



2026 PARTNERSHIP INFORMATION

*Join us for the 29th annual Dempsey Startup Competition! The Investment Round takes place April 30 at the **Seattle Convention Center downtown**. The Awards Dinner and Celebration takes place Thursday, May 21 at Bell Harbor International Conference Center.*

Partners—\$25,000 and above

In addition to the recognition described in all categories below, Partners will also have the following opportunities:

- Opportunity to meet with the winning team(s).
- Opportunity to name and present a student prize: Top Awards, Big Picture or Best Idea Prize. *(Prize descriptions can be found on page 2. Partners supporting a named prize from the prior year will have the first opportunity to retain prize name.)*
- Display a company banner at each live Dempsey Startup event, including the Awards Dinner (provided by partner).
- Four (4) company representatives total invited to participate as judges in the Investment Round (April 30) and/or Sweet Sixteen (May 21).
- Six (6) company representatives invited to the Awards Dinner on May 21.

Investors—\$10,000

In addition to Angel-level recognition described below, Investor partners will also have the following opportunities:

- Opportunity to name and present a student prize: 3rd Place, Big Picture, or Best Idea Prize. *(Prize descriptions can be found on page 2. Partners supporting a named prize from the prior year will have the first opportunity to retain prize name.)*
- Display a company banner at the Investment Round (provided by partner).
- Three (3) company representatives total invited to participate as judges in the Investment Round (April 30) and/or Sweet 16 (May 21).
- Four (4) company representatives invited to the Awards Dinner on May 21.

Angels—\$5,000

- Opportunity to name and present a student prize: Best Idea Prize *(Prize descriptions found below. Partners supporting a named prize from the prior year will have the first opportunity to retain prize name.)*
- Three (3) company representatives total invited to participate as judges in the Investment Round (April 30).
- Three (3) company representatives invited to the Awards Dinner on May 21.
- Logo and other forms of recognition at each round of the competition and in associated marketing.



STUDENT PRIZES

- Top Four Prizes: Grand Prize (\$25,000), Second Place (\$15,000), Third Place (\$10,000), Fourth Place (\$7,500)
- Big Picture (\$5,000) and Best Idea Prizes (\$2,500) were created to reward student teams in the Dempsey Startup Competition for their exceptional work in several distinct categories.
- Contact us for more information about prize categories or to express interest in a named prize. As noted above, Partners supporting a named prize from a prior year will have the first opportunity to retain prize name.

NOTE: Big Picture and Best Idea categories are determined by the Buerk Center director.

CONTACT

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