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Entrepreneurs' Organization, Idea Center call for entries in global student competition

The South Florida chapter of Entrepreneurs’ Organization (EO-SOFLO) and Miami Dade College’s Idea Center are calling for local entries in the Global Student Entrepreneur Awards (GSEA), a competition in which college students from 50 countries vie for a total of more than $500,000 in combined prize money and services.

To be eligible:

Entrants must be an undergraduate student currently enrolled at a recognized university or college. The student must be the owner/controlling shareholder of the business and principally responsible for its operation.

The business must be structured ‘for-profit’ and have generated $500 or received $1,000 in investments by the time of application. The company must have been in business for at least six consecutive months.

The top six finalists from any previous year’s GSEA global finals competition are not eligible.

The deadline to enter is October 29, 2015

Eight local finalists will be chosen to participate in a live competition Nov. 19 at MDC’s Idea Center. The winner will be invited to compete against 25 student entrepreneurs at the GSEA national finals in February of 2016.

The national finalist will win $10,000 in cash and services, as well as the chance to earn the global grand prize worth $40,000 awarded at the conclusion of the competition in Bangkok, Thailand in May of 2016.

“This competition is special because the winners are not chosen solely on profit potential or the financial merits of their business plans, but largely based on their entrepreneurial journey,” said Mark Sanna, National GSEA Chairman, and EO-SOFLO’s Past President. “What challenges did these student entrepreneurs overcome, or what problem are they solving for others? Compelling questions like these play a big role in the competition, and we know there are many great stories like this in South Florida. We want to hear and reward them.”
EO-SOFLO is one of the world’s largest EO chapters, with approximately 1800 members whose businesses account for more than $1 billion in annual revenues and 30,000 jobs in Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach counties.

EO-SOFLO and the Idea Center have partnered to support entrepreneurial innovation for MDC student entrepreneurs and other South Florida startup businesses. “We are thrilled to be a part of this opportunity for our students to build their network, learn from their peers and innovative industry leaders at EO,” said Leandro Finol, Idea Center Executive Director.

To enter the GSEA competition, visit www.eonetwork.org (http://www.eonetwork.org).

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