

nfte!

Previous National E2 Investor Pitch Finalists (c) Fox, Mudra, Carrasco, Liebowitz

# Program

## **NFTE National Investor Pitch Challenge February 23, 2021**

Welcome Dr. J.D. LaRock, NFTE President & CEO

Cody Chang, Co-founder, Product Gym

**Finalists** AGRI, Joaquin Otero

Sewn Earth. Yulisa Reveles

Money Moves, The Video Game, Samya Zia

Investor Panel John Baer, Moody's Analytics

Noelle Calautti, EY

Jacob Pusateri, Citigroup

Cesar Ramos, Morgan Stanley Wealth Mgmt.

Evin Robinson, America On Tech

Teacher Panel Danny Gray, Thornwood High School

Ray Parris, Hialeah-Miami Lakes High School

Jessica Tereth, Paramount High School

## Master of Ceremonies

# **Finalists**



**Cody Chang** Co-founder, Project Gym NFTE Class of 2006

Cody Chang is a serial entrepreneur based in New York City. He started a wordpress, web development agency at 14 years of age in his NYC Chinatown apartment and scaled the business to four teams in India, multiple recurring contracts and landed a Fortune 500 client.

After obtaining an Economics degree from Claremont McKenna College, he was part of the founding team of an Asia-based pharmaceutical logistics company and was directly responsible for all facets of the business operation, including direct negotiation with the Chinese Government and fundraising over \$30 mil. He later relocated to Singapore as the COO of an Investment Bank.

After an exit from financial services, Cody returned to NYC as a Senior Product Manager at Northwestern Mutual and co-founded Product Gym, a software

product management community dedicated to helping working professionals transition into the product management industry. Currently, he is a Senior Product Manager at Vimeo. In addition to overseeing business operations at Product Gym, he recently started a Land Conservation Easements consultancy, whose mission is to responsibly direct financial resources for better land use in the US.



Cody with NFTE business partner Jon Mohan in 2006 - (c) K.Turner

#### **Joaquin Otero** Hialeah-Miami Lakes High School **AGRI**

Two years ago, when traveling to Colombia with his mother, Joaquin was struck by the low costs of exporting coffee from Colombian vendors. The average U.S. citizen drinks 6 cups of coffee a day, with 1.4 billion cups a day poured globally. Joaquin created AGRI to become the newest multinational business selling



Colombian coffee beans. Short for agriculture/agricultura, AGRI signifies farming and the sense of culture at the business's core. Joaquin hopes to be the first in his family to attend college, studying business. He recently served as president of DECA, an international business organization for high schoolers.

### **Yulisa Reveles** Paramount High School

#### Sewn Earth

Yulisa describes herself as hardworking, disciplined, empathetic, and selfless. She is also passionate about her business, creating renewable and stylish clothing out of thrift store items with the goal of reducing our planet's enormous textile waste. At her high school she is a member of the Army Junior ROTC and also



participates on Paramount City's Youth Commission. Her skill in sewing, art and photography all come in handy as she continues to build her business.

#### Samya Zia now at Florida International University Money Moves, the Video Game

Samya moved to the US early in high school, with dreams of being a first-generation college student. With no first-hand knowledge, she taught herself about taxes, loans and finances before applying and getting into college. She decided to help other students learn



this important real-world information, and created Money Moves, a video game that allows students to learn about finances for college in a fun way. "I want no child or teen to feel left behind or as if they can't get a higher education due to lack of financial knowledge."

## **Investor Panel**



John Baer **Managing Director** Moody's Analytics

John is a Managing Director with Moody's Analytics helping small, medium and large enterprises leverage data, analytics and technology to make local and global differences. John enjoys sharing his product management, commercial strategy and business development experiences to engage and empower his team and professional network. Prior to Moody's Analytics, John advised private equity and corporate clients valuing business models of target investments. John is a member of the NFTE Bay Area advisory board. Raised in the Midwest, John is loving California life with his wife Sarah and their three children.



**Noelle Calautti** Managing Director **Ernst & Young LLP** 

As a Managing Director in Ernst & Young LLP's Assurance practice, Noelle serves public and private audit clients in the retail and consumer products industry. She has more than 18 years of experience working with some of the world's most prestigious retail brands. Noelle is the Program Co-Director for the EY Entrepreneur Of The Year® New York program, which honors New York's most innovative CEOs who inspire others with their vision, leadership and achievement.

Noelle actively participates in the New York chapter of the national EY Entrepreneurial Winning Women™ program, which identifies women entrepreneurs and provides them with access and resources needed to succeed in the

market. Noelle also played a critical role in the launch of EY's Entrepreneur Access Network, a program built to transcend barriers and scale the businesses of Black and Latinx entrepreneurs. Noelle serves on the NFTE New York Metro Advisory Board. She is a certified public accountant in New York and holds a BS in Accounting from Lehigh University.



Jacob Pusateri Vice President, Private Bank Citigroup

Jacob Pusateri is a Vice President with Citigroup's Private Bank and has nearly a decade of experience in the banking industry. Since 2018, he has been sharing his passion with NFTE's young entrepreneurs.

Jacob's love of entrepreneurship began at The Pennsylvania State University, where he obtained a Bachelor of Science in Economics. While at the university, Jacob co-founded a company to generate radioactive isotopes for medical use. Pivoting to a more arts-focused venture, in 2017 he co-founded Dirty Pine Productions, a film production company that produced two short films.

At Citigroup, Jacob is responsible for ensuring that Citi's Private Banking clients receive bespoke products and

solutions to fit their evolving needs. Outside of work, Jacob is an avid golfer who enjoys hitting the links at every opportunity - rain or shine - after which he can be found preparing gourmet delicacies in his kitchen.



**Cesar Ramos** Executive Financial Services Director. Morgan Stanley Wealth Management

Cesar Ramos joined Morgan Stanley in 2011. Prior to working with the team, he was an analyst and strategist within Morgan Stanley and Merrill Lynch. Cesar has advised Individual and Institutional Clients since 2006 where his areas of focus include Latin American and the Caribbean. Having earned a full academic scholarship, Cesar graduated from the University of Florida with a degree in Economics and Finance. He is currently pursuing a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA®) charter. Originally from Puerto Rico, Cesar is fluent in English and Spanish with knowledge of Portuguese.



**Evin Robinson** Co-founder & President America On Tech (AOT)

Evin Robinson is co-founder and President of America On Tech (AOT). Launching his first business at the age of sixteen, leveraging less than a hundred dollars in personal savings, he learned the importance of making a profit while creating social impact. That experience laid the foundation for the way he approaches business today.

Evin has been recognized as an American Express Leadership Fellow, Pahara Institute - NextGen Fellow, Forbes Under 30 Lister, NY City & State Tech Honoree, Black Enterprise Modern Man, and a Kauffman Entrepreneurship Engagement Fellow. He is a member of the Forbes Under 30 Board of Directors, serves as a North East Impact Chair, and is also a Founding Member of Forbes Forum. A NFTE alum from 2007, he also created

a NFTE Scholarship for 2 students each year to Syracuse University, his alma mater.

# **NFTE National Supporters**

Thanks to the commitment of NFTE's national donors, an increasing number of young people are prepared with the entrepreneurial mindset and startup skills required to succeed in today's innovation economy.

## **Entrepreneurial Leaders (\$5,000,000+)**



**Equity Investors (\$1,000,000+)** 

Citi Foundation







#### **Venture Capitalists (\$500,000+)**









## **E2** Teacher Panel

## **Danny Gray**

**NFTE Master Educator Business & Computer Education** 2016 Golden Apple Award Winner Thornwood High School Chicago, IL



### **Ray Parris**

Digital Media / Robotics Instructor StartUp Tech & NFTE Instructor NFTE Model Teacher of the Year 2018 Hialeah-Miami Lakes Senior High Miami. FL



#### **Jessica Tereth**

NFTE Entrepreneurship Teacher, Business Club Advisor, Pathway Lead Paramount High School Los Angeles, CA





# #InvestorPitch21

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