

2014-2015 Entrepreneurship Competitions and Conferences in Nebraska



New Venture Adventure

October 9, 2014 • 8:30am-3:00pm • UNK Student Union Ponderosa Rm; Kearney, NE

New Venture Adventure, sponsored by UNK Enactus (formerly SIFE) immerses high school students in becoming an entrepreneur for a day. Students gain a sense of what it takes to create a new business venture in today's competitive environment by creating and "operating" their own manufacturing, service or retail business venture business for a day. This event is designed to offer an enriching experience that enhances all participants' critical entrepreneurship skills and helps them gain a sense of what it really takes to create a new business venture in today's competitive environment. The schedule for mastering designated activities is tight and demanding, to help better simulate the challenges faced by real-life entrepreneurs. Awards are given to the student teams that most successfully master the challenging activities. Registration deadline is September 16, 2014.

Contact: Center for Rural Research and Development, 308.865.8199;
www.unk.edu/academics/crrd/



6th Annual 3-2-1 Quick Pitch Competition

November 6, 2014 • Skybox Suites of Memorial Stadium; Lincoln, NE

The 3-2-1 Quick Pitch Competition gives all Nebraska high school, 2 year college, and 4 year college students an opportunity to showcase their entrepreneurial, communication, and presentation skills through a short "quick pitch" proposal for a new business venture. Students will apply and then be invited to present their pitches, be evaluated, and receive feedback on the effectiveness of their pitch from a panel of entrepreneurially-minded experts from across Nebraska. Six cash prizes of \$1,000 will be awarded. The competition begins at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, November 6th and is free and open to the public.

Contact: Center for Entrepreneurship; 402.472.3353; entrepreneurship@unl.edu;
<http://cba.unl.edu/about/centers/entrepreneurship/events/quick-pitch>



4th Annual Central Nebraska Business Idea Contest

November 19, 2014 • Downtown Kearney, NE

This event is open to anyone, at any age, with a new business idea. A 2-minute video of your idea "pitch" must be submitted by Monday, October 27, 2014 by 5:00 p.m. All videos submitted by the deadline will be evaluated by local entrepreneurs and the top 10 ideas will be asked to participate in downtown Kearney on Wednesday, November 19th at 7:00 p.m. It's easy, it's free and it's a great learning experience. All ages are welcome! A couple "sharks" will run a short Q & A session and the audience will select the "best" and will award a \$1,000 1st prize, \$500 2nd prize and \$250 3rd prize.

Contact: Center for Rural Research and Development; 308.865.8199;
www.unk.edu/academics/crrd/

entrepreneuringdays@unl

April 7-9, 2015 • Embassy Suites; Lincoln, NE

Tuesday April 7, 2015 - UNL New Venture Competition

Students from across the University of Nebraska system gather to present their business ideas to panels of expert judges for a grand prize of up to \$50,000. Teams gain valuable feedback, new connections, and in some cases, investment opportunities. High school students and teachers are invited to attend the business idea presentations as audience members.

Wednesday April 8, 2015 - UNL Celebration of Entrepreneurial Learning

This event features workshops and discussions led by traditional and non-traditional entrepreneurs and an evening of awards recognizing exceptional entrepreneurs from diverse fields. Workshops and seminars are open to the public.

Thursday, April 9, 2015 - UNL Global New Venture Competition

This event welcomes 24 teams of graduate and undergraduate students from the world's top universities to present their ideas, receive expert appraisal, and compete for more than \$25,000 in cash prizes. High school students and teachers are invited to attend the business idea presentations as audience members.

*Contact: The Center for Entrepreneurship; University of Nebraska-Lincoln, CBA 217; Rose Graves; 402.613.1657; rgraves1@unl.edu or John Haverkamp; johnhaverkamp33@gmail.com
<http://cba.unl.edu/about/centers/entrepreneurship/events/entrepreneuring-days>*

4th Annual Midwest Entrepreneur Conference

April 10-11, 2015 • University of Nebraska-Omaha; Omaha, NE

The focus of this conference is on young, highly successful entrepreneurs speaking to an audience of undergraduate students from the Midwest. The format is a series of high-power keynote presentations rather than breakout sessions with a few keynotes sprinkled in. The goal of the conference is to have ten to twenty postsecondary schools in the Midwest sending contingents of 10 or more students to participate.

Contact: Dr. Dale T. Eesley; Center for Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Franchising; 402.554.2706; deesley@unomaha.edu



Heartland Student Entrepreneur Conference

April 24, 2015 • Swanson Conf Ctr, Bldg #22, Metro Community College; Omaha, NE

The Heartland Conference targets middle school, high school and college students in the Omaha metro area specifically studying entrepreneurship/innovation. The one-day conference is an energizing mix of keynote speakers, breakout sessions, networking breaks, exhibits and two contests. The Big Idea Essay Contest and the Elevator Pitch Contest both have awesome prizes associated with them. You and your students will definitely want to attend this high energy conference. Early registration is encouraged because registration numbers are limited to the capacity of the host facility.

Contact: Heather Nelson; Heather M. Nelson, Metro Community College; 402.289.1376 or 800.228.9553; hnelson@mccneb.edu; www.mccneb.edu/entr

For information about entrepreneurship education resources, curricula, activities and conferences contact:
Gregg Christensen, Entrepreneurship and Career Education Specialist
Nebraska Department of Education, gregg.christensen@nebraska.gov, 402.471.4337
Nebraska Entrepreneurship Education Website: www.education.ne.gov/entrep-ed
Entrepreneurship Listserv: <http://lists.k12.ne.us/wvs/subscribe/entre-ed>
Nebraska Entrepreneurship Website: www.nebraskaentrepreneurship.com