

MEDIA RELEASE

ERIE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY



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NWPA Innovation Beehive Network joins partners in celebrating Global Entrepreneurship Week 2020

Erie, PA – The Northwest Pennsylvania Innovation Beehive Network announces its participation in Global Entrepreneurship Week 2020 and plans for the week’s events.

Global Entrepreneurship Week is an annually occurring celebration that cultivates thousands of activities, competitions and events in over 100 countries across the globe. Established by the Global Entrepreneurship Network in 2008, the week aims to “mak[e] it easier for anyone, anywhere to start and scale a company.” More information on the history of the organization can be found at genglobal.org.

Panels have been developed between the Erie celebration’s organizing partners, which feature local established entrepreneurs who share their success stories, struggles and messages of advice to new entrepreneurs. Participants can expect to hear locally relevant testimonies that will resonate with their development, and gain insight on how to proceed with building their own local business. Each panel will also offer a prize drawing of local gift cards and consulting time; those attending all five panels will be entered to win a grand prize that includes three months of Erie Technology Incubator space, a gift basket from Gone Local, and specialized consulting credits.

Presenting organizations will close the week’s celebration with a culminating showcase on Erie’s Entrepreneurial Ecosystem. This finale will grant new and aspiring entrepreneurs a peek into select area agencies that have tools, resources and knowledge to support those on their own entrepreneurial journey.

From Nov. 17-19, the Beehive and its partners will present five panels targeting Erie area entrepreneurs:

Tuesday, Nov. 17, noon – 1 p.m.

“GEW Kickoff: Successes of a Global Entrepreneur”

This opening kickoff panel will feature keynote speaker Jon Meighan, president and owner of Lake Erie Rubber and founder of One Leg Up Pet Products. Participants will have the opportunity to join a Q&A session.

– more –

Wednesday, Nov. 18, noon – 1 p.m.

“The Urgency of Now — Tales from Early Entrepreneurs”

Hear from new start-up businesses on how they are handling the “urgency of now” when it comes to starting a business, and realize that you are not alone in this journey! Panelists include:

Sara Hanks (Leverage4Data)

Hunter Klobucar (Fish Gods)

Ty Mihna (Abomination Athletics)

Ejay Fyke (UFC Gym Erie)

<https://bit.ly/GEW-Urgency>

Wednesday, Nov. 18, 5 p.m. – 6 p.m.

“Lessons Learned — a Conversation with Seasoned Entrepreneurs”

Join us for a conversation with four experienced entrepreneurs from a variety of industries with stories to tell about how they got to where they are today. Panelists include:

Sean Fedorko (Radius CoWork)

Catherine Geanuracos (CityGrows)

Rain Takahashi (JAUNTIN')

Carl Nicolia (PSNergy)

<https://bit.ly/GEW-Lessons>

Thursday, Nov. 19, noon – 1 p.m.

“How Entrepreneurs Grow Together in Recovering Cities”

Leaders in growing entrepreneurial communities discuss successes and challenges that face new businesses in recovering economies. How can entrepreneurs support each other and how can cities pave the way for growth? Panelists include:

Brian Slawin (Ben Franklin Technology Partners Central & Northern PA)

Don Morrison (Deal Flow, BlueTree Allied Angels)

Skyler Yost (York County Economic Alliance)

<https://bit.ly/GEW-Grow>

Thursday, Nov. 19, 5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

“Erie’s Entrepreneurial Ecosystem: Services Every Entrepreneur Should Know About”

Erie’s growing entrepreneurial ecosystem of services is extensive. Find out how your business can overcome barriers by getting the best out of what Erie has to offer. Panelists include:

Jacob Marsh, Tony Peyronel, Brian Fuller, Brad Gleason, Jude Shingle, Jordan Fuller (NWPA Innovation Beehive Network)

Pete Zohos (Mercyhurst University)

Erin Sekerak (Junior Achievement)

Cathryn Easterling (Bridgeway Capital)

Trish Digliodo (Paramount Pursuits)

Maggie Horne (Small Business Development Center)

<https://bit.ly/GEW-Erie>

– more –

**The Northwest Pennsylvania Innovation Beehive Network is comprised of the following organizations:

- Edinboro University
- Erie County Public Library, Raymond M. Blasco MD Memorial Library's Idea Lab
- Gannon University
- Mercyhurst University
- Penn State University, Behrend Campus

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[Flyer and Graphics attached]