



One Week Left Until the Full Proposal Deadline!

March 7, 2018 is the full proposal deadline for the [70 student teams](#) competing in the final round of the [Big Ideas Contest](#). Contest winners will be formally recognized at the Awards Celebration on May 2, 5pm PT, B100 Blum Hall, UC Berkeley.



[Big Ideas](#) and [Startup@BerkeleyLaw](#) hosted a workshop to offer participants and alumni information on options for social enterprise legal structures, and trade-offs between for-profit, nonprofit, or hybrid models. Watch a recording of the event [here!](#)

BIG Alumni Spotlights **IDEAS**



Bolt Threads (2007 winner) is revolutionizing the fashion industry by developing man-made spider silk for high-performance, sustainable apparel. It was recently named one of 'World's Most Innovative Companies' by [Fast Company](#)!

- **Solstice** (2017 winner), a US-based community solar startup, is [hiring for full-time community outreach, software engineer, and marketing roles](#)!
- **Dost Education** (2016 and 2017 winner) was featured in *the Hindu Times* for bringing early childhood development curriculum to over 9,000 Indian parents.
- **Maji Yaje Kwanza** (2014 winner) has, since winning Big Ideas, hired 200 people to build and install drip irrigation pipes at schools in rural Kenya. Read more [here](#).
- **React! Organic Chemistry Board Game** (2017 winner) was spotlighted on *ABC News* for developing a fun experience for anyone who wants to learn college level organic chemistry.

Big Ideas Alumni: [Email us](#) if you have an update to share, an opportunity to advertise, and/or are in need of additional resources!

Other Opportunities

[House Residency Applications Open](#)

The House Residency is an accelerator program built to provide founders with what they need, when they need it, to turn a startup into a scalable, venture back-able business. They offer investment (up to \$120k) to all companies that join the program and work with our companies to raise their seed and Series A rounds of financing to prepare them for growth. [Apply](#) by **March 23**.

[NSF SBIR/STTR Proposal Development Course](#)

Each year, the [National Science Foundations's America Seed Fund](#) awards \$190 million in funding to entrepreneurs and small businesses through SBIR/STTR grants to validate high impact technologies. [Berkeley IPIRA](#) is hosting a 4-week course from April - May 2018 to provide detailed instruction on developing a competitive proposal for the NSF SBIR/STTR program (timed to coincide with the June 2018 deadline). Big Ideas Alumni are offered an \$80 discount! [Email our team](#) for the code.

VentureWell BMEidea Competition

Open to student biomedical entrepreneurs. The Venturewell national BMEidea competition offers university biomedical entrepreneurs the chance to win up to \$10,000. Participants can also receive critical early stage validation of their ideas. Applications are due **April 4**. Apply [here](#).

VentureWell Entrepreneur-Team Grant Program

Open to student entrepreneurs. Receive an E-Team grant and get training through Venturewell's early stage innovator training program. The training provides peer

networking, expert coaching, national recognition, and hands-on workshops to move your innovation forward. Applications are due **May 2**. Apply [here](#).

Upcoming Events

[GSVC Future of Social Ventures Conference](#)

March 16 | 8:30am-5:30pm | Haas School of Business, UC Berkeley

The Global Social Venture Competition (GSVC) invites members of the social impact community to advance practice, sharing, learning, and acceleration of social ventures. The Conference will feature keynotes from Leila Janah, Founder and CEO of Samasource and LXMI, and Carlos Orellana, Co-Founder and CEO of salaUno. The event also features a design-thinking workshop and impact investing session with professionals from OpenIDEO and Omidyar.

[Better Ventures Demo Oakland](#)

March 26 | 6:30-9pm | The New Parkway Theater, Oakland

Join Better Ventures for their next Demo Oakland, a great opportunity for technologists to demo the fruits of their labor on the big screen at the charming New Parkway Theater. Collaborate with fellow early-stage founders building a better world, and get to know Better Ventures, ICA Fund Good Jobs, and Alliance for Community Development.



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