

Rewarding entrepreneurship

At ASU's W. P. Carey School of Business, we empower solutions in the classroom, in our community, and with our corporate partners. We are proud to acknowledge the entrepreneurial endeavors of our students, alumni, and businesses across Arizona.

Spirit of Enterprise Awards

The Spirit of Enterprise Awards is Arizona's premier celebration of entrepreneurship. For more than two decades, the W. P. Carey School has recognized businesses that positively impact our economy while exhibiting ethics, energy, and excellence in entrepreneurship.

2016 Spirit of Enterprise winners:

Mario Martinez, MRTNZ Ventures/Startup AZ Foundation,
Spirit of Enterprise National Founder of the Year

Campus Logic, Emerging Enterprise Award

Tiempo Development, The Hahnco Companies Special
Achievement in Entrepreneurship Award

TASER International, BBVA Compass Innovation in
Entrepreneurship Award

Coplex, Social Impact Award

CO+HOOTS, Gary L. Trujillo Minority Enterprise Award sponsored
by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona

ASU Sun Devil Igniter Challenge

Open to all ASU students who see the reward in risk and possess the drive to create change through a disruptive, innovative idea, the Sun Devil Igniter Challenge awards \$50,000 to one winning team through an annual entrepreneurship competition. In addition, winners receive mentorship by the Igniter Challenge Board of Directors – a prestigious, experienced group of serial entrepreneurs and active investors – who act as a “Board of Directors” in the first year following the competition.

2016-17 Igniter Challenge winner: Koine

Koine is a platform that makes it easier for people to donate to charity through social media. Users can search thousands of charitable campaigns, find one to support, and “subscribe” to the cause by contributing rounded spare change to the cause.

The Pakis Social Entrepreneurship Challenge

Social entrepreneurs see a better future for our communities and know that creating a solution with a scalable, sustainable model is the best way to achieve that future. Inviting students to create a nonprofit organization or for-profit venture to meet a community's needs, the Pakis Social Entrepreneurship Challenge awards \$20,000 and mentorship from the Pakis Family Foundation. Winners are also granted acceptance into a SEEDSPOT program within the following 12 months.

2017 Pakis Social Challenge winner: Circle Blue

Circle Blue is a consulting firm that partners with small to mid-size organizations to divert as much waste from landfills as possible. The company developed an innovative waste diversion program to take organizations from Status Quo to Zero Waste.™

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