

Capital Factory Hosts First Virtual Edition of Texas Startups Roadshow During Global Entrepreneurship Week November 17–19

UT Dallas' Big Idea Competition Featuring Keynote Speaker Mark Cuban Coming November 19

Tickets Available Now!

AUSTIN & DALLAS & HOUSTON, TEXAS (October 29, 2020) — [Capital Factory](https://www.capitalfactory.com/) (<https://www.capitalfactory.com/>), the center of gravity for entrepreneurs in Texas with locations in Austin, Dallas and Houston, announces the 2020 **virtual edition of the Texas Startups Roadshow will take place November 17–19** during **Global Entrepreneurship Week**, the world's largest celebration of innovators and entrepreneurs with 35,000 events in +170 countries. Also announced is the **Big Idea Competition**, presented by UT Dallas, UT Southwestern Medical Center and Lyda Hill Philanthropies, to close out the event on November 19. Tickets are available now for both the Texas Startups Roadshow (\$99) and the UT Dallas Big Idea Competition (free with registration) at [TexasStartups.com](https://www.texasstartups.com).

The Texas Startups Roadshow will showcase the innovation ecosystem of the 10th largest economy on Earth — Texas — on the world stage and connect startups with local and out-of-state investors. The roadshow takes guests on a virtual journey through Austin, San Antonio, Houston and Dallas, spotlighting dozens of the country's top tech investors and innovators in each city. Come along and hear from inspiring keynote speakers, take part in enlightening panels and participate in invaluable networking events.

"Texas is home to 4 of the largest and fastest growing cities in the US that are also some of the most innovative and creative technology hubs. For the past decade, both talent and business have been moving to Texas, but COVID-19 has unleashed the floodgates like never before. Come find out what is special about each city, and meet the people you need to know to get dealflow," said Joshua Baer, Capital Factory Founder & CEO.

Investors from around the country with their eyes on the ingenuity, creativity and talent of Texas are encouraged to attend, as are investors within the state looking for other like-minded individuals to co-invest with. Top seed-stage tech and consumer startups in Texas should also attend. Texas Startups Roadshow participants will hear from entrepreneurs who have raised the biggest funding rounds, find out who the super-connectors are they need to know, meet with local startups who are fundraising, and make valuable connections with the country's top tech entrepreneurs, innovators and investors.

Beginning with Austin and San Antonio on November 17, each day of the roadshow will focus on specific cities, featuring multiple speakers across various industries hailing from that city. Each stop will also feature Epic Office Hours, an event best described as virtual speed dating with entrepreneurs and investors. In addition to these lightning round mentor sessions, the

networking area matches participants for one-on-one rotating 5-minute video chats introducing guests to their next investor, mentor or co-founder.

Texas Startups Roadshow speakers and startups will be announced over the coming weeks. The industries of focus for each date and city are included below.

Tuesday, November 17: Austin and San Antonio

Industries featured: Diversity | Drones and Robotics | Consumer Packaged Goods | Ecommerce

Wednesday, November 18: Houston

Industries featured: Renewable Energy | Health Tech | Space Tech

Thursday, November 19: Dallas

Industries featured: Sports Tech | Financial Tech | Real estate | Prop Tech | Enterprise Architecture (AI, Blockchain, Cloud to Edge)

For the Austin and San Antonio portion of the roadshow, Capital Factory is excited to have the support of CACI in the San Antonio track leading the way in supporting national security missions and government transformations.

For the Houston portion of the roadshow, the day will end with The Ion Startup Demo Day Finals! After a year-long series of monthly pitch competitions, it has all come down to this event. The four finalists will come together on the virtual stage and compete for a grand cash prize. Watch the final four startups pitch their company and see who the judges will name the champion of The Ion Startup Demo Day 2020 series.

Whether you're a serial entrepreneur or just looking to get more involved in the startup community, this event is for YOU.

For the Dallas leg of the roadshow, Capital Factory is pleased to exclusively feature one of the most exciting pitch competitions in North Texas, the UT Dallas Big Idea Competition (BIC), presented by The University of Texas at Dallas, UT Southwestern and Lyda Hill Philanthropies. This Shark Tank-style pitch competition hosted annually by UT Dallas' Institute for Innovation and Entrepreneurship will take place virtually for the first time to close out the Texas Startups Roadshow. Delivering this year's keynote on November 19 will be **Mark Cuban**, co-star of ABC's "Shark Tank," owner of the NBA's Dallas Mavericks and author of "How to Win at the Sport of Business."

For fourteen years, the Big Idea Competition has recognized the entrepreneurial progress of the UT Dallas community. The competition brings together the best undergraduate and graduate students from all disciplines, alongside top research faculty and alumni, to pitch the most innovative startups and ideas to a panel of esteemed judges who this year will award more than \$200,000 in scholarship awards and cash prizes. This year's event has grown to include innovative research from the labs of UT Southwestern Medical Center.

“The remarkable technologies represented in this competition are a testament to the rapidly growing, innovative ecosystem within North Texas. UT Southwestern is a global leader in advancing early-stage research that is expanding the frontiers of healthcare. Furthermore, the potential for commercial applications of the science and technology within the Big Idea Competition demonstrates the valuable return on investment that ultimately benefits the citizens of Texas,” said Claire Aldridge, Associate Vice President of Commercialization & Business Development at UT Southwestern Medical Center.

"UT Dallas strives for excellence in all areas to serve our students, faculty and external partners. Our research activities not only transform society but also create new inventions that lead to economic development for Texas and the nation," said Chris Bhatti, Assistant Vice President for Development and Alumni Relations at UT Dallas. "We are excited to partner with Lyda Hill Philanthropies, UT Southwestern Medical Center, and Capital Factory to further establish the DFW Region as a premier location globally for innovation."

“Lyda Hill Philanthropies is proud to be associated with this remarkable display of the innovation that is blooming across North Texas. We believe that science is the answer to many of the challenges faced by society. From global health to improving our local communities, we are committed to supporting the needs of companies and individuals that display the capacity and drive to create a better tomorrow through innovation,” said Nicole Small, CEO, Lyda Hill Philanthropies.

For more information on the Texas Startups Roadshow and the UT Dallas Big Idea Competition, and to register, visit [TexasStartups.com](https://www.texasstartups.com). Tickets to the Texas Startups Roadshow are \$99 and the UT Dallas Big Idea Competition is free.

For more information about the Capital Factory’s Texas Startups Roadshow, go to [TexasStartups.com](https://www.texasstartups.com) or reach out to texasstartups@capitalfactory.com.

###

About Capital Factory

Capital Factory (<https://www.capitalfactory.com/>) is the center of gravity for entrepreneurs in Texas, the number one startup state in the U.S. Thousands of entrepreneurs, programmers and designers gather day and night, in-person and online for meetups, classes and coworking. With boots on the ground in Austin, Dallas and Houston, we meet the best entrepreneurs in Texas and introduce them to their first investors, employees, mentors and customers. According to Pitchbook, Capital Factory has been the most active investor in Texas since 2010.

About The University of Texas at Dallas

The University of Texas at Dallas is a Carnegie R1 classification (Doctoral Universities – highest research activity) institution, located in a suburban setting 20 miles north of downtown Dallas.

The University enrolls 30,000 students — and offers a broad array of bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degree programs.

A high-energy, nimble, innovative institution, UT Dallas offers top-ranked science, engineering and business programs and has gained prominence for a breadth of educational paths from audiology to arts and technology. The UT Dallas faculty includes a Nobel laureate, six members of the National Academies and more than 570 tenured and tenure-track professors.

About the Institute for Innovation and Entrepreneurship

Founded in the Naveen Jindal School of Management in the early 2000s, the institute operates across the University’s eight schools, with the mission of enabling the next generation’s new ventures. The institute also serves students at the Blackstone LaunchPad at UT Dallas and runs one of the largest pitch competitions in North Texas, as well as the award-winning UT Dallas Seed Fund.

About Lyda Hill Philanthropies

Lyda Hill Philanthropies encompasses the charitable giving for founder Lyda Hill and includes her foundation and personal philanthropy. The organization is committed to funding transformational advances in science and nature, empowering nonprofit organizations and improving the Texas and Colorado communities. Because Miss Hill has a fervent belief that “science is the answer” to many of life’s most challenging issues, she has chosen to donate the entirety of her estate to philanthropy and scientific research.

About UT Southwestern Medical Center

UT Southwestern, one of the premier academic medical centers in the nation, integrates pioneering biomedical research with exceptional clinical care and education. The institution’s faculty has received six Nobel Prizes, and includes 25 members of the National Academy of Sciences, 16 members of the National Academy of Medicine, and 14 Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigators. The full-time faculty of more than 2,500 is responsible for groundbreaking medical advances and is committed to translating science-driven research quickly to new clinical treatments. UT Southwestern physicians provide care in about 80 specialties to more than 105,000 hospitalized patients, nearly 370,000 emergency room cases, and oversee approximately 3 million outpatient visits a year.

About The Ion

The Ion will anchor the 16-acre Innovation District and is destined to become the epicenter for Houston’s innovation ecosystem as an inclusive, dynamic, vibrant, and dense hub focusing on quality collaborations between entrepreneurs, incubators, accelerators, corporations, academics, and the Houston community when it opens in 2021. The 300,000 square-foot building will accommodate multiple uses, including shared workspace, prototyping, and maker resources, event space, classrooms, food, and beverage offerings as well as indoor/outdoor communal areas with shared amenities. For more information, please visit <https://ionhouston.com>.

About CACI

CACI provides expertise and technology to enterprise and mission customers in support of national security missions and government transformation for defense, intelligence, and civilian customers.