



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 15, 2024

The Startup Ladies Announce their 10th Anniversary Award Winners

Recognizing and honoring the founders and the allies who have supported our startup community for the past decade

IND. (AUGUST 15, 2024) — The Startup Ladies hosted their 10th Anniversary Celebration Awards dinner at Found Search Marketing in Fishers, IN, the evening of August 14, 2024. Seventeen awards were given out to twenty-nine recipients who have dedicated their time, talent, connections, enthusiasm, sponsorship, and investment to helping The Startup Ladies grow over the past decade. The five awards categories honored a combination of individuals and teams for their leadership in areas of: community, mental health, education, corporations, and investing. Recipients are listed below:

WHO: Leaders who helped The Startup Ladies community grow over the last decade.

WHAT: Awards recognizing their investment and aid (Full award details can be found [here](#)).

WHEN: Awards announced on Wednesday, August 14th at 6:00 PM ET

WHERE: Found Search Marketing in Fishers, IN.

WHY: Detailed stories of each winner on [The Startup Ladies BLOG](#)

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

1 - Distinguished Service Award for her Activism for Black Founders:

Anita Williams, Program Director, Indy Black Chamber of Commerce

2 - Distinguished Service Award for being an Inclusive Community Connector

Christi Garcia, Lead Recruiter, E-gineering

3 - Distinguished Service Award for Sponsoring Women Founders

Anna Eaglin, Senior Product Manager, Grow Therapy

4 - Distinguished Startup Lady Award for Building Tech to Save Lives

Jessica Bussert, Founder, President, & CEO, Wave Therapeutics

MENTAL HEALTH LEADERSHIP

5 - Mental Health Leadership Award: Pioneer in Mental Health Education for Founders

Lynne Hynes, PhD, Therapist, Broad Ripple Therapy Associates

6 - Mental Health Leadership Award for her Leadership in Mental Health Education

Ranada Dalton, Therapist & Co-Founder/Co-Owner, Empowered Living Inc.

EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP

7 - Educational Leadership Award for Pitch Advising, Mentoring & Board Leadership

Sara Norris, Co-Owner & CEO, When You Leave The Room, LLC

8 - Educational Leadership Award for Technology Mentoring and Advising

Jason M. Kelly, PhD, Director, Arts and Humanities Institute at IU Indianapolis

9 - Educational Leadership Award for Technology Mentoring and Advising

Roger Deetz, VP of Engineering, Blueprint

10 - Educational Leadership Award for Technology Mentoring and Advising

Rick McGlinchey, Co-Founder & CEO, PureInsights

CORPORATE LEADERSHIP

11 - Corporate Leadership Award for Sponsoring Innovative Internships

Rhaya Shilts, Owner, Jackson Sky Web Design & Development

12 - Corporate Leadership Award for being a Corporate & Community Bridge Builder

Jon Dartt, Member, Westfield City Council

13 - #InvestInWomenFounders Award: Commitment to Supporting Women Founders

Delta Faucet Company - Jill Ehnes, Amy Bartley, Doug Burnette, Liz Conzo-Kershner, David Coopridge, Nathan Drook, Pam Gilbert, Stacy Mowrer, Caitlin Smarrelli, Jai Shah

14 - Corporate Leadership Award for her role in Scale Up Strategy & Sponsorship

Julie Warnecke, Founder and CEO, Found Search Marketing, LLC

15 - Corporate Leadership Award for Educating and Sponsoring Women Founders

RSM Team - Angelo Stanco and Stacey Lichtle

INVESTOR LEADERSHIP

16 - Investor Leadership Award: Commitment to Funding & Mentoring Women Founders

Richard Millunchick, Startup Advisor and Investor

17 - #InvestInWomenFounders Award for: Commitment to Equitable Investment in Women Founders - Jon Gilman, Director at Microsoft

The Startup Ladies is powered by a dedicated full-time CEO and founder, Kristen Cooper and, supported by an Advisory Board, Ambassadors, and part-time interns. The organization has created an unparalleled platform providing women founders with the education, community, and access to capital that no other organization or program in the Midwest can match.

The Startup Ladies were incredibly proud to honor all the people who have generously given their time, connections, and resources to transform the startup landscape for women, making it a more equitable and inclusive space for all.

Media interested in speaking with The Startup Ladies about their 10th Anniversary Awards or their upcoming #InvestInWomenFounders Summit should contact Kristen Cooper (She/Hers), CEO & Founder, The Startup Ladies via email at Kristen@TheStartupLadies.org or directly at 317-645-6494.

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About [The Startup Ladies](#)

The Startup Ladies is a professional membership organization for entrepreneurs, investors, and corporations. The woman-owned company identifies, educates, connects, and increases investment in women entrepreneurs starting up and scaling businesses. The organization's goals are to: increase the number of women starting up scalable businesses and help them secure investment to grow.

Through in-person events, live virtual training, eLearning, and one-on-one mentoring, entrepreneurs go from: idea, to market, to growth. Individuals with financial capacity are taught how to invest in startups, and then are connected to investor-ready founders. Corporations providing ancillary services to founders and funders secure new deals by participating in events.

People of every gender are welcome to participate and become members. Learn more about membership and attending events at: TheStartupLadies.org.