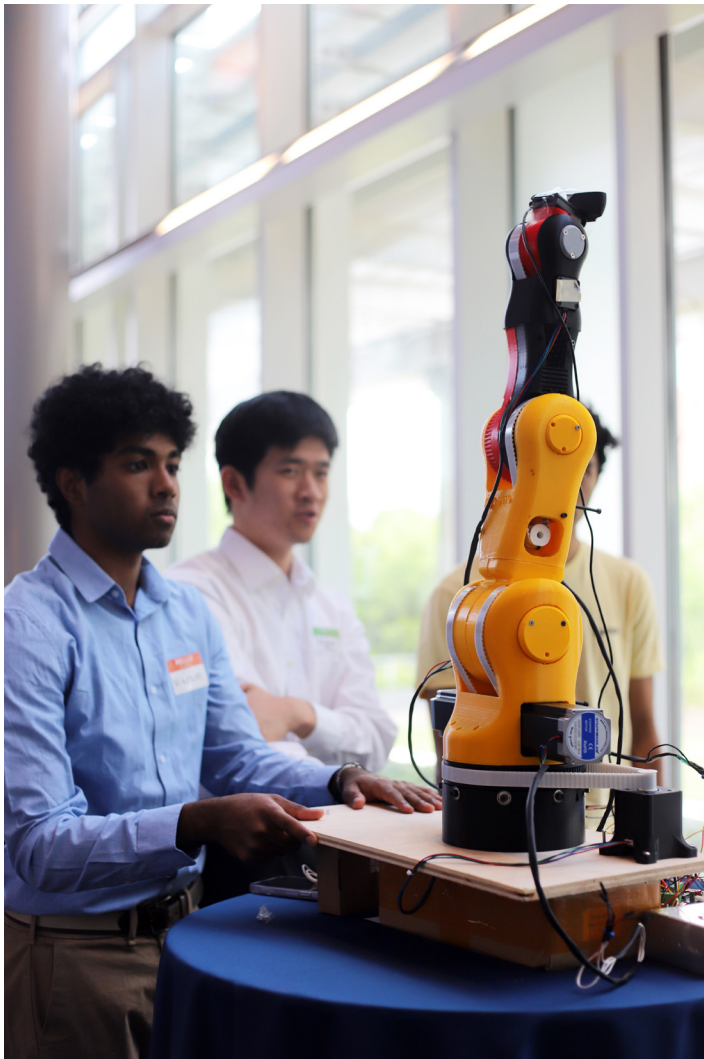
CREATE-X PROGRAM AREAS



The Make program equips Georgia Tech students with the skills and expertise to transform their ideas into a working product, even as they tackle technological hurdles. They investigate the technology underlying their ideas, then build a prototype or working proof of concept. Students benefit from technical mentorship, world-class campus maker spaces, and other resources.



712
Make teams
since 2018



Idea-2-Prototype (I2P)

Undergraduate and graduate students turn their invention ideas into tangible products in the Idea-2-Prototype (I2P) program. Students advance their ideas through basic research, analysis, building, and testing.

1,389
I2P Showcase
attendees

1,530
I2P students

CREATE-X CAPSTONE

In this course, interdisciplinary student teams from mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, computer engineering, biomedical engineering, industrial and systems engineering, and computer science explore the potential market demand and value proposition for their startup ideas. Students receive mentorship, financial support, and relevant teachings from CREATE-X faculty in a nurturing environment. Standout teams are then admitted directly to CREATE-X Startup Launch and the semi-final round of the InVenture Prize competition.

"It's not just about startups and billion-dollar ideas; it's about education. We educate [students] in developing the confidence to pursue their ideas. Even if it's a total failure, we don't count it as a failure; we count it as a success. What I want to be able to do at Georgia Tech is to cultivate a student mindset that can find new problems that have yet to be solved. There are no barriers to student success except their own ideas and effort they're willing to put in."

—**CRAIG FOREST**
Associate Director, Make



1,095
CREATE-X
Capstone
students



CREATE-X PROGRAM AREAS



In this 12-week program, Georgia Tech students and alumni launch their projects from the idea stage into fully functioning and viable startups. Participants intern for themselves, attending sessions, team socials, and pitch practices.

Veteran entrepreneurs and notable Georgia Tech alumni provide coaching and mentorship to Startup Launch teams. And participants have the opportunity to attend Preview Day and Demo Day, Startup Launch's signature event that attracts more than 1,500 attendees.

Many people have helped shape Launch into the successful program it is today, including former CREATE-X associate director Joyelle "Joy" Harris, retired program and operation manager Rhea Perkins, and current program manager Daniel Constable.

"The biggest benefit [of joining CREATE-X] is gaining exposure to an entrepreneurial mindset, which we believe is a critical life skill — to be able to understand, define, and find creative solutions to problems."

—RAHUL SAXENA
Director, CREATE-X

\$2B
Total valuation

27%
Startups with one or more founders from an underrepresented minority group*

46%
Startups with one or more female founders*



CREATE-X
DEMO DAY
STARTUP LAUNCH
2023

“CREATE-X is one of the few programs at Georgia Tech that creates a beautiful synergy between curricular elements, and co-curricular elements. Students can have both course credit towards degree completion and outside-of-the-classroom, relevant life experiences that help them move toward their goal. There aren't any other programs like that.”

—JOY HARRIS

Former Associate Director of Learn, Director of Women and Engineering in the College of Engineering, and Director of the Engineering for Social Innovation Center.

560+
Startups

1,658
Founders

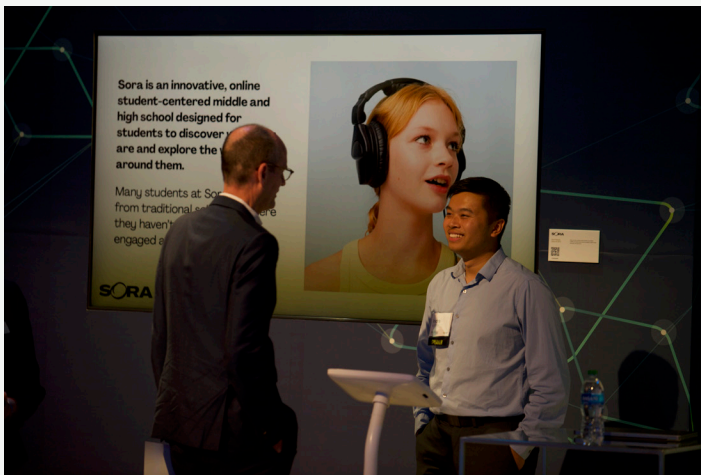
3,765
RSVPs for
Demo Day 2023

STARTUP LAUNCH PORTFOLIO: NOTABLE STARTUPS

➔ **Crescendo**, CREATE-X's first acquisition, is an AI-powered trainer that assists musicians with practice and immediate feedback. The company was acquired by Ultimate Guitar, the world's largest guitar community.



➔ **Sora Schools** is an award-winning virtual middle and high school where students own their education by choosing their learning experience based on their interests. (2021: \$18M in funding)



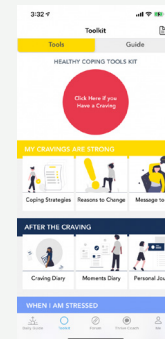
➔ **CaseDocker** provides an end-to-end workflow management system that significantly reduces contract drafting time by 60% and incorporates AI to streamline litigation and drafting processes. The startup has a user base of over 400 global clients, including Fortune 500 companies.



"It is one of the best programs at Georgia Tech. CREATE-X has helped me connect with many people and has helped me learn the fundamentals of launching a startup."

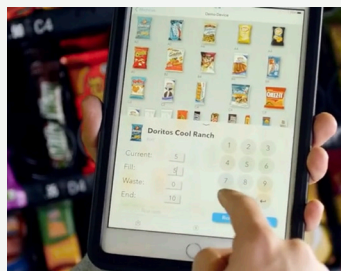
—YASH SINGHAL
founder, CaseDocker

➔ **Glucobit (Reframe)** uses neuroscience to reframe your relationship with alcohol and build healthier drinking habits. One of its founders was named to Forbes' 30 Under 30 list for Atlanta in 2023. (Since 2018: \$27M in funding)



➔ **LZRD Tech** is a compression sleeve that provides enhanced grip to football players while protecting them from scrapes and turf burns. The company gained UPS as a client not long after the startup's creation. LZRD Tech also received the first-ever direct venture funding from Georgia Tech through the Institute's recently launched sports-focused venture fund.





↓ **Stord** leverages software to link businesses seeking storage and distribution solutions with independent warehouses with surplus capacity. Its proprietary software takes care of ordering, inventory management, and billing. (Current valuation: \$1.3B)



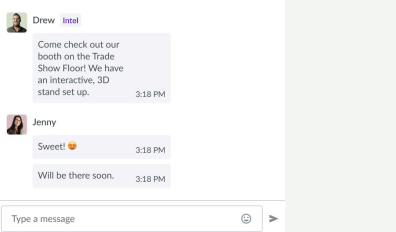
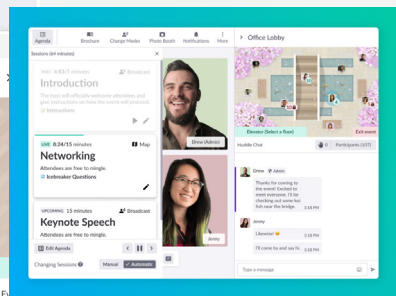
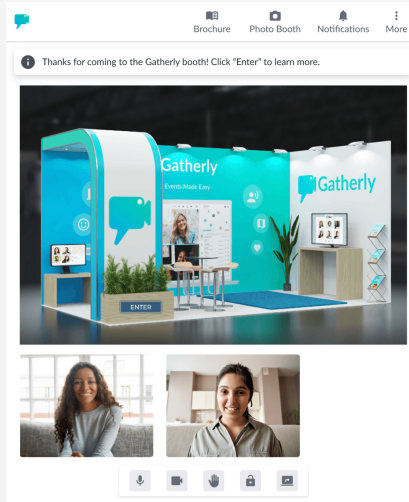
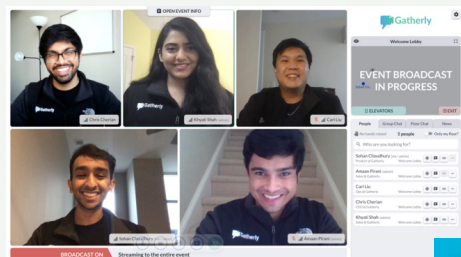
↑ **Fixd** is a hardware and software solution that diagnoses car maintenance issues without a mechanic and sends the information to an app on your smartphone. It also reminds users of when their car needs service. To date, Fixd has sold over 3 million sensors.



↑ **Gimme Vending**, a software company, helps warehouse staff and route drivers keep accurate product inventories. Gimme was named Top Machine Learning Company in Georgia in 2022, TAG Top 40 Most Innovative Company 2016-2018 and in 2021, Atlanta Inno Tech Madness Winner in 2021, and Best B2B Startup in 2018.

“CREATE-X means to me an ecosystem and a support system for innovation.”
—COREY HEWETT
 co-founder, Gimme Vending

← The **Gatherly** platform allows you to design events using the power of artificial intelligence. The company grew during the COVID-19 pandemic as more people turned to virtual events.



← **Watch** is a data analytics platform for renewable energy systems like solar and wind, allowing users to track, evaluate, and report on performance remotely. The company's founders were named to Forbes' 30 Under 30 list for Atlanta in 2023.

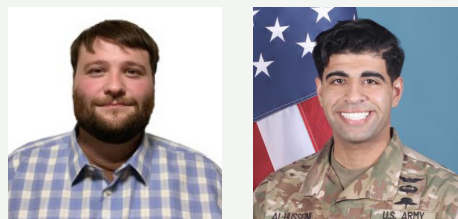
STARTUP LAUNCH PORTFOLIO: NOTABLE STARTUPS



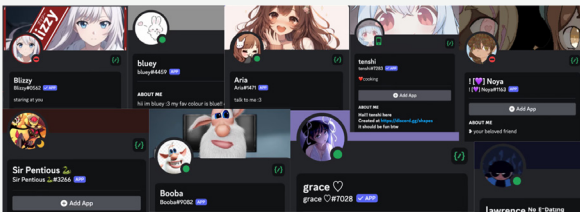
↑ → **StrideLink's** wearable sensors allow clinicians to monitor and track patient gait metrics outside of the clinic. In 2023, one of the company's founders was named to Forbes' 30 Under 30 list for Atlanta. The company raised a \$750,000 pre-seed round from healthcare-focused angels in Atlanta and the wider Southeast region.



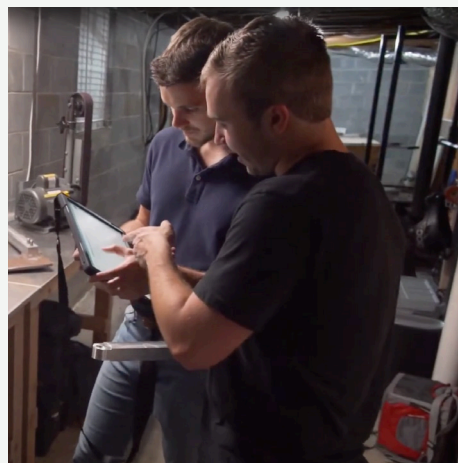
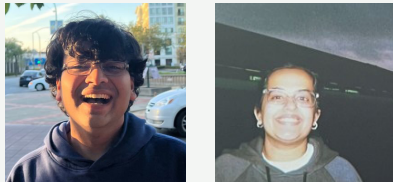
↓ The **Stabilizing Aerial Loads Utility System (SALUS)** is an anti-rotational stretcher that stabilizes spinning as a patient is being evacuated during a medical emergency. Vita Inclinata Technologies, a Colorado-based safety technology company, acquired SALUS.



↑ Offering an alternative to traditional paper business cards, **Dot Cards** are cards with an NFC-embedded tag. Tapping a smartphone against the dot.card launches a digital business profile.



↑ **Shapes Inc.** (previously Circle Labs) builds general purpose AI agents which can be designed to carry out a wide range of social relationships. The company has grown 40x since the start of 2024, with millions of interactions with shapes on X and Discord and 1.2 trillion tokens processed.



↔ ↑ **StartProto** is all-in-one manufacturing software that helps businesses streamline their manufacturing processes and optimize their operations.



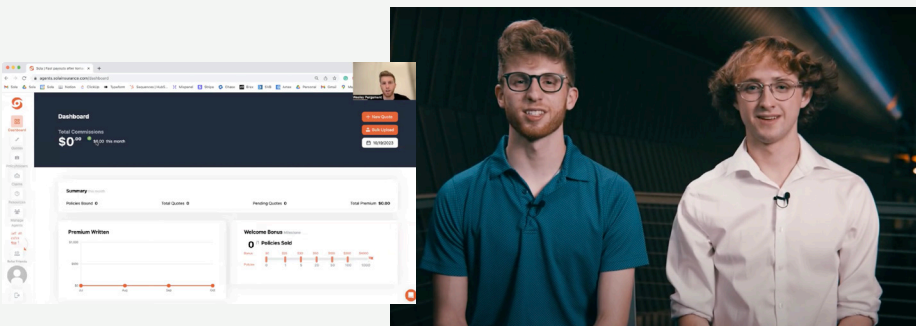


“My favorite part of Startup Launch was spending week after week with so many different founders. The social element of being surrounded by like-minded people who were all so passionate about the idea that they were working to build was the highlight.”

—SAMUEL PORTA
founder and CEO, Queues



↑ **Queues** analyzes data and camera views to determine wait times for consumers and help businesses better plan and forecast their day. The company received over \$1 million in seed funding.

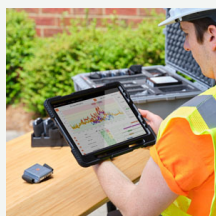


↑ After a tornado, it can take weeks or months for insurance companies to pay out a disaster claim. **Sola Insurance** uses National Weather Service data to help homeowners receive payouts faster, often within days. Sola has been approved in 15 states as the first ever admitted personal lines parametric product and has partnered with hundreds of insurance agencies across the Midwest and Southeast.

↓ **Barometer** measures media quality and brand safety for digital audio. After its latest seed funding round, the company has raised a total of \$4.2 million since 2019.



← **Grubblly Farms** transforms food waste into nutrient-rich animal feed, promoting eco-friendly practices and providing local farmers a cost-effective alternative to traditional feed. Grubblly Farms has helped divert over 30 million pounds of food waste and had a \$2.9 million seed funding round.



← ↑ Through real-time data, **SlateSafety** (previously FireHUD) helps people who work in the safety industry, such as first responders, identify and prevent heat stress and overexertion injuries before they happen. In 2023, the company won two Product-of-the-Year awards from Occupational Health & Safety (OH&S) Magazine.



↑ **Greptile (Tabnam)** is an AI tool in the customer support category that enhances feedback surveys by gathering responses. It closed a \$800,000 pre-seed in 2023.



“When startups are launched through CREATE-X through our launch program, they officially graduated from CREATE-X, but we continue to stay in touch with our student founders, and we will help them in any way we can. We are still in touch with founders from our first cohort, which was 10 years ago. And we still have discussions with them, and we still try to help them in any way we can. Some of our students will go on to raise venture capital, and they have strong mentorship networks through the VC firms that they get investments from and will put together an advisor that based on the connections, but we are here to help regardless of how long ago they graduated from CREATE-X.”

—RAGHUPATHY ‘SIVA’ SIVAKUMAR

Vice President for the Office of Commercialization and Founding Director of CREATE-X

Founder’s Pledge

Become part of the family of Georgia Tech entrepreneurs who support the Institute and CREATE-X through their generous philanthropic gifts. The Georgia Tech Founder’s Pledge is non-binding, meaning you determine the timing, amount, and target program for your gift.

NOTABLE CREATE-X FOUNDER’S PLEDGE CONTRIBUTORS

» **John Gattuso, co-founder of FIXD Automotive, ME 2015**

Gattuso participated in the first Startup Launch cohort in the Summer of 2014. After launching his first startup with the support of the CREATE-X community, he wanted to give back and became the first Founder’s Pledge contributor to CREATE-X.

» **Kolby Hanley, founder of UltraView Archery, MSE 2019**

After winning the 2018 InVenture Prize Competition, Hanley joined Startup Launch, where he developed Ultraview Archery. The company provides archery products that simplify the sport of archery. In 2022, Ultraview was the 5th fastest-growing private company in Georgia. That same year, Hanley became the second supporter of CREATE-X through the Founder’s Pledge.



THE FUTURE OF CREATE-X

As CREATE-X continues to evolve, our vision for the future remains focused on fostering innovation, entrepreneurship, and startup creation. We've also expanded our reach beyond the Georgia Tech campus into new areas. Here's a glimpse into what the future holds for CREATE-X:



EXPANDING ACADEMIC ENGAGEMENT

CREATE-X plans to expand its Capstone Design courses into more Georgia Tech colleges. This expansion will enable students from diverse disciplines to engage with entrepreneurship and develop a deeper understanding of the startup process. Integrating entrepreneurship into various academic fields highlights CREATE-X's commitment to fostering a culture of innovation across Georgia Tech.



PROMOTING ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN K-12

CREATE-X's vision extends beyond higher education to K-12 initiatives. By partnering with programs like the InVenture Prize, CREATE-X is igniting the entrepreneurial spark in younger generations.



NATIONAL OUTREACH

CREATE-X is engaging with universities around the U.S. We recognize the importance of sharing our successful model and entrepreneurial expertise with other institutions of higher learning. By speaking to schools nationwide, CREATE-X aims to inspire the next generation of student entrepreneurs.



GLOBAL OUTREACH

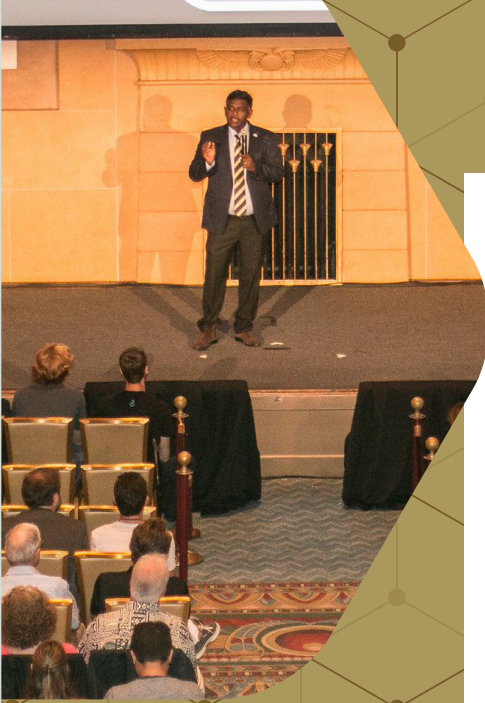
In a move towards global impact, CREATE-X has launched its program in Medellín, Colombia, in collaboration with Enterprise Innovation Institute (EI2) Global, which opened its first comprehensive innovation hub in South America, the Medellín Innovation and Entrepreneurship Center. The hub brings together academia, private industry, and economic development organizations to spur economic growth. As part of this effort, CREATE-X visited the Universidad EIA to train 30 faculty members, corporate partners, and students to launch a Startup Lab course. The course received 400 applications, and 100 students were accepted.



SCALING STARTUP CREATION

With a vision of launching 1,000 startups in the future, CREATE-X is poised to make a substantial impact on students and local economies. This goal will continue to drive the program's efforts, encouraging students to develop innovative solutions to real-world problems and take them to market.





LETTER FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT OF THE OFFICE OF COMMERCIALIZATION

Dear CREATE-X Community,

As we close a remarkable decade at CREATE-X, I'm filled with excitement for the progress we've made and the opportunities that lie ahead. This report is more than just a reflection of our achievements; it's an invitation to become an active participant in the extraordinary journey of entrepreneurship and innovation.



At CREATE-X, our mission has always been to nurture the entrepreneurial spirit within Georgia Tech students, empowering them to transform their ideas into fully functional and viable startups. This vision wouldn't be possible without the collective wisdom and support of industry veterans, entrepreneurs, alumni, and the entire CREATE-X community. In that spirit, I ask you to consider contributing to the program via mentorship, partnership, or through donations. Your involvement nurtures, supports, and propels our students toward entrepreneurial excellence.

By dedicating 12 weeks of your time to our students as a Startup Launch coach, you help our founders transform their ideas and contribute to their personal and professional growth. You become a catalyst for their success by providing them with the guidance, encouragement, and knowledge they need to thrive.

And in being our partners and benefactors, you gain a front-row seat to observe the birth and evolution of student-founded startups, offering you a unique perspective into the innovation taking place right here on Georgia Tech's campus. Your support and collaboration are key in amassing the resources necessary for our students to develop innovative solutions and in fostering a more robust entrepreneurial ecosystem. For those looking to invest in promising startups, this is an unparalleled opportunity to identify and support the next generation of visionary entrepreneurs.

As we look ahead, I invite you to join our dynamic community of mentors, advisors, and supporters. Your involvement can make a profound difference in the lives of our students while also putting you at the forefront of the next wave of progress. Together, we can foster a culture of entrepreneurship where ideas flourish and startups thrive. Thank you for your continued support, dedication, and passion for CREATE-X. Your commitment is the driving force behind our success, and we are excited to see what we can achieve together in the coming years.

RAGHUPATHY 'SIVA' SIVAKUMAR

Founding Director, CREATE-X





For more information, visit
create-x.gatech.edu