

# South Carolina Inventors Forum

*Welcome to our second Year!!*



**ISSUE #13**

**EXTRA, EXTRA, EXTRA!**

**August 2021**

Hellos SCIF,

Our second year has begun with great news for creators, inventors and innovators in this issue!

- I have been busy building connections with GoFundMe and SBA to provide avenues for funding inventors and creative folk from *concept to commercialization*.
- I have also worked to co-create an organization called the UIA-CIO consisting of 20 nonprofit inventor clubs to start now linked coast to coast.
- I'm networking with city officials, 1MC and Rotary across America to spread the word about our clubs which gives us new ways to connect with our communities and to folks with new product and service ideas.
- We have four great inventor contestants for the contest this month, and a new sponsor!

We need America to get back up on its feet economically and we can do this by supporting inventor/ innovator/ entrepreneurs. We are here to support you!

(Imagine I'm waving a flag as I type this 😊)

Have an inventive day, stay safe and stay well!

*Adrian*

## **SCIF has a Gold Sponsor!**

We are honored to announce the City of Columbia has become our first Gold Sponsor! This contribution is appreciated beyond its monetary amount in that it represents the great connection we have made and how the city supports our Vision statement: *SCIF will contribute to South Carolina becoming known as an Innovation Hub here in the*

*southeast. Economic development in the South Carolina region depends heavily on entrepreneurship and entrepreneurship depends heavily on creativity and invention. By assisting inventors in leveraging their intellectual property and becoming more entrepreneurial, SCIF will play an important role in furthering South Carolina's reputation as supporting startups, general creativity, launching quality businesses and creating good paying jobs. SCIF will become a recognized valued partner in South Carolina's economic re-development.*

We thank Sergio Aparicio, the city of Columbia Economic Business Development Manager, for his efforts to help us talk to the right people, fill out the correct forms and persist to receive this sponsorship, thanks Sergio!

And thanks to Ryan Coleman, Director of Columbia Economic Development for agreeing that establishing more business is sustainable by encouraging inventors and innovators to become entrepreneurs.

Thanks again to the City of Columbia for setting an example how cities across America can support vets, minorities, really all of us striving to build better lives and live our dreams.

### **SCIF has joined the UIA-CIO**

I've work long for inventor rights and realized it will take a unity of never-before-seen segments of society to restore the patent system to where it was pre 2011.

The pandemic has exasperated the system by creating the swelling of interest in staying at home and starting a business for a living, becoming suburban and rural entrepreneurs.

The "industry" of inventing has long been plagued with get rich schemes and people claiming to be gurus and masters of marketing and now a new crop of coaches and mentors with maybe one success story (if that) claiming their knowledge and services are worth hundreds of dollars an hour or thousands for a "course" with no guarantee of success.

People I've met and are working with spent their life savings and over a decade being misguided and taken advantage by these inventions' submission companies, phony marketers, and hype hustlers and it must stop!

I've known Warren Tuttle as Director of the UIA for over a decade and served on the BOD of the UIA 2 years with him. We have spent time in DC at the USPTO together as well as rode our motorcycles together in the beautiful San Deigo North County back roads. Author of "[Inventor Confidential, the Honest Guide to Profitable Inventing](#)" in which I'm honored to be mentioned. It was a pleasure to work with Warren to write this preamble to our nonprofit club organization Charter and to now serve with Steve Lyon and George Peters as one of three Steering Committee members:

### ***UIA CERTIFIED INVENTOR ORGANIZATION CHARTER:***

*We, the Inventor Organizations of the United States; in order to form a more perfect union, establish more comradery among organization leaders, pursue in earnest the non-profit mission, make each organization better by supporting individual member's needs, advocate nationally for inventors' rights, provide hands-on education including help in accessing the marketplace, and share best practices; do collectively establish and*

*support the following United Inventors Association of America Certified Inventor Organizations program. These articles represent our mission and may be added to or adjusted in the future with the collective consent of the organizations and the UIA Board.*



### **Creating new business from concept to commercialization takes money...**

After 13 years running the SDIF I had met individually with over 1500 inventors at my office. The method I created to standardize the interview allows me to determine in one hour if your idea is feasible (possible), already patented or on the market, where you are with your idea (progress), where you want to go with the idea (passion) and discuss possible plans on how you may accomplish your goals.

37 years running [A Squared Technologies, Inc.](#) has benefited me the experience of joining over 300 people in their quest to become successful entrepreneurs.

And along with my own ventures (over a dozen) when I've begun to pursue my own creations, they have all had one hugely undeniably important, life critical need,, funds!

I used friends and family, credit cards and equity loans, angel investors and convertible note holders, pitched hundreds of times and raised millions so I know the path, pains and pleasures of bootstrapping to doing trade shows to presenting to a hall of 400 industry experts looking for inventors. Like you.

So, its with great excitement I announce three new collaborations, one with crowd funding giant GoFundMe and one with SBA to make your entrepreneurial pursuits a bit easier!

### **Campaigns, loans and grants are great solutions starting with GoFundMe**

I recently spoke with GoFundMe co-founder Andy Ballester and their VIP team about creating a special campaign for finding funds for inventors to test their ideas, pre company launch.

They agreed to do a pilot program!

This will assist many struggling inventors & innovators to get started.

These funds will allow them to search, file IP & build prototypes to show for raising capital to launch or license. They started by sharing some campaign examples:

Hi Adrian,

I'm so happy to hear that you enjoyed the call. Andy and I did as well and we're excited to see some inventions come to fruition with the help of GoFundMe. As promised, I included a handful of fundraising examples below and also identified some highlights from each one.

[Help Bishop End Car Deaths](#)

This young inventor created a fundraiser to secure his patent for a device to alert authorities and cool down a child if left in a hot car. Bishop and his family did a great job with updates, thank you videos, and the overall why behind his invention.

### [Pediatric IV Backpack](#)

A young cancer survivor invented a pediatric backpack that would allow children mobility while receiving IV's or necessary treatments. You'll notice that this fundraiser was highlighted through various news sources. It also included Kylie's very clearly thought out plans and how and why she developed this. Kylie and her family also provided many updates including when prototypes didn't go as planned so donors knew where she was at during the process.

### [Mitch's Machine](#)

While not from the inventor themselves, this story highlights a family that would benefit from the invention itself. If inventors would like, they could do something similar that showcases a life or lives that would be impacted by their invention and the need for funds in creating it.

As for the keyword search, I'm not able to guarantee that a keyword in the story would be searchable; however, we do tend to have positive search results with an identifying keyword in the title. We've also seen several fundraisers who have added a hashtag (ex: #inventorsforum) to the title which can help when searching but again, this isn't a guarantee that all results and only these results would populate.

I'm working on putting together a fundraiser creation and how to share guide that will help your team specifically but in the meantime, please let me know if you have any questions or need anything additional.

Our alliance with GoFundMe will be awesome for American inventors and innovators just getting started! Its exciting to see how excited they are about this new alliance 😊

## **SBA is here to help inventors and innovators start business**

For those inventors that then decide to start a business, we are delighted to show and share how SBA can assist them in taking their ideas to that next level. I am thrilled to introduce our new friend [Valerie Torstenson](#), Outreach and Marketing Specialist, South Carolina District Office of the **U.S. Small Business Administration** has helped SCIF sign a Strategic Alliance Memorandum (SAM) that connects us to the SBA for assistance in getting loans for startups. Valerie will participate in our group meetings and share news, instructions and opportunities from the SBA.

I've shared the new of our association with GoFundMe to which Valerie replied: **That's a lot more than a little exciting! Thrilled to learn this.**

We invited Valerie to the UIA-CIO inaugural meeting to announce our new alliance and was delighted to hear her speak. After the event Valerie commented: **Thank you for affording me the opportunity to sit in! You are wonderful!!!!!!**  
**Introducing SCIF and the UIA to the rest of SBA today via our internal newsletter. Would love to share it, but the SBA Daily is an internal publication we use to share and communicate throughout the agency. Unauthorized to share externally. I anticipate others will have interest and will desire to reach out.**

Ms. Torstenson will supply contact information for the correct SBA Outreach and Marketing Specialist for each of the other nonprofit UIA-CIO members. On August 11<sup>th</sup> we are having our next SCIF zoom meeting, 7pm and will invite Valerie to attend!



### SBIR grants non-dilutive funds to startups

Some of you are working on ideas in areas supported by the government.

As our friends at the SBA will point out "SBIR and STTR **programs** fund a diverse portfolio of startups and **small businesses** across technology areas and markets to stimulate technological **innovation**".

The non-dilutive funds are available from all Departments of the government that write solicitations annually. (Agriculture, Commerce, Defense, Education, Energy, Health and Human Services, Homeland Security, Housing and Urban Development, Interior, Labor, State, Transportation, Treasury, and Veterans Affairs)

I met with Rupak Doshi, Ph.D. CEO OmniSync Incorporated thru Launch Factory as an Advisor. Omni sync, has a promotion that I think you will be interested in – it's a great opportunity for startups interested in non-dilutive funding. There is no upfront cost and very little work required - they provide the grant writer as part of the deal. Please share this with any startup company that you think would benefit:

Hi Adrian,

Pleased to meet you and always very happy to assist a Launch Factory advisor in any way we can. Below are some follow-up actions from our discussion.

1. For your entity to apply for grants – here is the link to sign up for our base tier from which we can begin to assist with proposal preparation for your grant applications -

[https://app.turbosbir.com/signin?priceId=price\\_1HjNhgG7hvvmgHG3W4vc6Cuc](https://app.turbosbir.com/signin?priceId=price_1HjNhgG7hvvmgHG3W4vc6Cuc)

2. For your community, here is a blurb that you can use to send out to interested parties:

[TurboSBIR](#) is a 'TurboTax'-style software solution that streamlines the process of finding and applying for govt. grants and contracts agency-wide, through team-collaboration and management tools. The software provides a comprehensive funding opportunity search engine, step-by-step application workflows, education guides, templates, and samples, including 1-on-1 consultations, as well as PhD-level grant writers to help share the proposal preparation responsibilities. We offer various pricing models, from DIY to premium support packages. We have the right solution for every kind of health and tech startup. We encourage you to create a free (no credit card needed) account on [www.TurboSBIR.com](http://www.TurboSBIR.com) to explore our AI/ML-powered funding opportunity search tool. To-

date, TurboSBIR has helped >200 companies prepare proposals, and raise >\$5M in completely non-dilutive (debt-free and equity-free) funding, with startups getting single grants/contracts ranging from \$50K (minimum) to \$1.5M (maximum). If you have any doubts about whether we know what we're talking about, see [here](#) and [here](#). Our investor pool includes people like Jeff Bezos, the first employee of Facebook, the US-French ambassador and many more high-profile groups. We're also routinely involved in creating collaborative opportunities between technical entrepreneurs and businesses seeking technical expertise, and in assisting entrepreneurs in all things to do with business creation and operations.

3. Our logo is attached
4. Promo code for 20% off for any folks who want to sign up for our support - **SCIFOMNI202120OFF**
5. Happy to do a webinar for your community and/or for the national consortium. Let me know some possible dates/times and we can pencil it in.

Let me know if I can help with anything else in the meantime.

TurboSBIR cuts through government bureaucracy to create a winning SBIR proposal with easy-to-use software and PhD-level guidance!

😊 Our national network of nonprofit clubs will truly be *"Helping folk create new businesses from their concept to commercialization."*

**SCIF First Annual Invention Contest is on August 25th @ 9am EST**

This month is going to be fun!!

SCIF Members will be presenting their inventions at our upcoming SCIF Inventor Contest LIVE meeting! Sergio has arranged for us to meet live at:

**NOMA Warehouse**

2222 Sumter St. next to Indah Coffee downtown Columbia.

This will be a combined event with 1MC.

"The South Carolina Inventors Forum, honored to be hosted by 1 Million Cups, *is delighted* to share the excitement of a local invention contest and invites everyone to attend our first contest on August 25th here in Columbia!"

Come meet 4 local recently patented inventors and innovators determined to become successful entrepreneurs, build new companies and job opportunities right here in Columbia South Carolina.

Each presenter will have 5 minutes to present and 3 for Q&A for a total 8 minutes to show and tell us:

1. Who they are and where they are from
2. What made them think of their idea
3. Show us the picture, product or prototype
4. Tell us where you are with it
5. What's next?

Here are our first 4 SCIF Invention contest contestants:

**Joseph Rogers**

Product Name: Belmont Safety Products Hatch Operator

Product Field: Industrial Safety



**Mary Hancock**

Product Name: Ultimate Automatic Opener

Product Field: Consumer



**Jerry ThreeFeathers**

Product Name: Boom Shade /Boom Solar

Product Field: Marine /Solar



**Rubie Williams**

Product Name: Dignify Hospital Bed

Product Field: Medical device





Main rule – patented in the past year or patent pending.  
Please spread the word 😊.  
Everyone present gets to vote for the winner!



The flyer for the SCIF 2021 Invention Contest features a lightbulb logo with a South Carolina map inside, a gold seal for the United Inventors Forum, and the 1 Million Cups logo. The text announces the contest on August 25th at the NOMA Warehouse, highlighting the opportunity for local inventors to present and be voted on by the audience.

**SCIF 2021 INVENTION CONTEST**

The South Carolina Inventors Forum (SCIF), honored to be hosted by 1 Million Cups, is delighted to share the excitement of a local invention contest and invites everyone to attend our first contest on August 25th here in Columbia next month! This is an amazing time in American history.

Come meet 4 local recently patented inventors and innovators determined to becoming successful entrepreneurs, build new companies and job opportunities right here in Columbia South Carolina! Each presenter will have 5 minutes to present and 3 for Q&A. Everyone present can vote for the winner.

When: Wednesday, August 25, 2021  
Where: NOMA Warehouse 2222 Sumter St  
Time: 9 - 10 AM

Logos at the bottom include: Columbia Economic Development, Indah Coffee Co., 1 Million Cups Columbia, Genius Repair Solutions, NOMA Warehouse, SCIF, SBA U.S. Small Business Administration, and Midlands Technical College.

We are grateful to Indah Coffee Co, Genius Repairs and NOMA Warehouse for their contributions.

We appreciate Midlands Technical College for their support as well.

It is a privilege to be associating with 1 Million Cups and I suggest all UIA-CIO clubs follow suit and make friends with their local group to help their members share their dreams and connect.

## ABOUT 1 MILLION CUPS

Based on the notion that entrepreneurs discover solutions and engage with their communities over a million cups of coffee, the **Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation** developed 1 Million Cups in 2012—a free program designed to educate, engage and inspire entrepreneurs around the country. Through the power of volunteers, **1 Million Cups has grown to more than 160 communities.**

As a program of the Kauffman Foundation, 1 Million Cups works with entrepreneurs, empowering them with the tools and resources to break down barriers that stand in the way of starting and growing their businesses. Mr. Kauffman believed it was a fundamental right for anyone who had a big idea to be able to bring it to life—and we're here to fulfill that mission.

## ABOUT THE KAUFFMAN FOUNDATION



Founded by Ewing Marion Kauffman, the Foundation is driven to provide uncommon ways to create opportunities and connect people to the tools they need to achieve success, change their futures and give back to their communities. **We believe that if you have an idea, you have a fundamental right to start a business to make it a reality.**

We also believe that opportunity lies in the fields of education and entrepreneurship.

### SCIF now has 5 BOD members

We are honored to present our two new BOD members:



[Sergio Aparicio](#)



[Douglas Lineberry](#)

We three original BOD members have one year remaining in our first two year term:



[Dr. Thaddeus Jones](#)



[Tom Ledbetter](#)



[Adrian Pelkus](#)

Thanks to Dr. Thaddeus Jones for getting June's meeting video on our SCIF YouTube page!

[https://youtu.be/V9l3\\_LSkd18](https://youtu.be/V9l3_LSkd18)

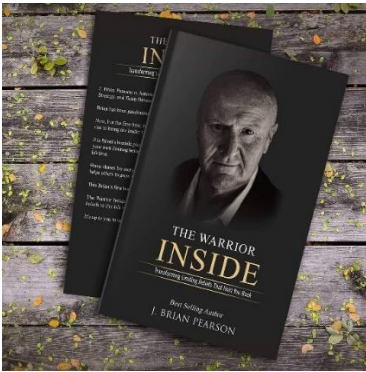


Fanatik Productions, LLC

<https://www.fanatikproductions.com/>

**We want to motivate you in many ways!**

Our friend [Brian Pearson](#), author of **The Warrior Inside: Transforming Limiting Beliefs That Hold You Back**, is a Business Strategist, Executive Coach, Speaker and Trainer.



Brian is an **Executive Director with the John Maxwell Team** and is graciously providing us his **Motivational Moment with Brian** to begin our meetings. Thank you, Brian!

**Aim For Progress—Not Perfection...**

From:



**Josh Malone** • Volunteer at US Inventor

*"I have a very special announcement for [#inventors](#) and supporters. US Inventor is conducting a survey for the 10 year anniversary of the America Invents Act and the creation of the Patent Trial and Appeal Board. Your response will determine the next steps for the inventor rights movement in America. Please take 1 minute to complete this short survey."*



Please take this AIA Survey. Thank you, *Adrian Pelkus*

<https://fs27.formsite.com/usinventor/aiasurvey/>

"THE ONLY WAY OF DISCOVERING THE LIMITS  
OF THE POSSIBLE IS TO VENTURE A LITTLE  
WAY PAST THEM INTO THE IMPOSSIBLE."  
ARTHUR C. CLARKE - AUTHOR AND INVENTOR



<https://usinventor.org/>

#### SCIF connects to the SBA!

We are pleased and honored to announce our friends at SBA are sharing news of our events!

Stay tuned for more news for inventors and innovators about connecting to the SBA 😊

Valerie Torstenson  
Outreach and Marketing Specialist  
South Carolina District Office  
**U.S. Small Business Administration**  
Desk: 803-253-3123  
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U.S. Small Business  
Administration



## Maker Camp is back!

Maker Camp is a free program full of projects, adventures, inspiration, and community. We are looking for Maker Camp Community Partners. That means you! Anyone can register: schools, libraries, clubs, or pods that are ready for a summer of making. The versatile framework is customizable for in-person, hybrid, or remote camps.

**Maker Camp 2021 launched July 6, 2021 with rich project resources and a great line up of featured makers including Mario the Maker Magician and Code Joy.** *More information about our Featured Makers, project resources, and materials coming soon.*

*Membership Supports:*

*Maker Camp*

*Maker Faire*

*Make: Magazine*

*Maker Campus*

*Learning Labs*

*Connecting People and Projects That Shape Our Future*



<https://makercamp.com/>

**SCIF involves you! Have questions, here is where to get answers!**

Thinking of any new products or services that may help in some way, shape or form make life easier? We share new ideas and motivating concepts almost daily on Facebook.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/448388996120060/>

Help for inventors and innovators, creators all!

Tell your creative friends and invite them to join our group!

We discuss the most important things needed to bring ideas to life and create wealth.

Join our group and come to our meetings to learn about inventing, innovating and the process of bringing new products to market. Meet with others and find friends, mentors and advisors.

Prepare your questions about inventing and ask local experts at Wednesday's Zoom meeting.

Prepare for launching your venture.

Mark your calendar for South Carolina Inventors Forum monthly meetings!

Monthly meeting format allows interactions and Q & A:

- Network
- Welcome & Thanks
- Motivational Moment with Brian Pearson
- What's new? Stories and new products shared by inventors
- Subject of the Month Presenter / Speaker
- Resources and New Opportunities
- Q&A
- Who Needs Who?
- Thanks & network

**Get all the Newsletters and Videos and more here!**

<https://southcarolinainventorsforum.org/>

**Web Admin assistant, Sponsors & Inventor Stories welcome**

**Help!! We need a backup admin for the website!!!!**

**SCIF Sponsors invited.**

*Supporting our vision to help people make new things, provide new services, build new businesses and create new jobs!*



**Platinum Sponsors** - \$2500-On banner and introduced at contest, Speaker of the Month, post in newsletter, website, and on monthly Agenda

**Gold** - \$1000- Speaker of the Month, post in newsletter, website and monthly agenda

**Silver** -\$500 - post in newsletter, website and monthly Agenda

**Bronze** -\$100 - post in newsletter & website

**SCIF welcomes stories about and by local inventors! We are calling for volunteers to help gather and write stories or folks to send theirs. Contact Adrian if you're interested.**

Send us yours or Become an "Inventor of the Month"!

Time onstage (~10-30 minutes) to pitch your product and get feedback.

Help motivate other inventors, come tell your story!

[Contact Adrian if you're interested.](#)

We thank you for your support!

## Non Profit Resources for Inventors

**United Inventors Association** is an Inventor Industry national membership foundation dedicated to inventor education and support of which we are proud to be a member.



[Learn more...](#)

**SCORE** can help you start a new business or improve your present business. For more information about the SCORE South Carolina free small business counseling and the low-cost workshop series, call 803-765-5131 or visit their [website](#).

[USPTO.gov](http://USPTO.gov)

<https://scribblesc.com/about>

<https://southcarolinainventorsforum.org/>

<https://www.scra.org/sclauchinc/>

## South Carolina Inventors Forum Major Supporters



### **Adrian Pelkus**

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**SCIF thanks its Advisors**



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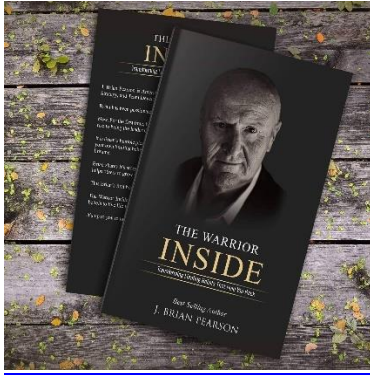


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**Brian Pearson**

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**SCIF thanks its Gold Sponsor**



**We Are Columbia**

**Phone: 803.734.2700**

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## SCIF thanks its Silver Sponsors



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**Patent Success Strategies**

**<http://www.patentsuccessstrategies.com/>**

**David Waller**

**(858) 768-1864**

**Have an inventive day!**

**Adrian**

**This newsletter was written by Adrian Pelkus**

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