



The Blackstone LaunchPad at Bird Library is a cross campus interdisciplinary hub that connects Syracuse University's innovation ecosystem with a powerful global network that provides support for aspiring innovators, inventors, entrepreneurs and social impact changemakers.

The program is supported through seed funding from the Blackstone Charitable Foundation - one of 20 similar initiatives located at universities around the world. The versatile glass cube located on the main floor of Bird Library is accessible during extended library hours and can be used for ideation workshops, team and mentor

meetings, co-working, networking events, coaching and training sessions, venture demos and product launches, as well as other collaborative activities. The highly-utilized space is professionally staffed, augmented by Global Fellows, and supported by a network of mentors and subject matter experts.

The Blackstone LaunchPad at Syracuse University features:

- **Campus-wide accessibility**, open to students across all majors, with a focus on inclusive entrepreneurship;
- **One-stop connections** to the university's robust network of entrepreneurial resources, programs and activities;
- **One-one-one mentoring** that cultivates entrepreneurial thinking and helps ventures from ideation to acceleration. The LaunchPad program can be applied to for-profit and non-profit enterprises, and can facilitate innovation within organizations, as well as new venture development;
- **Specialized applications, tools and training** to help get startups off the ground and scale, including an exclusive technology platform, Syracuse.Ideator.com for ventures to showcase their ideas;
- **Interdisciplinary team-building** that fosters a team approach to ideation, and utilizes collaboration as a tool for innovation;
- **Access to world-class content** developed by the Blackstone Charitable Foundation, including materials from across the Blackstone LaunchPad initiative;
- **Regional, national and global connections** to university programs and venture leaders to share best practices, engage with successful entrepreneurs, expand networks, and find partners;
- **Blackstone LaunchPad** campus challenges, as well as national, state and regional business plan competitions, that provide opportunities for students from across the network to connect, compete and innovate, as well as win state and national awards;
- **Workshops and technical assistance programs** that build competence through experiential learning, and referrals to highly ranked Syracuse University entrepreneurship education programs;
- **Connections to funders** that can help ventures through the capital continuum;
- **Networking events** that build a university-wide innovation infrastructure, bringing together entrepreneurs, researchers, investors and funders, as well as technical service providers.

Information or an appointment: LaunchPad@syr.edu



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