



Two UC Davis-associated Startups Among Finalists in Local Pitch Competition

Artificial intelligence, human health and a mix of digital media, computer hardware and home-chef platform companies are among the final eight vying for \$17,500 in cash prizes at the [Pitch Elk Grove Startup Competition](#). Two of the remaining eight finalists are UC Davis-associated startups, [Matrubials Inc.](#), and [Ravata Solutions](#).

The city uses the pitch contest as an economic development tool to introduce the startup community to the Sacramento suburb and its programs focused on supporting Elk Grove companies. Elk Grove got 53 applicants for its second annual Pitch Elk Grove startup competition. The final pitches will be live May 18 at [The Center at District56](#) in Elk Grove from 4:30-8:15 PM PDT.

[Read More](#)

UC Davis-associated Startup, Pheronym, Featured on Prominent Gardening Podcast



Nematodes, also known as roundworms, are the most abundant animals on earth but are largely misunderstood. In gardening and agriculture, several nematode species are known for being pests, but it's important to recognize that many other nematode species are beneficial, providing biological control of

insect pests.

To explain how lab-produced pheromones can be used to repel pest nematodes and stimulate beneficial nematodes, Dr. Fatma Kaplan, the CEO and founder of [Pheronym](#) was the guest of the [Joe Gardener Show](#).

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Big Bang! Finalists - 18 Teams to Vie for Prizes in Annual UC Davis Business Competition

The 23rd annual UC Davis business competition drew students and alumni from across campus, as well as from colleges and universities throughout California.

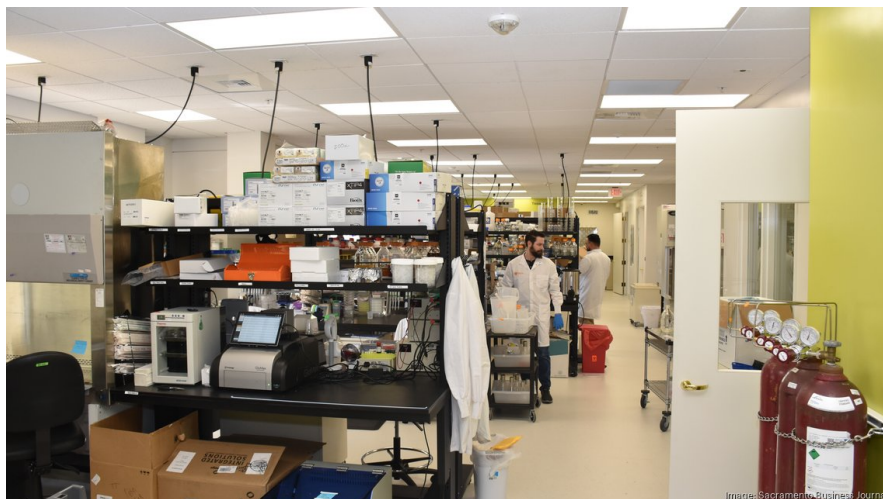


The 2023 [Big Bang Business Competition's](#) 18 finalist teams all have a co-founder affiliated with an institution of higher education in California. This year UC Davis, UCLA, Cal Poly-San Luis Obispo, Claremont McKenna College and the University of Southern California are represented. The finalists are competing for \$90,000 in cash prizes and two in-kind prizes valued at \$4,000 each.

Winners will be announced at the awards ceremony on May 23.

[RVSP Here](#)

Incubator Labs in Yolo County Bridge Gap from Research to Sustainable Business for Local Startups



A key challenge of getting cutting-edge science from the university research lab to the marketplace is finding well-stocked labs where startup companies can work off campus. In Yolo County, which is awash in food science, ag-science and health science researchers, four little labs provide a pathway for businesses to launch while doing their science:

- [UC Davis-HM.CLAUSE Life Science Innovation Center](#)
- [Inventopia](#)
- [The Lab@AgStart](#)
- [Davis Coworking](#)

All are [UC Davis DRIVE™ Network](#) partners, and are currently housing a number of UC Davis-associated startups. The efforts of the incubators support one of the region's strengths, which is a deep talent pool of world-class scientists in microbiology, life sciences, medical, agriculture and genetics, said Barry Broome, CEO of the [Greater Sacramento Economic Council](#).

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Delix Therapeutics Initiates Phase I Trial for Novel Compound DLX-001



UC Davis-associated startup, [Delix Therapeutics](#), has recently commenced a Phase I clinical trial for their groundbreaking compound, DLX-001. The innovative drug has shown promising potential for the treatment of various neurological disorders. The trial aims to assess the safety, tolerability, and pharmacokinetics of DLX-001 in healthy volunteers. With DLX-001, Delix Therapeutics is striving to address unmet medical needs and offer new therapeutic options for individuals suffering from neurological conditions. The initiation of this Phase I trial marks an important milestone in the development of DLX-001 and brings hope for the future of neurological treatments.

[Read More](#)

Funding Opportunities

DEBUT

Are you and your team working on biomedical innovative solutions? DEBUT challenges teams of students in undergraduate biomedical education to solve real-world problems in healthcare. Prizes of up to \$20,000 will be awarded. [Apply here](#). Deadline: May 31, 2023.

NIH SBIR & STTR Grant Funding Opportunities

The NIH Small Business Program is accepting applications for SBIR & STTR funding. [Apply here.](#)

Deadline: September 5, 2023.

OpenGrants Affiliate Program

The OpenGrants Affiliate Program is a commission-based program that rewards affiliates for referring new customers to the OpenGrants API and WordPress Plugin subscriptions. Affiliates earn a 20% commission on any subscriptions sold to referred customers in perpetuity. [Apply here.](#)

Physicians Foundation Interoperability Fund

The Interoperability Fund will assist medical practices in effectively sharing clinical information with other physicians and hospitals through health information exchanges (HIE). Funding is available for physicians in participating states with an electronic health record system (EHR) and will be allocated to practices on a first come basis. [Learn more.](#)

AgFunder

AgFunder is a new kind of venture capital firm built on proprietary technology and a global ecosystem of over 85,000 subscribers. We invest in exceptional and bold founders who are committed to building the next generation of agrifood technology companies that will transform our food system. We are one of the most active agrifood tech investors in the world. [Apply here.](#)

O'Shaughnessy Fellowship

The O'Shaughnessy Fellowship is a one year program that provides \$100K, equity-free, for innovative creators to work on whatever they choose. Applications are selected throughout the year on a rolling basis, so apply now! [Currently accepting applications.](#)

UC Davis Office of Research - Links to Funding Sources

Browse the listings of funding announcements provided by sponsoring agencies and other pertinent information about obtaining critical research funding. [View the complete list here.](#)

Tech Coast Angels

If your company has a strong team with a great defensible idea, has early traction and is set to grow, TCA is ready to invest up to several million dollars through our funds, individually or with our syndicate partners. TCA looks at investments in the United States and Canada. [Currently accepting applications](#)

Pioneering Ideas: Exploring the Future to Build a Culture of Health

We are interested in ideas that address any of these four areas of focus: Future of Evidence; Future of Social Interaction; Future of Food; Future of Work. Additionally, we welcome ideas that might fall outside of these four focus areas, but which offer unique approaches to advancing health equity and our progress toward a Culture of Health. [Currently accepting applications](#)

Evidence for Action: Innovative Research to Advance Racial Equity

Evidence for Action prioritizes research to evaluate specific interventions (e.g., policies, programs, practices) that have the potential to counteract the harms of structural and systemic racism and improve health, well-being, and equity outcomes. [Currently accepting applications](#)

IndieBio Accelerator

Multi-stage investment to support big ideas.#1 in early stage biotech![Currently accepting applications](#)

Open SBIR/STTR Grant Topics

Federal Research/Research & Development with the potential for commercialization.[Learn More](#)

Educational Opportunities

NIH Applicant Assistance Program

AAP services are FREE to the small businesses who are accepted into the program. Each AAP participant will be assigned to a coach from Eva Garland Consulting who has expertise in preparing NIH SBIR/STTR applications. Over a 10-week period, the coach will provide customized assistance to the AAP participant. [Apply now](#). Deadline: May 22, 2023.

Small Business Funding Webinar with CLS, CSR & NCATS

The webinar will feature NCATS' key research focus areas, tips for submitting a successful application, upcoming funding opportunities and other NCATS resources and programs for researchers and entrepreneurs. [Register now](#). Date: May 23, 2023 at 10:00 AM PDT.

Webinar: The Art of Communicating your Science and Startup

Osage University Partners is pleased to invite you to their webinar on the Art of Communicating your Science and Startup. Join panelists Otto Pohl of Core Communications and Lori Lennon of Thinkubator Media as they share their expertise. [Register now](#). Date: May 24, 2023 at 9:00 AM PDT.

Startup Folsom Startup Pitch Workshop

Present your 5-minute startup pitch and receive valuable feedback from our experienced pitch coaches. If your pitch impresses the judges, you will be invited to present to local angel investors. [Apply](#) or [register now](#). Date: May 24, 2023 at 5:30-6:30 PM PDT.

FourthWave's 2023 Tech Accelerator

The accelerator is open to technology companies with at least one female or female-identified founder. Participants will gain leadership awareness and executive coaching, develop startup business fundamentals and attract capital. [Apply now](#). Deadline: June 9, 2023.

On-Demand Virtual Entrepreneurship Toolkit Series

The new On-Demand Toolkit Series is a resource of past recordings as well as slides and tools taught throughout the 5-week series. After a short application, you will have access to five recordings and subsequent resource tools. [Apply now](#).

The Lean Innovator: Workshop Series

Our curriculum and program focuses your efforts on doing the things that matter in gaining traction. We enable you to engage customers while gaining evidence that systematically de-risks your startup, such as market niche research and prototyping. [Apply now](#). Spots are accepted on a rolling basis.

Community Engagement: How to Maximize Grant Outcomes

An OpenGrants webinar with Sedale Turbovsky and Chris Dumont to discuss the easy way to win grant funding. Sedale Turbovsky is the CEO and co-founder of OpenGrants, a venture-backed startup focused on building modern infrastructure for funding. Chris is the CEO of Alpine Sustains, a social networking platform for community development that matches community members with projects. [Learn more](#).

Advance Your Career with UC Davis Continuing and Professional Education

Gain the knowledge and skills you need to succeed in today's evolving workforce. Serving adult learners worldwide, we provide career-focused education designed for busy working professionals—including a variety of tech-related courses and programs. UC Davis staff and faculty receive a discount on our main courses and can take any of our UC Davis Coursera courses for free. [Learn more](#).

Insight Data Science Fellows Program

The Insight Data Science Fellows Program is a postdoctoral training fellowship that bridges the gap

between academia and data science. Throughout this seven week intensive program, researchers learn how to apply their existing analytical skills to big data. [Applications open now.](#)

Postdoctoral Fellowship in Conservation Science

The Postdoctoral Fellowship in Conservation Science is a two-year program designed to provide recent PhDs in chemistry and other physical or material sciences with experience in conservation science. The application period typically opens every other year in the autumn for a fellowship beginning the following year. The next opportunity to apply will be in Fall 2023 for a two-year fellowship beginning Fall 2024.

[Learn more.](#)

Startup Traction Hotline with JDM

Growth, revenue, product-market fit, pitching, traction, business models, tools, tips, techniques, and whatever else is on your mind. Get advice that's comprehensive, useful, and immediately actionable. Join every Thursday at 10:00 AM PT on YouTube for a live discussion of whatever's on your mind. [Learn](#)

[more.](#)

Regional Events

Sacramento Inno Awards 2023

The Sacramento Inno Awards are designed to showcase those who are making the biggest impact on our local ecosystem. We're looking at startups that have had a banner year, people and companies with new funding, recent product launches, innovative approaches to solving problems and creative leaders who think outside of the box. [Nominate now.](#) Deadline: May 23, 2023.

FourthWave Happy Hour

Join StartupSac, the Carlsen Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, and FourthWave for Startup Happy Hour! In addition to all the usual socializing and friend-making, we'll hear from FourthWave alumni about their experience in this accelerator for women-led technology companies, as well as find out how to apply for the 2023 cohort. [Register here.](#) Date: May 25, 2023 at 5:00-7:00 PM PDT.

Learn from a Local - Karen Ross

Hosted by AgStart, Learn from a Local is a speaker series supporting entrepreneurs advancing innovation in agriculture, food, and health. This event's local speaker is Karen Ross, the Secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture. [RSVP now.](#) Date: June 1, 2023 at 5:30-7:30 PM PDT.

CleanStart: CleanTech Meetup MICROGRID

CleanTech Meetup is an event that brings together individuals, businesses, and organizations with a shared interest in clean energy and sustainability. This particular event will focus on microgrids, a cutting-edge technology that promises to revolutionize the way we generate and distribute electricity. [Register now.](#) Date: June 1, 2023 at 6:30-9:30 PM PDT.

Women Who Mean Business

The Sacramento Business Journal is proud to host the 28th annual Women Who Mean Business awards luncheon and Women's Expo! [Register here](#) by June 2, 2023. Date: June 16, 2023.

1 Million Cups

Present your early stage company to your peers. Or just grab a coffee and listen.

Date: [Every Wednesday](#)

Business Casual: Get Your Creative Biz Together

Every fourth Saturday of the month, Atrium's mentorship team will be hosting a free business basics

discussion group. Growing your creative business can seem like a daunting task. Atrium is here to help take your ideas from the drawing board to the boardroom with free “get started right” business workshops for creative startups. Come with a laptop and a ready-to-grow mentality. [Register now](#). Date: Ongoing

AgStart Office Hours

Expert mentors to help your business. [Sign-up now](#). Date: Ongoing

Sacramento State Carlsen Center for Innovation & Entrepreneurship Events and Workshops

[Learn More](#). Date: Ongoing

Small Business Development Center Workshops

[Learn More](#). Date: Ongoing

Silicon Valley USPTO Workshops

Check out the US Patent and Trademark Office's [West Coast region events](#) Date: Ongoing

California Life Sciences Institute FAST Advisory Program

Get the coaching you need to perfect your business model. [Apply now](#). Date: Ongoing

Bay Area NSF Innovation Corps Immersive Short Course

Join the weeklong immersive course for university researchers and early stage startup founders. [Apply now](#). Date: Ongoing

Industry Events

TECHSPO San Diego 2023

TECHSPO San Diego brings together some of the best developers, brands, marketers, technology providers, designers, innovators and evangelists looking to set the pace technology. Watch exhibitors showcase the next generation of advances in technology & innovation, including; Internet, Mobile, and more. [Register now](#). Date: May 22-23, 2023.

Startup Battlefield 200

Ready to launch your startup into the stratosphere? Apply to be one of the Startup Battlefield 200, an elite cohort of early stage startups to be featured prominently at TC Disrupt in September. All SB 200 founders receive 4 Free Found Passes, free exhibition space, exclusive workshops, investor office hours, mentorship, pitch training, and a shot to compete for \$100K. [Apply now](#). Deadline: May 31, 2023

BIO International Convention

Through a curated network of education alliance partners, BIO offers industry professionals executive training and development resources for accelerating career growth. Resources include Biotechnology Entrepreneurship Bootcamp to Business Development Fundamentals. [Register now](#). Date: June 5-8, 2023.

Information Security Symposium

This year's theme for the virtual symposium is "Evolve" - meeting the increased need for security in an ever-changing world. This event presents a great opportunity to meet or reconnect with your peers from other UC campuses, learn from professionals outside UC, and exchange ideas and solutions related to a wide range of security activities. [Registration opens beginning of May](#). Date: June 20-21, 2023

Physician-Computer Connection Symposium 2023

The Symposium is a full program defining the latest issues and advances in the direct physician

use of healthcare information systems and technology. National experts in clinical computing and healthcare information technology will present their views in a highly interactive forum, which allows you to participate. [Register now](#). Date: June 20-23, 2023

TechCrunch Disrupt 2023

The original startup conference — stays fresh, relevant and focused on founders, investors, and the future of tech year after year. Whether you're a startup rookie learning the ropes, a seasoned investor searching for the next big thing, or a founder hell-bent on changing the world - Disrupt delivers the tools, knowledge, and connections to help you make it happen! [Register now](#). Date: Sep. 19-21, 2023

SOSV Climate Tech Summit

The SOSV Climate Tech Summit aims to convene the climate tech startup ecosystem of founders, investors, technologists, corporates, policymakers and media to discuss the extreme challenges ahead. Join us for a live, virtual and free event featuring fireside chats, panel discussions and breakout sessions with the founders and venture capitalists who are inventing our decarbonized future. [Register now](#). Date: Sep. 26, 2023.

About Venture Catalyst

UC Davis Venture Catalyst supports the development of new UC Davis-associated ventures fueled by university research and technology. Venture Catalyst offers several innovative programs that bridge the gap between early-stage research and commercialization and provide entrepreneurs the resources, support, and connections needed to successfully form and grow technology-based startups. With a focus on accelerating technology-led economic development in the Davis-Sacramento region, Venture Catalyst also works closely with partners in the regional innovation and economic development ecosystems.

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