JOAN F. & JOHN M. THALHEIMER '55
EUREKA!
VENTURES COMPETITION

Michael W. Levin '87
Advanced Technology Award

2018-2019 Year in Review

Preff

Preff is a dedicated social media network that facilitates in-person meetups and leads to hyper-focused advertising from restaurants.

Preff pitched and won at stages 2 & 3 during EUREKA! Pitch Nights, before winning the Levin Advanced Technology Award and the Thalheimer Grand Prize of $5,000 at Innovate, Celebrate in April 2019.

From left to right:
Cameron Cipriano '21 | Computer Science & Engineering, Will Peracchio '21 | Computer Science & Business
Jack Cunngingham '21 | Computer Science, Dom Allen '20 | Computer Science

Dear Mr. Levin,

Thank you so much for your generous gift, which has allowed the Preff team to move forward and get the full experience out of the upcoming National Restaurant Association conference this May and beyond. Through your gifts, the Preff team has been able to advance through the Eureka stages, all the way from stage 2 last year to the grand prize this past April. Our idea is a far cry from it's initial inception, and this has been for the better - after utilizing previous Eureka funds, we were able to go out and prototype Preff to create a better idea, value proposition, and product. It has taught me so much about the developmental process of taking an idea and validating it in the real world, something that I would have never seen in just the confines of the traditional classroom. When Preff gears up for launch in the fall semester (fingers crossed!), we know that we will have the resources to promote and develop our product to give ourselves the best chance of succeeding once the idea becomes a real venture. Thank you so much for your gift, and for your commitment to helping Engineers with an Entrepreneurial mindset to change the world.

William Peracchio '21

Dear Mr. Levin,

Thank you so much for supporting Lehigh and its current entrepreneurs! The Preff team and I have greatly benefited from your generosity, and we cannot thank you enough for enabling us to constantly move Preff forward. Your donations have enabled us to do things we wouldn't have been able to otherwise such as travel to Chicago this May to attend the National Restaurant Association trade show, the largest trade show in North America. We plan to gain as much insight and as many contacts as possible while we are there, all while promoting Preff and Lehigh. In addition to this, having the opportunity to consistently pitch for additional funding is one of the best forms of both motivation and validation. I speak for the entire Preff team when I say that we are all more motivated and passionate than we ever have been to keep developing this idea into a business. Thank you for all you do!

Dom Allen '20

In addition to Preff, these teams pitched and were awarded Levin funds:

Andrew built this prototype with his funds.

DreamBoard
Andrew Fedun '21
Finance & Industrial Systems

A socially interactive lcd screen that can post messages, display a stock ticker, or show audio visualization.

Kyle, at Innovate, Celebrate 2019

Hot Car Device
Kyle Batchelor '22
Chemical Engineering

A device that helps prevent children and pets from being left and harmed in cars during extreme temperatures.

Joe, at the October Pitch Night

NextSet
Joe Guzikowski '20
Computer Science & Engineering

A comprehensive web applicaiton for powerlifting programming.

Rebecca and Praveen, at Creativate 2018

The Arenam Project
Rebecca Luttinen '21 | International Relations & Economics
Praveen Joseph '20 | Civil Engineering & Sustainable Development

A socially oriented water resource program based in Kenya that utilizes sand dam technology to combat water scarcity and increase agricultural productivity.

Bandz built a prototype using their funds.

Bandz
Andrew Fedun '21 | Finance & Industrial Systems
Steven Gerazounis '21 | Mechanical Engineering & Finance

A fashionable headband that incorporates a wireless streaming video camera, allowing users to record video, that will save to their mobile device.

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