

Highlights from Project ECHO's

2025 Teen Business Plan Competition

Helping Teens Innovate + Participate + Succeed Since 1996



In a whirlwind of innovation and determination, this year's Business Plan Competition saw an incredible turnout at California State University, Dominguez Hills. 52 business teams comprised of more than 200 teens, from 18 high schools, clubs, and after-school programs from across 6 states participated in the event, with several joining in via Zoom. Amidst fierce competition, 11 exceptional teams emerged victorious, walking away with a total of \$7,250 in college scholarships. We're still celebrating the

achievements of each of our teams, and acknowledge their hard work, creativity, and dedication to completing the requirements to join the competition, and pitching their start-up to a panel of judges. The *2025 Highlights Newsletter* celebrates the incredible achievements of all of our young entrepreneurs, along with this year's winning teams.

Project ECHO's capstone event was hosted at California State University, Dominguez Hills, College of Business Administration and Public Policy, in Carson, CA. Around 200 teens participated, 81 judges evaluated written business plans, 25 judges assessed presentations, and hundreds of teachers, parents, friends, volunteers, and supporters cheered the teens on!



Helping Teens Stand-Out in Today's Competitive College Landscape

Project ECHO's entrepreneurship program offers high school students more than just classroom lessons; it's a gateway to invaluable college readiness skills. Through immersive experiences, teens improve upon teamwork, problem-solving, and public speaking, while receiving mentorship, expanding their networks, and elevating their personal confidence levels. Engaging in a dynamic business plan competition, they gain real-world insights that set them apart in the competitive landscape of college applications.



Bring Project ECHO's UC approved semester-long entrepreneurship program to your school, add the Teen Entrepreneurs' Business Plan Competition as your capstone event, or start an Entrepreneurship Club!

Complete an Inquiry Form and Let's Get Started!

Thank you CSUDH, Judges, and Volunteers

You helped make this year's event a success!

Partnerships are the cornerstone of Project ECHO's success. A heartfelt thank you to CSU, Dominguez Hills, for sponsoring this event and sharing the Innovation and Instruction building with our teens. In addition, thank you to the



hundreds of judges and volunteers for making our business plan competition phenomenal. Your partnership and support are invaluable assets, enhancing the ROI potential for our young entrepreneurs. Join us next year!



Volunteer with Project ECHO today!

Check out our 2025 Competition Event Program for more information about the teams, judges, keynote speakers, and the competition!

[Click Here](#)

Did you know? The In N' Out Burger truck can serve 200 double doubles an hour?





Welcoming Nation-Wide Business Plan Competitors

Multiple teams from across the country, including those from California, Maryland, Virginia, New Jersey, New York, and Massachusetts, joined the 2025 Business Plan Competition live via Zoom.

"Recognizing the growth of Project ECHO's entrepreneurship programs beyond our Southern California roots has been an amazing accomplishment," says Diane Quast, Executive Director.

This year's third-place winner in the Social Enterprise category, ReTech For Kids, is from Virginia. Judges were impressed with their written business plan, pitch, and participation in the judges' Q&A. CSUDH students serving as Room Managers facilitated Zoom presentations in all of the competition classrooms.

This victory underscores the competition's growing impact, in addition to celebrating the entrepreneurial spirit thriving across different regions.

ECHO ALUMNI and STUDENT ADVISORY BOARD

Stay in touch! Follow us on Instagram @ #LaunchECHO, post your business success, and join our alumni network! Let us know how Project ECHO helped you.

Program alumni, regardless of high school graduation status, are invited to apply to the inaugural advisory board and help make program improvements!

2025 Competition Winners..

Social Enterprise

This category of competition is intended to capture, hospitality, food, entertainment, social entrepreneur-based companies, and companies that donate more than 25% of their net profit back to social causes.

2025 BUSINESS PLAN COMPETITION WINNERS!

PROJECT ECHO FOUNDATION

CauseConnect
Chloe Dalmacio

1st Social Enterprise + Overall Winner



Services

Service-based businesses are defined as services sold to individuals that derive much of their value from intangible elements that can't be touched.



Products

Product-based companies, sell physical merchandise, apparel, and other material goods that cannot be consumed.



Jeff Weigel Road Warrior Award

An award established in memory of our cherished Board member whose passion and

dedication to youth entrepreneurship enriched our mission.
This award is graciously funded by the Redondo Beach Rotary.



**2025 BUSINESS PLAN
COMPETITION WINNERS!**





GlowPole Technology
Keeley Carroll, Arden Templeton, Simone Espinoza, Kiki Hill
Redondo Union High School

Jeff Weigel Road Warrior Award

Teacher of the Year

Chip Goodman Entrepreneurial Teacher of the Year Award

Recognizing a teacher's commitment to leading an entrepreneurship class, and for supporting their students thoroughly as they participate in Project ECHO's program.

Presented to

Mike SooHoo, B.A., M.A.

Redondo Union High School - Redondo Beach. CA



(L. to R.: Chip Goodman with Mike SooHoo)

Special thanks to our sponsors
CSUDH and Innovating Inclusion



click each image for more information!

Make an Impact!

Project ECHO is a nonprofit organization striving to make a difference in the lives of business focused teens. Your generosity helps underwrite the enrollment fees of teens and schools that understand the significance of an entrepreneurship education, and the benefits to teens who will use this opportunity as a stepping stone to their future. Please consider making a donation today!

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PO Box 2410
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www.projectecho.org

Since 1996, Project ECHO has empowered thousands of teens with entrepreneurial and leadership skills so that they can thrive in college, their careers and in their community as change-makers.

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