

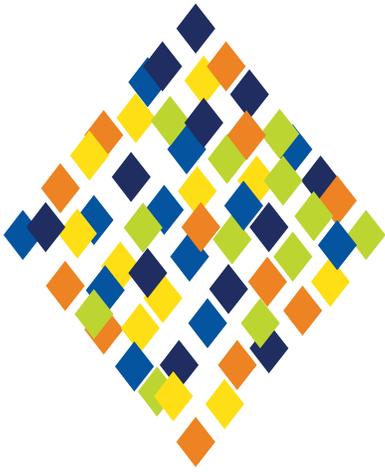


Paul & Linda McConnell Youth
Entrepreneurship Initiative

HORN PROGRAM IN ENTREPRENEURSHIP



Judging Program



Diamond Challenge for High School Entrepreneurs

The University of Delaware Horn Program in Entrepreneurship created the Diamond Challenge to provide high school students from around the world with an opportunity to learn about entrepreneurship by putting their ideas into action. The Diamond Challenge is a new venture concept competition. Students compete for cash awards that may be used to support their startup or social venture or pursue higher education.

Participating in the Diamond Challenge:

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1
Conceive an idea for a new business or social venture
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2
Learn how to formulate the idea into a business or social impact model and systematically test it by gathering evidence
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3
Receive support from an innovative online curriculum and interactive mentoring sessions
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4
Pitch the idea by submitting a written concept and delivering a presentation
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5
Benefit from life-changing opportunities at no cost

YES!

YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP SUMMIT

SAVE THE DATE

April 7, 2017

Youth Entrepreneurship Summit (YES!)

YES! is a full-day event for national and international high school students and educators that features interactive workshops, engaging speakers, and the final round of the Diamond Challenge. YES! celebrates the entrepreneurial spirit, creates and nurtures lifelong connections, and provides resources to empower students to consider entrepreneurship as a viable career path.

Impact

100% of participants report that participation is a valuable learning experience.

“ The Diamond Challenge is a very meaningful competition for us, and we learned a lot from this three-day journey.

Actually, getting into the semifinal round came as quite a surprise when we first heard this news. During the competition we realized that the best learning opportunity came from our competitors. As an international group, we sometimes felt shy because of the different culture and different language, but we never felt lonely there. The friendly treatment afforded us the indescribable memories. With the experience of this journey, all members of our team became more mature and outgoing, and it was a useful lesson for us although we did not advance to finals.

What an unforgettable memory! In the end, thank you again for inviting us to America, we appreciate it very much!

”

- Frankie Hao, leader of Pea Band
2016 Business Concept semifinalist
from Beijing, China

“ Yesterday was one of the most amazing days of my life.

The entire Polar Solis team is so thankful for the opportunity we were given and is ecstatic with the prize we were awarded. We all wanted to thank YES!, the University of Delaware, and the Diamond Challenge for such an amazing event!

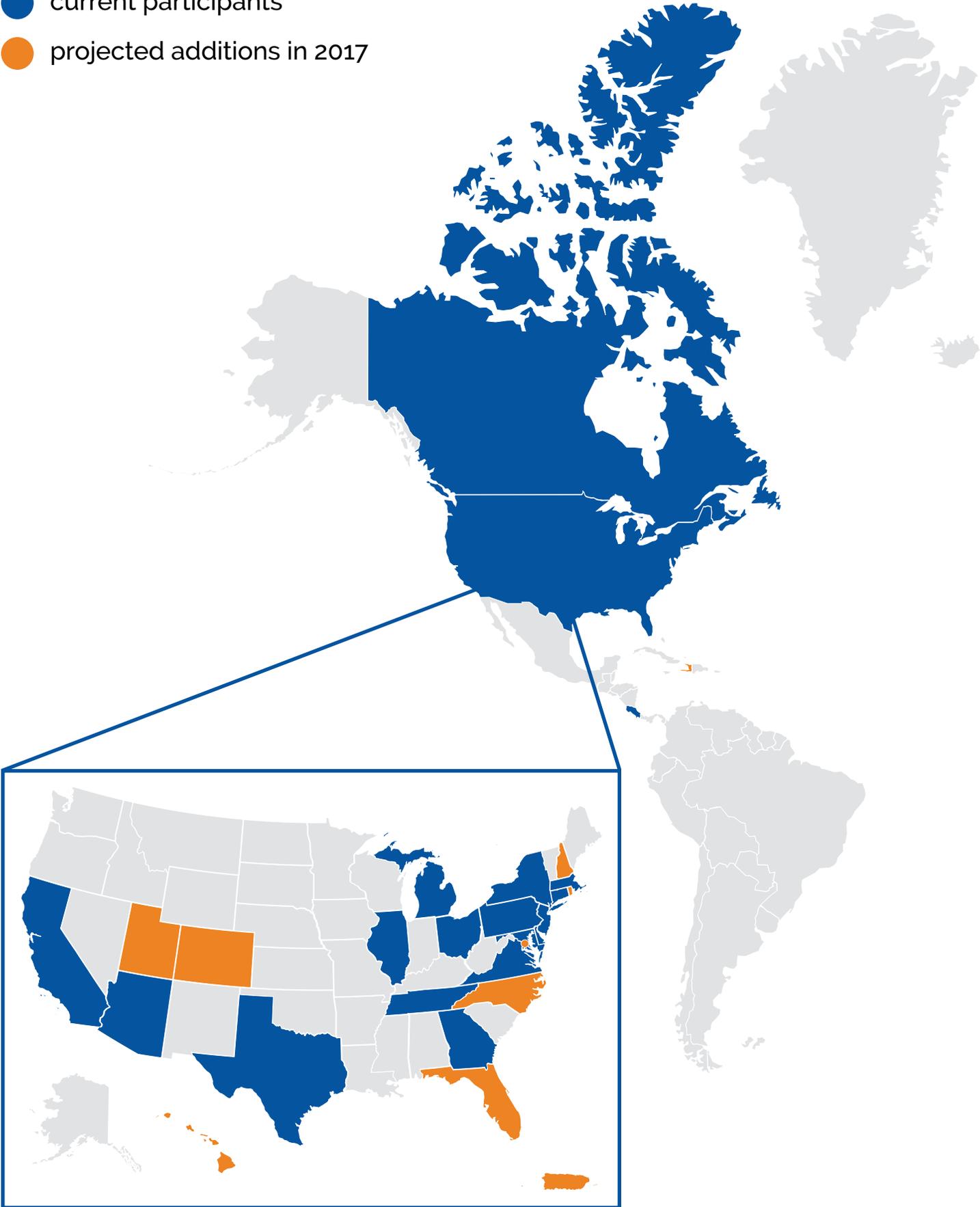
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- Julian Davis and the Polar Solis team,
2016 Business Concept 2nd place
from California, USA

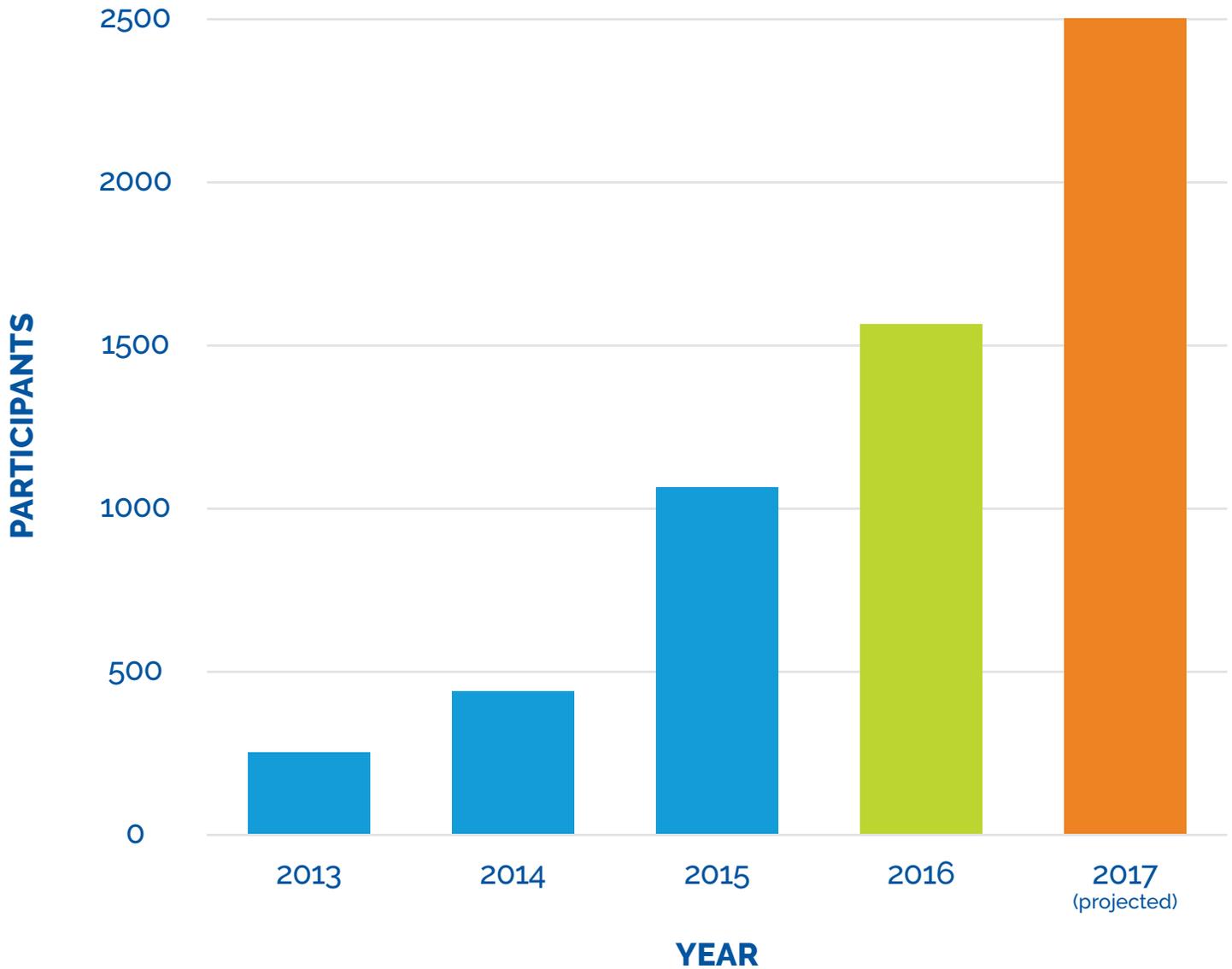


Global Reach

- current participants
- projected additions in 2017



Diamond Challenge Participants



1500+
students



370+
advisors



155+
schools

Become a Judge

Entrepreneurs, business professionals and community leaders are invited to serve as judges. Judges play an important role in the Diamond Challenge by evaluating written concepts and pitches according to the competition's scoring guidelines. Judges can come from anywhere in the world.



Our most important qualification is that the judges have a solid understanding of the Diamond Challenge curriculum (diamondchallenge.org/curriculum) and what is expected of the teams in their submission. Judges can come from all professions and backgrounds and have an interest in startups and entrepreneurship education. Companies and organizations are invited to offer judging as a volunteer opportunity for large groups of associates.

Online Preliminary Round Judging

Participants in the Diamond Challenge prepare and submit 5-page written concepts for new businesses and social ventures. They also prepare and deliver 5-minute pitches. Each written submission and pitch is evaluated by multiple judges to provide a reliable and valid assessment. Not all submission tracks include a video pitch, as some teams have elected to do a live pitch at an official pitch location.

Online judging can be completed remotely via the Diamond Challenge website. A total time commitment of 2-4 hours is generally required. Judges who are reviewing materials online only can expect to spend at least a half an hour on each submission. Each written concept and video pitch judge will typically review from 3-5 concept submissions.

The judging process will take place January 20 to January 30, 2017.

Live-Pitch Judging

Judges who participate at the live pitch events will review no more than 12 pitches each. Judges who attend the live pitch events are provided with a rubric at the event.

Begin Today

Visit www.diamondchallenge.org/supporters/judges and fill out the "Become a Judge" form. In the "Message" area of the form, please indicate which competition you would prefer to judge along with any other information you'd like to share with us.

For more information visit www.diamondchallenge.org or email info@diamondchallenge.org

About the Horn Program's Paul & Linda McConnell Youth Entrepreneurship Initiative

The Horn Program's Paul & Linda McConnell Youth Entrepreneurship Initiative aims to inspire the next generation of entrepreneurs by providing world-class educational experiences centered on creativity, innovation and action-oriented programming. The initiative empowers young people by helping them to recognize that everything they call life was made by people and can be changed. It also gives them the knowledge, skills, connections and access to resources needed to begin making the world one they would want to live in.

About the Horn Program

The University of Delaware Horn Program in Entrepreneurship ignites imaginations and empowers world changers through entrepreneurial education. Our offerings emphasize experiential learning, evidence-based entrepreneurship and active engagement with entrepreneurs, business leaders and members of the broader entrepreneurial ecosystem. Participation in Horn Program courses and co-curricular activities provides students with the knowledge, skills, connections and access to resources needed to create, deliver and capture value from new ideas and thrive in our rapidly changing world.



Horn Program
in Entrepreneurship

