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# Charlotte Startup to Pitch at Big Launch Challenge

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By Courtney Gabrielson

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Danville-based entrepreneurial development organization [The Launch Place](#) has announced the 10 startup finalists for its sixth annual [Big Launch Challenge](#), and a Charlotte organization made the cut.

PureSurgery, a "surgical marketplace" that allows those undergoing elective surgery to compare options for doctors and procedures, will head to The Launch Place's satellite location in Research Triangle Park [for the Sept. 11 contest](#).

It joins seven other North Carolina-based startups, with two of the other pitch participants representing the commonwealth of Virginia.

Those pitching will each have eight minutes (plus a short question and answer period) to share their business plans to a panel of judges. This year's group includes:

- [Elaine Bolle](#), investment chair and board member of RTP Capital Associates, as well as board member at Angel Capital Association
- [Tim Cartwright](#), co-founder and partner of [Fifth Avenue Family Office](#), as well as founder and chair of the [Tamiami Family of Angel Funds](#)
- [Marty Kaszubowski](#), executive director for [Innovation Initiatives at Old Dominion University's Institute for Innovation and Entrepreneurship](#), as well as chair of [The Launch Place Board of Directors](#)
- [Paul Nolde](#), director of [NRV](#) and [The Launch Place Seed Fund Advisory Board](#) member
- [Autumn Visser](#), principal at [Woods Rogers, PLC](#)

This panel will decide which two startups will win part of the total \$20,000 prize pot, as well as access to packages of The Launch Place resources.

"The goal of the Big Launch Challenge is to provide early-stage startups the opportunity to pitch their ideas to investors, and for The Launch Place Pre-Seed and Seed Fund to generate deal flow," said The Launch Place President and CEO, Eva Doss in an emailed statement. "Every year it is a different experience, with different business ideas and founding teams, and I look forward to hearing the pitches."

The pitch competition will wrap up the two-day [Angel Capital Association's Southeast Regional Meeting](#). Hosted by the largest group for accredited investors in the world, the conference will revolve around the theme, "Taking Good Deeds to the Bank: Making Angel Investing Pay Off."

For a list of all Big Launch Challenge finalists, see below.

### **Big Launch Challenge Finalists**

(All descriptions provided by The Launch Place)

- [6AM City](#)
- **Where:** Greenville, S.C.
- **What:** "Redefining the local media landscape."

### **Hite Health Solutions**

- **Where:** Burlington, N.C.
- **What:** "Innovation in feminine hygiene while serving women's health and wellness."

### **Intake**

- **Where:** Raleigh, N.C.
- **What:** "Health empowerment through automated preventive care."

### **Kamana**

- **Where:** Richmond, Va.
- **What:** "Empowering health care employers to efficiently manage and fill critical staffing needs."

### **Microbial Biosensors, Inc.**

- **Where:** Durham, N.C.
- **What:** "New technology to rapidly detect bacterial contamination in food and animal feed."

## Muuktest

- **Where:** Raleigh, N.C.
- **What:** "Helps software companies build products faster without armies of test engineers."

## Optimal Solar

- **Where:** Durham, N.C.
- **What:** "Maker of the highest-efficiency solar module."

## PureSurgery

- **Where:** Charlotte, N.C.
- **What:** "Digital platform for optimizing patients before, during and after surgery."

## Point 93

- **Where:** Roanoke, Va.
- **What:** "Offers dynamic pricing and data exchange for the retail industry."

## VerusTitle

- **Where:** Durham, N.C.
- **What:** "AI enabled processing of title insurance."

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