



ACCELERATE
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757 ACCELERATE HEADED BACK TO RTP'S BOOMING STARTUP COMMUNITY

RALEIGH, NC (November 1, 2019) – 757 Accelerate welcomes the Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill investor community to its Demo Day on November 12, 11:30-1:30pm at 12 Davis Drive, Research Triangle Park, NC. Please click [here](#) to RSVP.

BUILDING ON REGIONAL MOMENTUM - On the heels of a successful inaugural cohort that raised over \$5M in its first 9 months, 757 Accelerate is excited to again showcase the six promising founders listed below in its Cohort #2. Bolstered by the support of 757 Angels, named in the [Top 10 Angel Groups](#) by the Angel Capital Association after investing \$47M in 5 years, 757 Accelerate punches above its weight, attracting promising out of state and regional founders to its program. “The combination of our strong investor voice, along with emerging corporate venture support from [Ferguson Ventures](#), ensures that 757 Accelerate and its founders are well positioned to drive value for investors in the Raleigh-Durham area,” says Monique Adams, Executive Director of 757 Angles.

COMMITTED TO UNDERREPRESENTED FOUNDERS - Along with driving value for entrepreneurs, investors, and mentors, 757 Accelerate is also committed to investing its resources in underrepresented founders. By investing our resources into activities such as Women in Venture – Virginia and Defense Entrepreneurs Forum, among others, 757 Accelerate has focused its startup and mentor recruiting and outreach on increasing the number of women, people of color, and military veterans within its ranks. “We are proud to report that our concerted efforts to support underrepresented entrepreneurs is already yielding results,” noted Evans McMillion, 757 Accelerate’s Executive Director. “Over 58% of the founders in our first two cohorts include women, people of color, and former military service members,” said McMillion.

MEET 757 ACCELERATE’S 2019 COHORT:

- **Addison Weeks** – Founded by Lee Addison Lesley and Kat Weeks Mulford, Addison Weeks manufactures creative furniture hardware. Lesley and Mulford began making unique jewelry but pivoted to creating statement furniture hardware. Featured as one of Oprah’s Favorite Things and in House Beautiful’s 2019 Kitchen of the Year, Addison Weeks has captured the attention of national furniture brands and generated over \$1M in revenue.

- **Forefront** – Appearing on NBC, ABC and in the Wall Street Journal, Yulkendy Valdez and Josuel Plasencia, founders of Forefront, have already made a big splash providing diversity and inclusion training for Fortune 500 companies like SAP, Accenture, and Blue Cross Blue Shield. During their seminars clients continually asked for more. Forefront has created a software platform to amplify their reach.
- **Metallum3D** – Metallum3D’s founder Nelson Zambrana invented his patented 3D printing process and filament out of his own frustration. A mechanical engineer by training, Zambrana designed medical devices and needed consistent access to a metal 3D printer, but it was cost prohibitive. He decided to change that by designing a low-cost, high-performance process and product that allows.
- **Nuekie** - Featured in magazines as diverse as Forbes and Chemical & Engineering News, Eunice Cofie, founder of Neukie, is a chemist who has married her knowledge of traditional African medicine and modern chemistry to create innovative health and beauty products to meet the needs of people of color.
- **Redactable** – Motivated by headlines featuring failed redactions resulting in inadvertent disclosures of national security details, personal financial data, and classified information, Redactable founder Amanda Levay decided to create a patented web application the permanently redacts files quickly and easily from your browser. Current software places black boxes over sensitive information, but it does not remove it, making it possible for hackers to uncover the “redacted” data.
- **Xperience Robotics** – Xperience Robotics founder Ankit Shah is an aerospace engineer who has translated his former NASA experience into healthcare innovation designed to help improve physical therapy and movement disorder treatments. Shah has built an artificial intelligence-based software platform that uses wearable sensors to track patient’s movements, providing real time feedback and correction.

About 757 Accelerate

757 Accelerate is a selective, mentor-driven startup program that provides promising founders \$20,000 in capital without taking equity, connections to customized mentors, investors, and resources, as well as real customers to help validate their product and test their business model. Launched in 2018, 757 Accelerate is a nonprofit accelerator based in Norfolk, Virginia that aims to close the gaps in the Hampton Roads entrepreneurial ecosystem one startup at a time. For more information, visit 757accelerate.org.