

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Virtual Nightclub App Makes History at TechLaunch BullPen

TheClub takes Investor Award at TechLaunch BullPen #21

Kinnelon, NJ, June 23, 2021: Last night's [TechLaunch](#) BullPen #21 was unique. No surprise that the bar was set high among three hugely deserving companies, but the winner broke a long-standing mold in that an entertainment-focused business model took the evening. [TheClub](#) is an interactive live streaming app for partygoers to find and enjoy DJs and Parties. The company, formed during the Pandemic in 2020, has raced to fruition with its creation of an ideal simultaneous virtual party to help nightclubs and DJs better engage and monetize their audiences.

Commenting on his success, TheClub Founder & CEO, Darrel Frater observed, "After falling short of making it into the BullPen #20, I am honored that I was able to participate in BullPen #21 and emerged as the winner! It was a pleasure working with my mentor Cristian Ossa and the feedback provided by the judges during the competition was absolutely phenomenal. The entire experience was very helpful for me as I continue to iterate on my pitch and my business. Thank you all for the opportunity."



From L to R: TechLaunch Founder/Managing Director Mario Casabona; Panelist David Stengle; TL Mentor & BullPen Producer Eric Korb; Panelist Sharon Waters; TL Sr. Mentor & BullPen Host Robin Bear; Panelist Jessica Gaffney; Panelist Will Lutz; Cultivated Health President/CEO Owen Burns; TL Advisor Norma Casabona; TheClub Founder/CEO Darrel Frater; TL Sr Mentor Cristian Ossa; Trustd CEO Murat Sonmez

The BullPen Investor Award arrives with an enticing \$15K in professional services from TechLaunch's elite band of NJ-based event partners (listed below). It also guarantees a pair of pitching slots at upcoming meetings of [Jumpstart NJ Angel Network](#) (the State's preeminent early-stage investor group) and the VC investment group [Tech Council Ventures](#).

Last evening's impressive roster of BullPen Presenters also included:

[Cultivate Health Systems](#) – Presented by President/CEO Owen Burns, Cultivate Health Systems offers a hands-free healthcare voice-assistant technology called EMT ASSIST, which provides real-time actionable guidance for emergency healthcare clinicians in the field. Their interoperable data makes healthcare networks both safer and more efficient for greater pre-hospital experiences with more positive patient outcomes.

[Trustd](#) – Presented by Dr. Murat Sonmez, CEO, Trustd offers a B2B solution for Property Managers to solve the problem of guests behaving badly, with a system which seamlessly integrates with partner booking systems, helping Property Managers to mitigate guest risks and lower their operating costs on rental properties.

TechLaunch Founder & Managing Director, Mario Casabona commented, "These Presenters truly highlight TechLaunch's reach and impact in an increasingly diverse community of startup technologies. I'm continuously impressed with the degree of talent and passion among our BullPen applicants and eternally grateful for the generosity of our Mentors who make such a difference in these entrepreneurs' futures. And a shout-out to Senior Mentor Cristian Ossa, who helped bring in the win for TheClub, as well as Senior Mentors Eric Korb and Robin Bear who produced and hosted the BullPen, respectively."

Meet our Panelists



David Stengle



Jessica Gaffney



Will Lutz



Sharon Waters

[David Stengle](#) – CEO and Founder at Board++ and Princeton Director at Startup Grind

[Jessica Gaffney](#) - Founder & CEO at WAVEWORK Inc.

[Will Lutz](#) - General Manager for Entrepreneurship, Commercialization, and Enterprise Development at New Jersey Innovation Institute

[Sharon Waters](#) – Managing Director of JumpStart NJ Angel Network and CEO of Waters Strategies

TechLaunch continues to appreciate our event partners for their generous support in the form of \$15K of advisory services to the Investor Award winner, TheClub. They include:

[Jumpstart NJ Angel Network](#); [Tech Council Ventures](#); [Gibbons Law](#); [Withum](#); [Gearhart Law](#); and [Casabona Ventures](#)

Tech Startups who would like to pitch at the next BullPen #22 slated for mid-Sept, 2021, should [APPLY](#) to be considered.

Applications are screened on a rolling basis.

About TechLaunch: Formed in 2012 to drive the commercialization of emerging technology, TechLaunch has served over 100 tech focused companies and mentored over 200 aspiring entrepreneurs. Our focus is to screen, select and nurture early-stage tech ventures to accelerate their growth opportunities via mentoring, coaching, networking, and providing access to resources and capital. Its core objective is to generate Quality Deal Flow for early-stage investors and prepare entrepreneurs for the Investor presentation. To learn more please visit [TechLaunch](#). Any media inquiries should be directed to norma@techlaunch.com.

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