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**BizWorld.org Announces Five “Young Entrepreneur” Business Winners on Their YES! (Young Entrepreneur Success) Program Demo Day**

*YES! Empowers Teen Entrepreneurs to Launch Real-Life Businesses and Provides Seed Funding of up to \$30,000 to The Finalists*

**Oakland, CA – September 22nd, 2021** -- BizWorld.org, a global non-profit providing hands-on and engaging entrepreneurship education programs to youth, held their second annual YES! program Demo Day (via the Engagez virtual platform) and announced five young entrepreneurs' businesses that won a combined total prize of \$30,000 in seed funding. These YES! program winners are: Akeila Tejwani, CEO of [Akki's Cupcakery & Tea](#); Karthik Ramu and Kushi Sethuram, CEO and COO of [AmityConnections](#), respectively; Nitya Ayaggari, CEO of [Doughkeeper](#), McKenna Hopla, Founder of [Her-Rah 1st Bra](#); Kiyle Gardner, Founder and CEO of [Kiyner Corporation](#). There were a total of eight young entrepreneur businesses pitching for the grand prize of \$30,000.

[YES! Demo Day](#), a celebratory event, signified the culmination of BizWorld's students' YES! entrepreneurial journey; twelve weeks of immersive workshop experiences, webinars, and transformative 1:1 virtual mentorship sessions, all in preparation for the opportunity to pitch their business ideas to a panel of investors for seed funding. The panel of celebrity judges included: **Tim Draper**, Founder, BizWorld.org and Founder, Draper Associates & Draper Venture Network; **Erika Cramer**, Managing Member and General Partner, How Women Invest; **Mergen Chuluun**, Managing Partner, Exponential Partners and Founder, Growth Summit Global and **Jared Yellin**, CEO and Co-Founder, 10X Incubator.

The YES! program provides the necessary tools and resources to accelerate high potential young entrepreneurs as they create and develop thriving businesses. Through a 4-phase program, students have the opportunity to prepare their pitches in order to participate in a business accelerator, receive mentorship, and attend interactive virtual workshops.

“It is with tremendous gratitude that we thank our community members who have invested their time, resources, and expertise in our young entrepreneurs”, said Charlene Vaca, BizWorld's

Interim Executive Director. “Together, we created a robust entrepreneurial ecosystem, rich in expert mentorship and supported by a community of sponsors who believe in our mission to provide an accessible, inclusive and equitable pathway to entrepreneurship from early education to young adulthood. We are very proud of our young entrepreneurs and the YES! Program”.

“We are proud to support BizWorld and the extraordinary work they do to empower our future leaders,” said Sandy Walia, Managing Director, Regional President at Union Bank. “Our team thoroughly enjoyed spending time with the young entrepreneurs in the cohorts- we were so inspired by their ideas and commitment to their business ideas. By engaging students in the YES! Program, BizWorld is inspiring youth to achieve their highest potential, and for that, we are thrilled to call them our partners.”

“I run a large tech incubator, and over the last 14 months we have had over 10,000 entrepreneurs apply to work with us. All these young entrepreneurs from the YES! Program are in the top 5% of people who have pitched to us, it’s incredibly impressive”, said Jared Yellin, CEO and Co-Founder, 10X Incubator. “The fact that all participants are in High School is amazing, and we have a very bright future ahead of us.”

### **About BizWorld**

BizWorld.org is a global non-profit organization based in Oakland, CA, whose mission is to empower students and young entrepreneurs to become 21st century thinkers by awakening their entrepreneurial spirit, inspiring them to become the architects of their futures, and giving them the confidence to transform their world. Founded 20 years ago by Silicon Valley venture capitalist Tim Draper, BizWorld.org programs teach students real-world 21st century skills such as financial management, collaboration, negotiation and leadership that encourage them to become financially responsible leaders and entrepreneurs of tomorrow. BizWorld.org has reached almost 800,000 students in more than 100 countries. For more information, please visit [www.bizworld.org](http://www.bizworld.org) or call toll-free 1-888-4-BizKid. For more information, please visit [Bizworld.org](http://Bizworld.org).