



NEWSLETTER



YOUNG INNOVATORS

100K Ideas hosted, for the third year, the Young Innovators Program. The March 17th event kicked off with many Inventions from 3rd through 8th graders of Genesee County. Hosting the event and having over 131 students participate was a pleasure. In addition to the 131 students presenting, the Fair Day also included many students visiting from various schools. Fair Day provides an opportunity for the Young Innovators Applicants to showcase their invention and have an opportunity to move forward to present at the Invention Convention Michigan at the Henry Ford Museum. 100K Ideas was extremely excited to invite 45 students to Henry Ford's Invention Convention Michigan. Thank you to all of the teachers, and students participating. A special thank you to Sloan Museum of Discovery for hosting this amazing event.

Keep reading this newsletter to learn more about updates within Shops on Saginaw and our Startup Hub, additions to our team, local happenings, and more!

Features

PITCH FOR \$K

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AND MORE!

PITCH FOR \$K

100K Ideas held the competition of the fifth year, of the Pitch For \$K - Idea Pitch Competition. This was made possible with the generous support of the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation.

This year's series competition was held on February 27th at the 100K Ideas space and live-streamed on Facebook for viewers to tune in. In addition to the first, second, and third-place prizes of \$5,000, \$2,500, and \$1,000, respectively, a People's Choice prize of \$1,000 is also awarded to a lucky participant by the in-person and viewing audience.

Seven finalists were selected to participate in the event. In preparation for the competition, they were paired with mentors and provided a pitch clinic, facilitated by the University of Michigan Flint's Office of Economic Development. Walking away with the top prize of \$5,000 was Shiann Howard with "Understand the Brand".

Howard says, "This prize money moving forward will help us stabilize our business by covering travel and stay expenses when showcasing in year round events. Replenishing supplies like (needle & thread, thrifted materials etc.) to continue customizing, upkeep cost for advertising such as flyers, business cards etc. Excited to say we will be hosting our first ever street show this upcoming Juneteenth. Partnering with local designers, giving the community the opportunity to model with their entire family! Pitch for \$K really motivated the brand to push our limitations and show what we truly stand for. We want to empower, inspire creativity in the community. Encouraging everyone to stand out, think outside the box! Uniting our differences to become something greater."

Second place and People's Choice winner was awarded to Bre'Asia Hamlin for "Michigan Home Buyers Academy", of \$3,500. Third place was awarded to Derien Stephens for his business "Careerstack", of \$1,000.

Our next Pitch For \$K competition is scheduled for June 26th, 2024. To learn more, visit thepitch4k.com for all the latest information about this competition. Also, please be on the lookout for more announcements by following us on Facebook and Instagram @thepitch4k.





— SHOPS ON — SAGINAW



Shops on Saginaw witnessed a small shift in terms of our vendors this quarter! We had one of our veteran vendors depart, as well as welcomed a new one! Joining our ranks this quarter is Kingdom Messages- specializing in books, bookmarks and affirmation bottles! Flintborne, an early Shops vendor, moved on from our space due to relocating states. Sad to see them go, but grateful to have had them with us! We also have another small handful of future vendors, currently in the process of working to bring items for sale. Keep your eyes on our Facebook and Instagram account, @shopsonsaginaw, so you don't miss out on these new additions. Make sure you stop and shop!

ALL OUR CURRENT VENDORS

- Kitty's Kloset
- Rootless Coffee Co.
- aMaizing BookBee
- The Roman
- GOODBOY CLOTHING
- Elations Health TEA
- One:Eleven LLC
- Detroit Muscle
- MY BEES NEST L.L.C.
- R&D Tee's
- Flint Institute of Music
- Smith and Stone Studio
- Elle Jae Essentials
- Leola's Soap Therapy
- Flint Handmade
- AKADA Home
- Metro Celeb
- Regina Dunn Art LLC
- Julie Abbott Art
- Kkandles LLC
- Gansik
- Lord Lairds
- Flint City Bucks & Flint City AFC
- 100K Ideas
- Just Keep Going
- EZ Awareness By Design
- Create and Make Studios
- Queen Netzo, LLC
- Do Good Things with Friends
- Baubles By The Bay LLC
- Roxanne Rhoads- Author
- Wombman Unspoken
- Flint Life Gear
- Natroil
- The Dirty Hippie Company
- Flint Roller Derby
- Cardinal by Lata
- Peach Pit Crochet Co.
- Breads & Threads Handmade
- Kingdom Messages
- *more Vendors on the way!*

Interested in having a space in Shops on Saginaw? Apply to be a vendor, below.

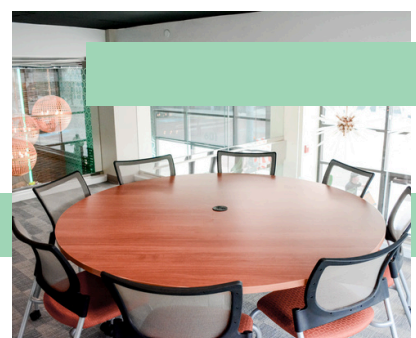
APPLICATION



This past quarter, the 100K Ideas Startup Hub hosted a few networking events, dubbed “Member Meetups”. This specific event is designed for current members and anyone interested in a membership to come and network over refreshments with each other, as well as learn more about what the space has to offer. One of the benefits of being a member of the space is having exclusive access to some of our current Ecosystem Partners who host monthly office hours. Some of these partners include: UM-Flint OED, Best Practices Consulting, and La’Asia Johnson, just to name a few.

Another amenity the Startup Hub has to offer is QuickBooks training. These trainings are typically held bimonthly within our space via The John L Group- however, to alleviate the pressure of the tax season for our trainers, we took a brief pause starting in January. This pause will end and trainings will pick back up in May. Each session was indicated separately for either beginners or advanced users. Along with these sessions, our members could become eligible to receive a QuickBooks subscription for a year, for free, on us. Since implementing this program, we have had six members receive a year of QuickBooks for free, with more in the works!

If any of these amazing amenities sound up your alley, become a member of our Startup Hub! [Click here](#) to learn more and begin the process!



COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS AT 100K

MONTHLY WORKSHOPS

100K Ideas held three workshops this past quarter. In January, Nicholas Munn CEO of Munnyman Communications provided a workshop on Customer Loyalty and Retention - Helping business' and individuals with business strategy directed towards their most valuable clients; "the returning ones" and creating customers for life. In February, Hein Lam, from Huck Finch, Branding, develop a cohesive and clear brand position that's unique. Lastly, in March, Igniting Innovation Workshop with SIPI led by Jordan Brown". All workshops were a major success, and we thank everyone who attended and facilitated!



SCHOOL VISITS

100K Ideas is excited to host school visits. We had Lake Fenton and Goodrich High School stop by and learn about the mission of the organization. The students participated in Understanding Customer Service Activities and heard from local entrepreneur and student staff member Trent Haarz, Ordered Entropy. Thank you, for stopping by!

MYSTERY BOX AUCTION

We're so grateful to everyone who joined us for this year's 100K Ideas Mystery Box Auction! With the support of 15 local business owners, the event was a wonderful celebration of community and entrepreneurship. From the excitement of the bids to the surprises revealed, it was a night to remember. Your participation helps us continue providing resources and support to aspiring entrepreneurs. A heartfelt thank you goes out to our business partners, donors, volunteers, and attendees who made this evening so memorable. We're already looking forward to next year's event and hope to see even more mystery and magic unfold!



FEBRUARY ART WALK

On February 14th, one of our vendors from Shops on Saginaw; One: Eleven Leather, hosted Art Walk in our space with a Valentines Day theme! This event featured free refreshments in the form of wine and charcuterie, and as an added bonus- One: Eleven's owner and CEO held a live demonstration of hand stitching one of his original handbags. The event resulted in plenty of new faces in the space filled with plenty of conversation and new perspectives!

STUDENT STAFF SECTION

PRACTICING GRATITUDE

WRITTEN BY LUKE

Gratitude is often overlooked in people's busy lives. Acknowledging the good in your life, no matter how small, can create a powerful shift in perspective. Everyone faces adversity, but how you respond to challenges is up to you. Focusing on the positives not only helps you navigate challenges but also boosts overall happiness. Too often people rush to the next goal without pausing to appreciate their achievements. Here are a few ways to kick off your gratitude journey:

Express Appreciation to Others: Take time to express your gratitude to people in your life. A simple "thank you" or a note of appreciation can strengthen your relationships and boost your own sense of gratitude.

Practice Mindfulness: Be present in the moment and notice the good things around you. Whether it's the warmth of the sun, a beautiful view, or a comforting sound, focusing on the present helps you become more grateful for what's already around you.

Reframe Negative Thoughts: When you catch yourself thinking negatively, try to reframe the situation by finding something you're grateful for within it. For example, if you're feeling stressed at work, you could remind yourself that you're grateful for the opportunity to learn and grow in your job.

Embracing gratitude for the little things in life goes a long way. Studies show that gratitude increases overall well-being, reduces stress, and leads to better sleep. It also builds resilience, creating a momentum where each success fuels confidence. Dwelling on problems alone can increase stress and hinder personal growth. If you want a more optimistic outlook, start practicing gratitude today, and see the differences it makes in your life!

UPCOMING 100K EVENTS & HAPPENINGS

WORKSHOPS

PITCH DECK & ELEVATOR SPEECH
w/ a guest speaker from UM-Flint's Office of Economic Development

Interested in building a pitch deck? Looking to present your idea or business to an audience? This workshop will cover the basics of developing and presenting a pitch deck including how to catch the audience's attention, and which information will best position your pitch for success.

APRIL 21ST
In-person session @ 2pm
APRIL 22ND
Virtual session @ 12pm

CELEBRATE TICKETS




[LEARN MORE!](#)

WORKSHOPS

FUNDING TYPES PANEL DISCUSSION
w/ guest speakers:
Allison Newman, Grants Specialist, FLINT & GENESSEE GROUP
Celia VanderMeid, Venture Associates, Red Cedar, Ypsilanti & Michigan Ave.
Laura Sigmon, Best Practices Consulting Services

Join us for a Panel Discussion on Funding Types tailored for small business owners. Our experts will explore various financing options, including grants, micro lending, and venture capital, to help you identify the best strategies for your business growth. Learn about grants, leverage micro loans for initial stages, and attract venture capital for scaling your operations. Whether you're launching a startup or looking to expand, this panel will provide valuable insights and practical advice. Don't miss this opportunity to empower your entrepreneurial journey with the right financial solutions.

MAY 13TH
In-person session @ 5:30pm

CELEBRATE TICKETS




[LEARN MORE!](#)

WORKSHOPS

FROM PASSION TO PURPOSE: BUILDING A BAKING BUSINESS AND INSPIRING A COMMUNITY
w/ guest speaker, Jazmine Sisco, from Little Sugars

Join Jazmine Sisco, owner of Little Sugars as she shares her inspiring journey of turning a passion for baking and teaching into a thriving small business and community mission. Through her work as a culinary instructor and mentor, she collaborates with organizations to empower young people with foundation kitchen skills. This workshop will provide insights into the challenges and rewards of small business ownership, the art of teaching, and the power of community impact through food.

JUNE 24TH
Virtual session @ 12pm
In-person session @ 5:00pm

CELEBRATE TICKETS




[LEARN MORE!](#)

100K IDEAS

OPEN HOUSE GOODWILL DRIVE

April 25th | 601 Saginaw St. | 9am - 5pm
Flint, MI 48502

- Donation Drop-Off**
Guests can bring & donate items to our Goodwill drive
- Networking & Resource Booths**
Meet the 100K Ideas team, learn about entrepreneurship resources, and connect with local businesses and ecosystem partners.
- 100K Ideas Space Tours**
Check out the 100K Ideas space, tour our programs, and learn the amenities we offer to local entrepreneurs, our community, and to you!
- Get Involved**
Learn ways you can engage with 100K Ideas, our services/programs, and give back to our local community.




[LEARN MORE!](#)

100K IDEAS STARTUP HUB

MEMBER MEETUPS

100K IDEAS 9-11 AM
601 S. Saginaw St. | Flint, MI 48502

Hosted by: **100K IDEAS**



[LEARN MORE!](#)

100K IDEAS

OFFICE HOURS INNOVATION GRANT

100K Ideas is partnering with the Ruth Mott Foundation to provide

10 INNOVATORS
the opportunity to be awarded

\$1,000
through the Office Hours Innovation Grant.

Eligibility Criteria:

- Reside in one of the following Flint zip codes: 48504, 48505, 48506
- Have taken your idea/business through the 100K Ideas process
- Present a clear statement on how you plan to use the funds to move your business forward.

APPLY TODAY!
www.100kideas.org/1000-dollar-grant

Ruth Mott

[LEARN MORE!](#)

ADDITIONS TO THE TEAM



Luke is a new project manager at 100K Ideas. He is currently attending Mott Community College, in his sophomore year, studying Business Management and Finance. In his free time, he enjoys fishing, working out, and playing tennis.

GETTING INVOLVED

Interested in get involved with 100K Ideas? We have a couple different ways you are able to!

Donate

Any donations given to 100K Ideas are greatly appreciated and put to good use. Thank you for the support!

DONATE

Join Our Circle of Friends

Comprised of members who are experts in their industry, you can join and help bring 100K Ideas clients bring their ideas to market by working with our student staff.

APPLY

OVERALL 100K METRICS

% OF IDEA CATEGORIES



CURRENT 100K IDEAS METRICS

1,258
IDEAS

914
ASSESSMENT

256
NEXT STEPS

100K Ideas categorizes presented ideas into five categories: products, services, food & hospitality, social impact, and software/applications. We track services provides as follows: the idea stage comprised of a 30 minute free intake session to discuss the client's idea, a full binder assessment including concept art, research & benchmarking, market analytics and possible next steps, and work orders which can be for an array of services offered including prototyping, branding or product distribution.