

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Kids' Carpentry Seattle & Yoga Wild Win 2019 IMPACT Pitch Competition

Seattle, WA, 2019 – On Thursday, September 19th Business Impact NW awarded \$30,000 to Pacific Northwest small business owners at their fourth annual [IMPACT Pitch](#) competition presented by Harborstone Credit Union. Of 76 total applicants, eight made it to the final round. They competed for the title of Best Established or Best Startup/Early Stage Business and the distinction of being a small business awarded for their positive social impact.

Loren Kite of Kids' Carpentry Seattle and Kelsey Alshememry and Casey Hubbell of Yoga Wild with judges Eli Allison, Michael Powell and Molly Moon Neitzel.

Taking home the Best Established Business award and \$10,000, [Kids' Carpentry Seattle](#), provides hands-on woodworking workshops to youth. "In a world of screens and consoles, we are committed to capturing children's attention by providing quality programming through hands-on learning and engaging experiences," stated Director Loren Kite. Loren will use the funds to increase access to the company's workshops and school programming. Driven by the mission to "disrupt the industry standard that quality yoga is for a select few," Casey Hubbell and Kelsey Alshememry of the Tacoma studio, [Yoga Wild](#), accepted the Best Startup/ Early Stage Business award and \$10,000. This seed money will help them expand their instructor training program into new cities.

"IMPACT Pitch is what our work at Business Impact NW is all about, growing underserved small businesses so that local communities can thrive," said Business Impact NW President and CEO, Joe Sky-Tucker

"We are incredibly proud of this year's contestants and look forward to fostering lasting relationships with them as their businesses grow and create jobs, provide needed services and build community."

With a mission to serve historically disenfranchised entrepreneurs, Business Impact NW also awarded \$2,000 mission awards to five worthy small businesses. [The CURA Co.](#) received the Best Women Owned Business award, [Simone Pin Productions](#) the Best Community of Color Owned award, [Rocky Butte Coffee Roasters](#) of the Best Veteran Owned award, [Pivotal Center](#) the Best Immigrant/Refugee Owned award and [Girl Boss Sports](#) the Best LGBTQ+ Owned Business award.

Thanks to free coaching and classes offered by Business Impact NW thanks in part to support from the [US Small Business Administration](#), everyone who applied and continued through the competition's rounds received powerful new tools for more effective business planning and strategy along with personal business coaching. This year's judges included Eli Allison, [IMPACT Pitch 2017 Best Established Business](#) and Founder of Repair Revolution, Molly Moon Neitzel, Founder and CEO of Molly Moon's Homemade Ice Cream and Michael Powell, Senior Vice President and Chief Lending Officer of Harborstone Credit Union.

About Business Impact NW:

Business Impact NW is a nonprofit economic development organization dedicated to serving communities of color, women, veterans, immigrants and refugees, LGBTQ+, and low-income entrepreneurs in the Pacific Northwest through financial services, business advice and training. Our mission is to grow businesses that create jobs in underserved communities while promoting long-term positive economic change. Business Impact NW serves startups as well as existing businesses, and is dedicated to helping underserved entrepreneurs at every stage in their business growth. Our loan department offers lending services in Washington State and Oregon. Business Impact NW is located in Seattle WA. It also offers business support services in Washington State, Oregon, Idaho and Alaska through the Washington Women's Business Center (WWBC) and the Veterans Business Outreach Center (VBOC). To learn more about our services or to make a donation, visit www.businessimpactnw.org.

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