
PURPOSE

The FVEF celebrates the venture industry and honors those who have made significant contributions to foster innovation, advance technology, and drive new company formation in the state of Florida. For many decades, venture capital has partnered with entrepreneurs to build iconic companies that have revolutionized our way of life, expanded the U.S. economy, and improved our society. This annual awards program celebrates the venture industry and honors those who have played or are playing a major role in its success.

The Award is determined by the FVEF Board in its sole determination without bias or prejudice and cannot be challenged.

AWARDS

VENTURE INVESTOR OF THE YEAR

The **Venture Investor of [Insert Year]** recognizes venture capital firms for their significant contributions to advance the entrepreneurial ecosystem and generate returns for their investors. Firms receiving the award are recognized for strong fund performance and high exit multiples for recent exits as well as activities to promote entrepreneurship in Florida and create a more diverse and venture ecosystem nationally.

Criteria:

In the past 12 month, the firm should have: (i) a major exit of one of their portfolio companies, (ii) co-invested with a nationally recognized venture capital fund, (iii) received a NVCA or similar national award, (iv) raised a new fund that sets a fund raising record for Florida, (v) published an article, research, data analysis or book, (vi) advocated on behalf of the venture capital community or (vii) testified to congress, all which have positively impacted the venture capital community.

Eligibility:

- Must be legally registered within the jurisdiction of the United States as a domestic or foreign company. Must be a recognized and recorded venture investor on Pitchbook.

- Must have HQ in Florida, at least one Florida portfolio company in each fund or have opened an office in the state of Florida.
- Must demonstrate leadership in venture industry and commitment to advancing entrepreneurship and supporting a diverse ecosystem.
- Must have demonstrated charitable giving through time, talent or treasure.

VENTURE LEADER OF THE YEAR

The **Venture Leader of [Insert Year]** recognizes venture professionals, service providers, economic development and government officials and entrepreneurs who have dedicated their professional lives to creating and building successful and highly competitive venture firms or professional service firms or championed the venture capital ecosystem creating impact with Florida venture backed companies that have made a significant contribution to the growth and success of the U.S. economy.

Criteria:

In the past 12 months or due to a significant career in the venture industry, recipients of the Venture Impact Award were instrumental in the growth of the venture capital industry and have consistently set high performance standards for the entire industry.

Eligibility:

- Individual, Professional, Elected Official, Non-profit or Venture Capital Firm that has one Florida based Portfolio Company or a Florida office location.
- Must demonstrate contributions to advancing the venture industry in the State of Florida.
- Cannot have any Securities Complaints or Bad Actor Filings.

VENTURE BACKED COMPANY OF THE YEAR

The **Venture Backed Company of [Insert Year]** recognizes a founder or co-founders who company has experienced a major milestone in the past year ranging from a significant exit, a large follow-on funding round, an industry changing partnership or an extraordinary senior management hire. The company should have overall outstanding performance and culture and the founder or co-founders must demonstrate their overall leadership qualities and the esteem in which they are held by peers.

Criteria:

In the past 12 months, a suitable Founder or Co-Founders demonstrates strong leadership qualities combined with the ability to conceive a strategy for long term growth for their Venture Backed Company and a determination to drive further funding rounds or a milestone event or exit that will drive/achieve significant exits return for their venture investors.

Eligibility:

- Be the founder or co-founder of a venture backed company.
- The venture backed company has experienced an exit, significant industry award, large follow-on funding round, an industry changing partnership or some other major milestone in the past 12 months.
- The company was established or incorporated in Florida or has moved operations to Florida.
- The founder must demonstrate charitable giving through time, talent or treasure.