



You're Invited

8:30am-10:00am, Thursday, June 22, 2017

Ten Inventors, Including Four Women, to Square Off June 22 in DC in First Global Competition for Hardware with a Social Purpose

Two from National Capital Region Among 2017 ASME ISHOW Finalists Who'll Present Their Design Prototypes Before an Esteemed Panel of Judges

WHAT:

Ten social-minded inventors from the U.S. and beyond will present their design prototypes in Washington, D.C. on Thursday, June 22 to compete in the first global competition to recognize hardware with a social purpose. They are among 28 finalists selected from more than 150 submissions from South Asia, Africa and the United States. Three grand prize-winners have already been named in both Bangalore, India on April 27 and Nairobi, Kenya on May 25. Each winner will receive a share of \$500,000 in awards and technical support and will also be invited to ISHOW New York City in October 2017.

ASME, the world's largest organization for the field of mechanical engineering, will give the U.S. finalists' five minutes apiece to demo/showcase their socially driven design prototypes. The three winners will be announced at a reception that evening. Here's a link to the ten U.S. finalists and images of their designs:

<https://thisishardware.org/competition/2017/usa>

- **The ten finalists** from across the nation and beyond who will be vying for one of three grand prizes are:
 - **Erica Schwarz** (Baltimore, MD) – Kaleyedos Imaging Device is a revolutionary infant retinal imager that empowers neonatal intensive care units worldwide to decrease the incidence of visual impairment and blindness due to infant retinal disease.
 - **Quang Truong** (Washington, D.C.) – The EV-8 Cooler is a low-cost mobile refrigerator that runs on water, which is perfect for low-income families who live off the grid or cannot afford a conventional refrigerator.

- **Jonathan Cedar** (Nairobi, Kenya) BioLite HomeStove is an ultra-clean cookstove that reduces smoke emissions by 90% and biomass fuel consumption by 50% compared to traditional open fire cooking. It also co-generates electricity from the flame.
- **Mary Elizabeth McCulloch** (Milesburg, PA) – Millions of people are nonverbal. Current devices are too expensive and un-customizable. The Voz Box is an innovative, affordable speech generation device with customizable sensors.
- **Alexandra Grigore** (Cambridge, UK) – With a novel fingerprinting system, **Simprints Vero** aims to create a world where lack of identity is never the reason why anyone is denied basic services in healthcare, education and finance.
- **Shivang Dave** (Boston, MA) – QuickSee was developed to disrupt the barriers to eyeglass prescriptions for billions of people worldwide so that they can get the eyeglasses they need.
- **Matthew Chun** (Cambridge, MA) – RevX is a transfemoral rotator that restores dignity to low-income amputees by enabling them to sit cross legged, dress themselves, get back to work, and more.
- **Team Sixth Sense** (Houston, TX) – A system of sensors that attaches to lower-limb prosthetics and works with NeoSensory’s current technology to provide real-time vibro-tactile feedback.
- **Hahna Alexander** (Pittsburgh, PA) – SmartBoots are self-charging work boots that collect status and location data and provide workforces in hazardous environments with actionable insights.
- **Kenji Tabery** (Monterey, CA) – VeggieNest is a smart home gardening system that aims to provide food security to the global consumer by addressing the growing market need for access to organic, affordable, and nutritious produce.
- **Judges & Advisors:**
 - **Heather Fleming**, Catapult Design
 - **Mitra Ardron**, Lumeter Networks
 - **Iana Aranda**, Engineering for Change
 - **Steve Katsaros**, Nokero
 - **Vivas Kumar**, Tesla
 - **Anand Narayan**, ASME Engineering for Global Development
 - **Jeff Patterson**, ASME
 - **Ben Wald**, Very
- **Paul Scott, Director**, ASME ISHOW

**WHEN &
WHERE:**

District Architecture Center, 421 7th St NW, Washington, D.C.

Thursday, June 22, 2017

8:30am - 9:00am – Continental breakfast and opportunity to meet with finalists and get a close-up view of their prototypes on display

9:00am - 10:30am – Media Preview: Ten five-minute presentations followed by Q&A

10:00am - 4:30pm – Judged Competition (closed)

6:00 - 9:00pm – Reception where regional ISHOW grand prize-winners will be announced

WHY:

ASME originally created [ISHOW](#) three years ago after its research showed a tremendous lack of support for hardware innovators seeking to enter global markets and make a societal impact, according to K. Keith Roe, president of ASME. With this year's entries among the most promising ASME has seen since ISHOW first launched, the global organization of mechanical engineers is confident they all have the potential to address some of the most challenging issues faced by mankind.

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