

RAVE Recognizing Awarding Valuing Entrepreneurs

TUESDAY | OCTOBER 22, 2019 | 5PM -7PM ROCHESTER TECHNOLOGY CAMPUS







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PROGRAM OF EVENTS

5:00 - 5:45 p.m. Networking & Social Hour

5:45 - 6:00 p.m. Welcome & Sponsor Recognition

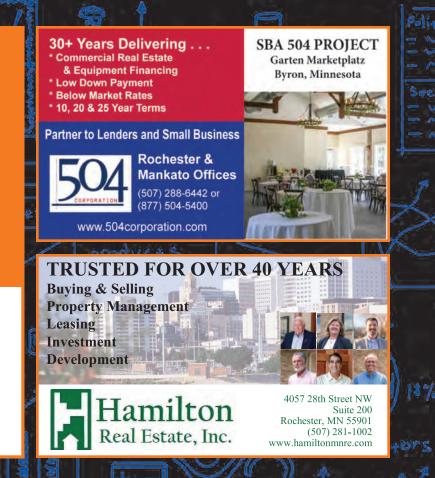
6:00 - 6:30 p.m. Awards Presentation

6:30 - 7:00 p.m. Networking

Special thanks to Rochester Technology Campus for the use of their space and to IBM for the use of their technology equipment for this event.









2019 HONOREES





GENETICURE



Four Daughters Vineyard & Winery Founders: Vogt Family

With a dream of bringing world-class wine to rural Minnesota and creating an environment for the family to work together, the Vogt family opened Four Daughters Vineyard & Winery in December 2011. After several years of research, education, and generally going out on a limb, their vision was realized, and their wines quickly began winning awards across the country. A few years later, they added Loon Juice to their lineup and now distribute in seven states across the midwest and have grown to become the biggest cider-making company between the coasts. They've served Four Daughters Wine and Loon Juice at the Country Music Awards, SXSW, and were chosen as the official provider to the Sundance Film Festival. Loon Juice has also been seen on the Big Bang Theory. Their goal remains the same, and the family works daily to bring a great environment to drink wine and enjoy friends and family in a beautiful Minnesota setting.

Geneticure Inc.

Co-Founders: Scott Snyder (CED), Eric Snyder PhD (COO), Thomas Olson PhD (CCO)

Geneticure was founded in 2014 as a personalized medicine company that uses an individual's genetics to help guide treatment. The company is focused on solutions for chronic diseases beginning with hypertension (high blood pressure) and their patented approach leverages a unique understanding of the integrative physiology in complex and chronic diseases. Geneticure's first product is a Hypertension Pharmacogenomics Panel that tests multiple gene variants and uses a unique algorithm to recommend the most effective hypertension medication for each patient. The effectiveness of

2019 HONOREES

Geneticure's assay has been optimized in multiple clinical trials, and the company has published research demonstrating that their approach to managing hypertension is less expensive than the current standard of care. The company was a Mayo Clinic Business Accelerator participant, and its investors include Mayo Clinic Ventures, RAEDI, Southeast Minnesota Capital Fund, Fairview Health, and Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation.

Clean Plus, Inc.

Founder & CEO: George Coy President: Matthew Coy

Clean Plus, Inc. (CPI) is a privately-held Minnesota corporation founded in 1982 by George Coy. The company was established to develop and market Clean Plus Hand Soap. In 1987, CPI purchased the manufacturer (including its own brands & formulas) and moved the manufacturing operation to West Concord, MN. The company has grown to become a manufacturing and distribution firm serving national and international markets. Their chemical division was created in 2000 and has continually and consistently expanded its product offerings and markets over the past 30 years.

Currently, CPI consists of four divisions: chemical, glass, sorbents, and parts that all serve various channels of automotive and industrial markets. Today, the company is led by President Matthew Coy, has 10 employees and nearly 1,100 independent sales representatives in the field.





LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT HONOREE



Leigh J. Johnson

Leigh J. Johnson (LJ) is the founder of Custom Alarm/Custom Communications, Inc. in Rochester. LJ has grown his business and taken care of his customers for 50+ years. He started out in the basement of his home in 1968 selling 3M background music and alarm systems. The company now has over 65 employees serving large and small customers throughout the region.

Custom Alarm is a family-owned, security-minded company with its own local monitoring response center specializing in fire alarm systems, intrusion, video surveillance, home automation, and access control for both residential and commercial owners.

LJ's commitment to the security industry and his community is infinite. He has served on various boards locally, regionally, and nationally. LJ serves as chair of the Chamber's Government Affairs Committee, is a member of the Minnesota Zoological Board, is past chair of the Rochester City Charter Commission and the Rochester Area Foundation, to name a few. In November of 2011, LJ was the recipient of the Outstanding Philanthropists sponsored by AFP Southern Minnesota. He graduated from St. Cloud State University where he was recognized in 2005 with the G.R. Herberger College of Business Leadership Award.

The strongest endorsement to LJ and his business practices can be found in the faces that walk the halls at Custom Alarm – many whom have worked there in upwards of 15-20 and even 40 years. His philosophy over the years has been to treat employees like family, treat customers like they are the only one, and treat the community like home.

WARRIOR AWARD HONOREE



Neela Mollgaard

Neela Mollgaard, Executive Director of Launch Minnesota, is working to create an environment to support entrepreneurs and nurture tech startups with a goal of fostering an innovation ecosystem across the state that draws global attention, talent, and capital. Neela is a proven leader in Greater Minnesota with a track record of getting things done for entrepreneurs and small businesses across the state.

Neela was a founder of the nonprofit Red Wing Ignite, which supports entrepreneurs, businesses, and students succeed in the 21st century economy. She has created a model in Greater Minnesota that has received national attention by forging partnerships with government, academic, corporate, and organizational partners – and included creation of a regional makerspace at Minnesota State College Southeast, the Golden Triangle angel investment fund, a network to support entrepreneurs, and programs to grow the talent pipeline.

Neela has served in leadership roles with local nonprofits. She is a former member of the Governor's Task Force on Broadband and chair and a founder of Women Cents. She holds a Bachelor of Science in consumer affairs in business from the University of Wisconsin – Madison and a Master of Science in community health from the West Virginia University School of Medicine.

The Warrior Award is in recognition and appreciation of an individual's contribution to advocate, promote, and support area entrepreneurship as well as increase awareness of the value entrepreneurs play in building our local economy. The recipient of this award works tirelessly, devoting countless hours of his/her own time to not only raise awareness of entrepreneurialism but to help those that need it.

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What does Rochester Area Economic Development, Inc. (RAEDI) do for entrepreneurs?

- **Connect:** link technology-based entrepreneurs to local resources to support and help grow their companies.
- **Space:** manages a technology incubator downtown called the Mayo Clinic Business Accelerator.
- Funding: administers two investment funds that invest, on average, over \$1 million every year.

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