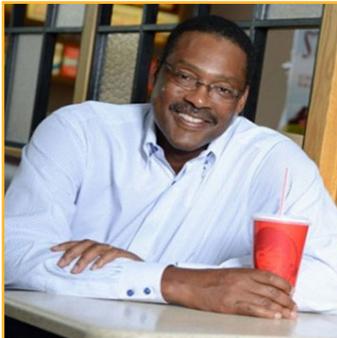


JUDGES



Junior Bridgeman

Ulysses “Junior” Bridgeman first became a familiar name in Louisville in the 1970s as a standout player on the University of Louisville men’s basketball team. While playing 12 seasons in the NBA for the Milwaukee Bucks, Bridgeman spent the off-seasons learning the business of fast food franchising, and acquiring first-hand experience in all roles, from flipping burgers to mopping floors. He leveraged this experience into a successful restaurant empire, **Manna Inc.**, which is one of the largest franchise operations in the country, spanning 16 states and employing 18,000 people. Manna Inc. franchises include Wendy’s, Chili’s, Fazoli’s, Mark’s Feed Store, and Blaze Pizza. In 2017, Bridgeman capitalized on his franchises’ long-time relationship with Coca-Cola and expanded into the beverage industry, founding **Heartland Coca-Cola**, an independent bottling company that services Midwest territories for the beverage giant. Junior Bridgeman has been inducted in the Kentucky Entrepreneur Hall of Fame and is heavily involved with various nonprofits throughout the Louisville community.



Lopa Mehrotra

Lopa Mehrotra is passionate about the difference that education can make in the lives of all people, starting with her own. She has dedicated her 20-year career in the US and Australia to social change and leadership, guided by a single thread: that education and entrepreneurship have the power to transform lives and communities.

As Co-CEO of Grameen Australia, Lopa got to work in support of a Nobel Peace Prize winner, developing a microfinance bank in the Philippines that served women living on \$1 a day. From 100 clients in 2015, the bank now serves over 7,000 women in slums across Manila.

As an entrepreneur, Lopa founded **TestToob**, a technology platform to enable kids and classrooms around the world to generate passion and self-expression around science education, reaching classrooms in over 60 countries. She has been profiled in *The New York Times* and was also a speaker at a TEDx event in 2012, where she spoke on the link between childhood and innovation.



Sean O’Leary

Sean O’Leary is the CEO and Co-Founder of **EdjAnalytics**, a Louisville-based data science company that builds proprietary tools focused on helping people improve decision-making. Prior to Edj, Sean was the Co-Founder and CEO of **Genscape, Inc.** – a Louisville headquartered organization that offers proprietary data to the global energy markets. O’Leary has been recognized as an Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year which honors entrepreneurial excellence in vision, innovation, courage, and leadership in building and growing successful businesses. Besides being a two-time INC 500 company, Genscape was also recognized in 2010 as the Best Place to Work among small and medium businesses in Kentucky under his leadership. Sean is a member of the Bluegrass Chapter of the Young Presidents Organization (YPO), the University of Louisville College of Business Board of Advisors and serves on the Board of Directors for Restorative Justice of Louisville. O’Leary holds a BBA degree in Finance and Economics from the University of Michigan and is a graduate of the University of Louisville’s first MBA in Entrepreneurship class. In 2016 Sean was recognized as an Endeavor Entrepreneur.

SPEAKERS



Gill Holland

Saturday, Sept. 21, 9:00 a.m.

Gill Holland is a serial entrepreneur and community builder who was instrumental in turning a formerly economically depressed and run-down east downtown Louisville area into a thriving arts/design and sustainable district, now known as “NuLu” - Louisville’s East Market District. Eleven years ago, the Hollands opened NuLu’s flagship “The Green Building”, a renovated 125 year old building which is now certified LEED “Platinum” and the greenest commercial building in Kentucky. For the last six years he has headed up the revitalization efforts in Louisville’s historic Portland neighborhood.

Gill is a former lawyer and film producer who also started and owns **sonaBLAST! Records** (Ben Sollee and GRLwood are on the label). In addition to the film and music companies, he has started a book publishing company, many real estate companies and he is involved with many start-ups as mentor, investor, or partner. These include Forecastle Music Festival, Louisville City Football Club, Podchaser (like the imdb.com of podcasts), switcher studio (an easy way to livestream multi-camera video from just iPhones) and several start-ups that have failed too.



Tom O'Grady

Saturday, Sept. 21, 12:00 p.m.

Tom O'Grady has worked in the commodity and investment business for his entire professional career, beginning in 1994 at AIG trading Corporation in Greenwich, CT. After being promoted to the energy trading desk where he did a variety of analytical tasks, he was hired to work under one of AIG’s leading natural gas traders. He eventually managed a very large physical natural gas book that moved gas on various pipelines throughout the United States and Canada and this evolved into financial trading in the basis and futures markets. In 1997 Tom left AIG to trade for a start-up firm in Louisville, KY called NP Energy. After several moves in natural gas trading, Tom moved his family back to Louisville KY where he opened a Sempra Trading office. In August 2011, Tom took a position as a Senior Managing Director with Freepoint Commodities and has been with them ever since.

In October of 2017, Tom launched **Phocus** Caffeinated Sparkling Water with his cofounder John Mittel. Tom is the sole investor in Phocus and the company has seen significant and steady growth over its two years on the beverage scene.



Brit Fitzpatrick

Saturday, Sept. 21, 6:30 p.m.

Brit Fitzpatrick founded **MentorMe**, one of the first SaaS mentoring startups, which provided mentoring program management software for more than 100 K-12 mentoring programs throughout the United States. She currently serves as the Interim Director of Entrepreneurship & Innovation for Northern Kentucky Tri-ED, where she leads the community and strategy to connect, equip, grow, and invest in entrepreneurs throughout the 8-county region.

Previously, Brit launched communities for underrepresented entrepreneurs in Tennessee and led the founding team at **1804 Entrepreneur Center** in her hometown of Louisville, KY. Brit’s been invited to speak on entrepreneurship, mentoring, and social innovation at more than 30 events and conferences across the U.S. — including Dreamforce, TEDx, and White House Demo Day. She’s also been profiled as an entrepreneur and startup ecosystem builder in national media outlets — including *GOOD Magazine*, *Essence, Inc.*, *Business Insider*, and *FastCompany*.