



About the Crab Tank

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Baltimore Homecoming held the inaugural Crab Tank Startup Pitch Competition in 2019. Arion Long, founder of Femly, won both the \$25,000 grand prize and the \$2,500 People's Choice award.



Five startup founders will compete for a chance to win \$25,000 in the second Crab Tank Startup Pitch Competition at Amplify 2022. Crab Tank was established to spotlight small to medium businesses, startups, and entrepreneurs in Baltimore. The competition, sponsored by M&T Bank, provides local business owners an opportunity to compete for the \$25,000 grand prize and \$2,500 people's choice award.

"A big part of Baltimore Homecoming is celebrating our growing startup and small business community," said Robbin Lee, Baltimore Homecoming's executive director. "We're excited to hear from these entrepreneurs and provide an opportunity for them to share their companies with business experts, community leaders, potential investors, and clients."

"It's a pleasure to once again invest in the Crab Tank pitch competition supporting the entrepreneurs who make up the fabric of our city," said Augie Chiasera, M&T's regional president for Greater Baltimore. "It's through their dedication and innovation that the Baltimore business community is able to thrive and serve as a great place to work, live, and play."

The finalists were selected through an application process, then reviewed by Homecoming host committee members, community advisors, and previous Crab Tank participants. The 2019 winner Arion Long, Founder of Femly, credits the competition with enabling the creation of her company's first prototype for its proprietary feminine hygiene dispenser.

Pitching Companies

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ASTEK DIAGNOSTICS, a medical device company founded by Chief Executive Officer Mustafa Al-dhami, PhD, has developed a platform for rapid antibiotic sensitivity testing. Every year, 1.7 million Americans are evaluated for sepsis - and too many die while waiting days for the correct antibiotic. Astek's platform determines antibiotic sensitivity in one hour. www.astekdx.com



BRICKROSE EXCHANGE, founded by Pulitzer Prize winning Bianca J. Jackson, is a collaborative meeting space that engages audiences in-person and virtually in the Metaverse. With BrickRose Exchange, Jackson leverages her experience managing mobile, web, and Metaverse projects for local Fortune 500 companies to help transform Baltimore and communities beyond through live/hybrid events. www.brickroseexchange.org



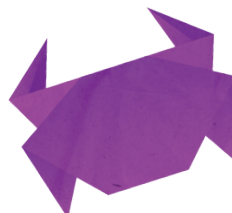
ECOMAP, co-founded by CEO Pava LaPere and COO Sherrod Davis, is based on the belief that information needs to be equally accessible to have equitable outcomes. EcoMap creates data-driven platforms to help groups of all sizes - from local organizations to tech-giants - navigate the ecosystems of entrepreneurial communities, industry groups, corporate networks and beyond. www.ecomap.tech



RUNMITTS, LLC, one of two Black-owned outdoor gear companies in the United States, is an e-commerce company that sells patented mittens and other gear invented for runners, walkers, and outdoor enthusiasts online and at REI. RunMitts Founder and Inventor Susan Clayton is an avid runner and started this company to encourage individuals like her to stay active during the winter months. www.runmitts.com



THE CUBE COWORK, founded by Dr. Jammira Lucas, is the largest Black woman-owned coworking space in the United States that provides on-site babysitting services, business-building resources, meeting rooms, and private office space rental. Dr. Lucas is a strong advocate for women in business, especially moms; she co-founded the National Association of Mom Entrepreneurs which provides advocacy, support and resources for mom entrepreneurs. www.thecubecowork.com



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