



For Immediate Release

IdeaFunding₂₀₀₉

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IdeaFunding 2009 Announces New Award, Thomas R. Brown Award Winner

Tucson, AZ (October 20, 2009) – IdeaFunding is a one-day workshop for entrepreneurs, individuals interested in bringing a new product or service to market, early stage companies and individuals within established firms exploring entrepreneurial directions. IdeaFunding 2009, set for November 5th at the University Marriott Park will focus on the lifeblood of the venture – funding.

Kirstin Block of Buffalo Exchange Wins Thomas R. Brown Award

The Thomas R. Brown Excellence in Entrepreneurship Award was created in honor of Tom Brown, the founder of Burr-Brown Corporation, Tucson's first major high-tech company which was acquired by Texas Instruments in 2000 for \$7 Billion. The Entrepreneurship Award is given in recognition of the recipient's commitment and contributions to entrepreneurial growth and excellence. Kirstin will receive her award at IdeaFunding 2009 on November 5th.

New Grubb & Ellis Emergent Entrepreneur Award

This new award recognizes and celebrates promising nascent entrepreneurship in Southern Arizona. The award carries with it a cash prize and will be announced and presented at IdeaFunding.

"It is clear that entrepreneurship grows most abundantly in communities where it is valued and celebrated. This Grubb & Ellis Emergent Entrepreneur Award has been created for this purpose and will be the premier prize for new entrepreneurs," notes Robert Davis, Sr. VP for Industrial and Investment Services for Grubb & Ellis.

Along with business attraction and retention, the creation of new, scalable enterprise in our region is a critical element to economic prosperity and community wellness. "Entrepreneurial firms establish new jobs, create new wealth, and contribute to social purpose in a unique and powerful manner. It is exciting to announce this important prize," says Larry Hecker, IdeaXchange/IdeaFunding Founder and Chair.

The annual Grubb & Ellis Emergent Entrepreneur Award will be given to a firm whose innovative products / services represent clear market opportunity; which shows evidence of clear business perspective; and which stands to contribute significantly to the economic and social landscape of Arizona.

Major sponsors of this year's event include TREO, Raytheon, CyraCom, WellsFargo and the Arizona Department of Commerce.

Event: IdeaFunding 2009
Date: November 5, 2009
7:30am – 4:30pm
NEW Venue: Marriott University Park, 880 East Second Avenue
Tucson, AZ 85719
Cost: \$85 in advance, \$100 at the door (cash or check only)

For more information, agenda, and list of speakers, visit www.ideafunding.org.