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Mar 26, 2014 6:08 PM by **PRESS RELEASE**

The Vault provides platform for entrepreneurs to pitch ideas to investors

INNOV8 Lafayette, a festival of innovation, creativity and entrepreneurship, announces its annual event, The Vault, on April 29, 2014, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., at the Acadiana Center for the Arts. Sponsored by Inventure Works and The Opportunity Machine, The Vault allows innovators to pitch businesses plans to teams of investors resulting in potential funding opportunities.

There will be three separate categories for pitches this year: Quick pitches for students and start-ups, non-profits pitches and for-profit pitches. The quick pitch winners will receive their portion of proceeds from attendance chip voting - each event attendee will pay for a \$10 crowd funding admission chip to put toward the project of their choice. The non-profit pitch winner(s) could receive up to \$50,000 in funding per business from the Lafayette Public Trust, and the for-profit pitch winner(s) could earn a limitless deal once post-event winner vetting is completed.

The panel of evaluators and potential investors will include Angels of Southwest Louisiana plus deal-makers from the Acadiana region and across the state.

"We are excited to bring back The Vault and present the opportunity for individuals and companies to pitch their meaningfully unique ideas to a vast group of investors," said Pete Prados, chief idea officer, Inventure Works. "This event stimulates innovation, creates jobs and brings success to Lafayette and the state. We want to help driven and motivated entrepreneurs launch their innovations, and The Vault provides that opportunity."

The deadline for idea submissions is April 20, and registration will be conducted through the submit page on Inventure Works' website. The Vault is open to the public, and tickets can be pre-purchased through the INNOV8 website or at the door for \$10. Seating is limited. People and companies interested in the investment process are encouraged to contact Inventure Works to participate in the Deal Makers Summit taking place prior to The Vault.





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