**VCIC 2018 Winners and Finalists**

Inaugurated in 2015, the Connecticut Venture Capital Investment Competition engages teams of finance majors in evaluating the presentations by the business plan contestants. Investor industry judges in turn evaluate the investment analysis and decisions of the student investment teams.

**Fall 2018 Winner**. Southern Connecticut State

**2018 Fall Business Plan Competition Winners and Finalists**

**Fall Winners**

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| Elevator Pitch Olympics |  |  |
| **CATEGORY** | Winner | School |
| 1st | Matthew Gigante | QU |
| 2nd | Victoria McBrien | CCSU |
| 3rd | Evan Rigsby | QU |
|  |  |  |
| Personal Business Awards |  |  |
| **CATEGORY** | Wining Company | School |
| Written Summary | Dharma Gates | Wesleyan |
| Oral Presentation | Level Head, Level Up | Wesleyan |
| Social Enterprise | Dharma Gates | Wesleyan |
| Best in Show |  |  |
| First Place | Brainery | Quinnipiac |
| Second Place | Level Head, Level Up | Wesleyan |
| Third Place | Homecooked: Social Dining | Yale |
| Crowd Favorite: Personal | Wyseworks Guitars | CCSU |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| Venture Enterprise Awards |  |  |
| **CATEGORY** | Wining Company | School |
| Written Summary | RopeSafe System | Uconn |
| Oral Presentation | CT Analytical Corporation | UB |
| Best in Show |  |  |
| First Place | RopeSafe System | Uconn |
| Second Place | AKO Capital Management, LLC | Sacred Heart |
| Third Place | Ivorleaf | Housatonic |
| Awarding of legal services prize | RopeSafe System | Uconn |
| Crowd Favorite: Venture | AKO Capital Management, LLC | Sacred Heart |

**Fall Finalists**

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| **Team** | **Leader** | **Company** | **Product or Service** | **College** | **Adviser** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| PERSONAL CATEGORY | | |  |  |  |
| Talon | Bergen | **Bergen House** | Alternative beverages to bring community together | SCSU | Zheni Wang |
| Isaac | Filderman | **Brainery** | Freelance network to connect students and entrepreneurs | Quinnipiac | Dale Jasinski |
| Aaron | Stryker | **Dharma Gates** | Buddhist Monastic Gap Year Program | Wesleyan | Makaela Kingsley |
| Onoh | Udensi | **Divvy Campus** | Interactive application that connects students & colleges | University of New Haven | Brian Marks |
| Albert Kevin | Kim  Zhen | **Homecooked: Social Dining** | Social dining: small communal meals at homes of local cooks | Yale College | Kassie Tucker |
| Inayah | Bashir | **Level Head, Level Up** | Mental wellness program | Wesleyan | Makaela Kingsley |
| Isaiah | Thomas | **Rising Realty Stars** | Providing students of color internships in Real Estate | Wesleyan | Makaela Kingsley |
| Austin | Sapiente | **Wyseworks Guitars** | Modular Guitar System | CCSU | Greg Berry |
| VENTURE CATEGORY | | |  |  |  |
| Wilder | Rumpf | **AKO Capital Management, LLC** | Investment Platform For The Novice Investor | Sacred Heart | Erdil Cenk, Khawaja Mamun |
| Kyle | Trusch | **BackyARd Bunch** | Children's books that utilize augmented reality technology | Quinnipiac | Dale Jasinski |
| Joseph | Bango | **CT Analytical Corporation** | Downed powerline sensor | UB | Nasir Sheikh |
| Max | Amendolara | **Donum** | Gift cards made easy helping you save money | Quinnipiac | Dale Jasinski |
| Sahil | Kassam | **First Aid For Brain** | A portable and affordable epilepsy first aid kit | Quinnipiac | Dale Jasinski |
| Lance | Supersad | **IVORLEAF** | Cloud streaming college textbooks | Housatonic College | Pam Pirog |
| Jonathan | Norton | **RopeSafe Edge Protection System** | Edge Protection System - Load Bearing Ropes & Cables | Uconn | Michael Zacchea |
| Venkata | Kosaraju | **Tomday** | Lock/unlock home doors with smartphone biometrics | UB | James Dougherty |

**2018 Spring Business Plan Competition Winners and Finalists**

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**Spring Winners**

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| PERSONAL BUSINESSES |  |
| Best Written Executive Summary | 4 Paws Wearables |
| Best Oral Presentation | 4 Paws Wearables |
| Best Social Enterprise | Non-Verbal Intelligence Training |
| Best Product | Alta Mara |
| Best Business Plan/Model |  |
| First place | Select Underwriting |
| Second place | BeeSpoke Apiary |
| Third place | Homecooked |
| Legal Award from Law Offices of Cliff Ennico | Divvy Rooms |
| VENTURE ENTERPRISES |  |
| Best Written Executive Summary | Nawiri Organics |
| Best Oral Presentation | Direct Charge |
| Best Social Enterprise | Nawiri Organics |
| Best Product | Evolt |
| Best Business Plan/Model |  |
| First place | Tried and True Technology |
| Second place | EZ Bikes |
| Third place | Immersive Shift Labs |
| Legal Award from Wiggin and Dana | Pronto Fitness |

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| **Spring Finalists - Personal Businesses** |

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| **Team Leader** | | **Company** | **Product or Service** | **Adviser** | **School** |
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| Blythe | Serrano | **4 Paws Wearables** | Light-Up at Night Pet Collar | Stephen Mersereau | Norwalk Community College |
| Alina | Rodriguez | **Alta Mara** | Natural skin care | Paul Anastas | Yale School of Forestry |
| Brendan | Tyma | **BeeSpoke Farm and Apiary** | Honey Bee Starter Colonies | Ronald McMullen | Gateway Community College |
| Onoh | Udensi | **DivvyRooms** | Property management | Brian Marks | University of New Haven |
| Javon | Taylor | **Forever Harlem World** | Street wear for an urban influential | Pauline Assenza | Western Connecticut State |
| Kevin | Zhen | **Homecooked, Inc.** | App enabling guest to book homecooked dinner events. | Kassie Tucker | Yale College (Undergraduate) |
| Eric | Moglia | **Lazy Gamer** | Ergonomic, PC/ Console adaptive gaming chair . | Dale Jasinski | Quinnipiac University |
| Nate | Taylor | **Non-Verbal Intelligence Training** | Non-Verbal Intelligence Training | Makaela Kingsley | Wesleyan University |
| Kareem | Saleh | **Perfect Pancake Maker** | Self measuring and mixing batter device | Dorian Yanez | University of Bridgeport - SOB |
| Benjamin | Gross | **Pick-Up Sticks** | Landscaping for small property owners. | Drew Harris | Central Connecticut State |
| Crystal | Gonzalez | **Select Underwriting** | Underwriting consutlint | Irina Naoumova | University of Hartford - SOB |

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| **Spring Finalists – Venture Enterprises** |

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| Team Leader | | | **Company** | | Product or Service | Adviser | School |
|  |  | |  | |  |  |  |
| Ajay | | Menon | | **Aahar** | Fully Automated Surplus Food Management System. | Rahul Chaudary | University of Bridgeport - SOE |
| Brandon | | Vaughn | | **Direct Charge** | Diesel fuel reduction device for transportation | Maria-Isabel Carnasciali | University of New Haven |
| Alejandro | | Cañizares | | **Evolt** | Pure electric vehicle (EV) for a maintenance fleet | Hem Shertukde | University of Hartford - SOE |
| Anthony | | Mastrocola | | **EZ Bikes** | Bike Share Company for College Students | Chris Huntley,  Jeffery Moretz | Fairfield University - SOB |
| Mahmoud | | Morshedy | | **Immersive Shift Labs** | Holographic medical visualization using mixed reality | Mike Roer | University of Bridgeport - SOE |
| Sarah | | Omusula | | **Nawiri Organics** | Recycling waste by vermicomposting to produce organic fertilizers | Maureen Burke | Yale School of Forestry |
| Ryan | | Antell | | **Pronto Fitness** | Insurtech generating granular data for health insurance through fitness | Chris Hamer, Jeffery Moretz | Fairfield University - SOB |
| Max | | Padro | | **Skiledge** | A focused and strategic job search program. | Khoa Nguyen | Southern Connecticut State |
| Edward | | Brady | | **Tried & True Technology** | Application relaying only critical alerts to cardiac nurses | Dave Tomczyk | Quinnipiac University |