

Nebraska Entrepreneurship Competitions and Conferences 2016-17



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7th Annual Big Idea! Pitch Contest

October 3-6, 2016

University of Nebraska-Omaha

Showcase your innovation or brilliant business idea. Win \$100, \$200 or \$300 with the change to compete for a \$500 grand prize + a free trip to pitch at the Collegiate Entrepreneurs' Organization National Conference. The Big Idea Pitch Contest features multiple rounds of all LIVE pitches. Finalists are selected by a panel of expert judges. Open to: All UNO Students

Contact: Heather Holmes, hholmes@unomaha.edu, 402-554-3605



New Venture Adventure

October 13, 2016

8:30 am – 3:00 pm

UNK Nebraska Student Union Kearney, NE

New Venture Adventure, sponsored by UNK Enactus 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 15, 2016.

Contact: UNK Enactus Team Advisor; 308.865.8135 or emailcrrd@unk.edu; Center for Rural Research and Development; www.unk.edu/academics/crrd/

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8th Annual 3-2-1 Quick Pitch Competition

November 2 & 3, 2016 Tentative Location - Skybox Suites of Memorial Stadium



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 for high school students will be November 2, 2016. The competition for postsecondary students (2- and 4-4 year) will be November 3, 2016. Both begin at 5:30 p.m. and are free and open to the public.

Contact: Center for Entrepreneurship; 402.472.3353; entrepreneurship@unl.edu;
<http://cba.unl.edu/about/centers/ent/events/quickpitch.aspx>

6th Annual Central Nebraska Business Idea Contest

November 16, 2016 7:00 pm Cunningham’s Journal 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 21, 2016 by 4:00 pm. 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 16th at 7:00 p.m. It’s easy, it’s free and it’s a great learning experience. All ages are welcome! Three “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

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Entrepreneurship Best Practices Summit Nebraska Innovation Campus

November 17, 2016



The Summit is designed to bring together educators (K-12 & Postsecondary), economic developers, local and state policy makers and entrepreneurship advocates to focus on building an entrepreneurial eco-system in Nebraska. The focus is on what's working both in Nebraska and beyond to help prepare the next

generation of entrepreneurs, support and sustain existing entrepreneurial ventures and how to and how to build local and regional economic vitality through entrepreneurship. Lead partners include the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City-Omaha Branch, Nebraska Extension, Nebraska Department of Education, Nebraska Department of Economic Development, and multiple programs in the University of Nebraska system.

Contact: Gregg Christensen, gregg.christensen@nebraska.gov or Nancy Eberle, neberle@mainstaycomm.net;



MarkeTech

March 16, 2017 Younes Conference Center, Kearney, NE

MarkeTech is more than a conference. It's cutting edge training, valuable networking, and a technology showcase. Be inspired, be engaged, and work

hands on with today's most innovative tools. MarkeTech provides organizations with tools and ideas advancing their businesses through collaboration between marketing and technology. A special registration rate of \$65 for teachers and students is offered.

Contact: 888.GROW.NEB (476.9632) info@grownebraska.org



Entrepreneurial Days

April 4-5, 2016 Nebraska Innovation Campus

UNL Entrepreneurial Days is a two-day celebration of entrepreneurial learning and competition. Cash prizes totaling over \$115,000 are awarded to winners of the two business plan competitions, one for UNL students and one for students from anywhere in the world. The event is also home to the Nebraska Distinguished Entrepreneur Award ceremony and dinner. Winners of the two business plan competitions will be recognized at the ceremony and the Thomas G. Guy Award for an outstanding student team will be presented.

Contact: Center for Entrepreneurship; University of Nebraska Lincoln; 1320 Q Street; Lincoln, NE; 402.472.3353; entrepreneurship@unl.edu

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6th Annual Midwest Entrepreneur Conference
April 7-8, 2017 **The Kaneko; Omaha, NE**

During the Midwest Entrepreneurship Conference, hundreds of college students and young professionals meet at KANEKO in downtown Omaha for two days of inspiring speakers, diverse panels and professional development opportunities.

Contact: Heather Holmes, hholmes@unomaha.edu, 402-554-3605; MWEComaha.com

7th Annual Maverick Business Plan Competition



April 18, 2017

University of Nebraska-Omaha

The Maverick Business Plan Competition encourages development of new ventures, either for profit or social benefit, by members of the UNO, UNMC and PKI community. Winning plans can be new or novel innovations or can also address better implementation of or finding new markets for an existing technology.

Contact: Heather Holmes, hholmes@unomaha.edu, 402-554-3605

**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: <http://www.education.ne.gov/entreped/>

Entrepreneurship Listserv: <http://lists.k12.ne.us/mailman/listinfo/entre-ed>

Twitter: @NDE_EntreEd