10th Annual
Womens Venture Summit
September 28-29, 2023

2023 Impact Report
The 10th Annual Women’s Venture Summit is an unmatched event that builds bridges between female founders and investors. The goals of the conference are to boost female founders’ access to capital and to grow the number of investors who invest in female-led startups.

Individuals from across the globe meet in a vibrant and intimate conference setting to explore opportunities for increased funding and collaboration.
In 2021, companies founded solely by women garnered 2.4% of the total capital invested, according to PitchBook data. But that number doesn’t tell the whole story. 2021 saw the creation of several women-led funds, incubators for female founders and more new companies.

In 2019, 2.8% of funding went to women-led startups. Though meager, this figure represents an all-time high. In 2020, funding fell to 2.3%, Crunchbase figures show. This comes after years of increases.

Through Sept. 2022, VC funding to women-led startups fell slightly to 2.3%, Pitchbook figures show.

Venture capital funding overall has surged in recent years, but the numbers haven't leapt forward for female founders at the same pace.
FEMALE (CO-)FOUNDED VC CAPITAL %

Still, only 2% of VC funding to solo female founders.

Source: Pitchbook 2022 US VC female founders dashboard
Volume of VC funding raised by Black and Latina women-led companies from 2018 to 2019 (in billion U.S. dollars)

Black and Latinx women-founded companies continue to receive the lowest amount of funding, however diverse teams outperform.

Companies in the top quartile of gender and ethnic diversity in their leadership were 21 percent & 33 percent more likely to have above-average profitability, respectively.

HERstory

BY THE NUMBERS

What about intersectionality?

an average of 27% outperformance

Volume of VC funding raised by Black and Latina women-led companies from 2018 to 2019 (in billion U.S. dollars)

Source: Statista
Nationally, VC-backed companies raised $73 billion this quarter, down 15 percent compared to $86 billion from last year, according to the PitchBook-National Venture Capital Association (NVCA) Venture Monitor report.

To sustain these new businesses, women founders need support & access to funding.

Time to exit for women founded companies decreased to 6.6 yrs in 2021 and increased to 7.7 yrs for all USA companies.

Women VCs account for 15% of VC investors — only 12% of women were general partners in 2019 — and female founding partners only make up 2.4% of all partners.

*TechCrunch
**Gusto/NAWBO
What about intersectionality?

Women founders receive only ~27% of angel funding (Pre-seed & Seed) and 2% of VC funding starting at Seed+ or Series A.

Startups with at least one female founder go on to hire 2.5x more **women** than startups with all-male founders.

Women investors (angels and women VCs alike) are **2x as likely to invest** in a women entrepreneur.*

This is why WVS is important.

To bring female founders and investors together.

*Kaufmann Foundation
Televised segment
Sept. 28, 2023

Website feature
Sept. 28, 2023

Featured Stella’s CEO Flossie Hall and Women’s Fast Pitch Finalists, Julie Gordon White, CEO MenoWell, and Debbie Dickinson, Co-Founder & CEO Thermaband.

BROADCAST REACH
900,000
San Diego adults 18+ each week
**Press release pickup**
Featured Women’s Fast Pitch Finalist

**Event announcement at top of Daily Business Report**
Featured Women’s Fast Pitch Finalists

**Website feature**
Featured Women’s Fast Pitch Finalist, Debbie Dickinson

**Newsletter mention**
Featured Women’s Fast Pitch Finalist, Cindy Belardo.

**Website feature**
Featured Women’s Fast Pitch Finalists

**Event recap in Business of San Diego Substack**
Recapped speakers, events and included quotes from Silvia Mah, Flossie Hall and attendees.

**Newsletter feature by San Diego Tech Hub**
Spotlighted Women’s Venture Summit and FOX interview
The values or goals of most pitch competitions are:
1. unleash potential
2. unlock opportunities
3. unveil access to capital
to propel aspiring entrepreneurs toward success.

Building community is GOOD work. For the startup ecosystem, investors show up to build a conSTELLAtion with all stars, big and small, balls of energy to massive giants.

In 2022, the Women’s Venture Summit attracted 74 VCs and angel groups to attend.

Our Stella Foundation team of AMAZING women succeeded in bringing 1.53x the amount of investors to the Women’s Venture Summit in 2023.

56% of NEW investors who are attending the Women’s Venture Summit this year. WELCOME! We have 44% returning early-stage VCs and investor groups, thank you for returning to this exceptional experience. YOU ARE HOME!
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Building Awareness
Women's Fast Pitch
WVS Schedule & Speakers
WVS 2023 Stats
Testimonials
WVS Showcase Exhibitors
Sponsors + In-Kind
During summer 2023, Women's Fast Pitch commenced.

It consisted of five live, virtual pitch competitions featuring incredible female founders from across the United States.

The finalists from each region are selected from hundreds of applications from an independent panel of judges based on rigorous selection criteria. 25 semi-finalists are then advanced to the national competition that took place on day two of Women’s Venture Summit 2023.
STATS

- Registrants: 535
- Applications: 168
- Semi-Finalists: 25
- Finalists: 5
- Reviewers: 5
- Judges: 20
- Presenters: 5
- Tech Checks: 10
Southeast Region

FINALIST
DEBBIE DICKINSON

MEET THE SEMI-FINALISTS

CONSTANZA GOMEZ
CALIFICADAS

MARGARITA WOMACK
LATIN GOODNESS FOODS

JESSICA WALKER
CARE SHERPA

LUCY KOSTURKO
SOCIAL CASCADE
Midwest Region

FINALIST

CORINNE VARGAS

SMARTCharts

98 ATTENDEES

MEET THE SEMI-FINALISTS

SHEILA BUSWELL
BUSWELL BIOMEDICAL

SHELLEY GUPTA
BĀKIT BOX

CANDICE COLLISON
OF AN ORIGIN

KATIE SHAHAN
YARLOW
Northwest Region

FINALIST

JOELLE TUDOR

CathConnect

90 ATTENDEES

MEET THE SEMI-FINALISTS

CONSTANZA GOMEZ CALIFICADAS
MARGARITA WOMACK LATIN GOODNESS FOODS
JESSICA WALKER CARE SHERPA
LUCY KOSTURKO SOCIAL CASCADE
Southwest Region

FINALIST
JULIE GORDON WHITE

ATTENDEES
88

MEET THE SEMI-FINALISTS

RONI CANTOR-BALAN
CICONIA MEDICAL

LINA BORGO
MINA HEALTH

JENNEY KORASICK
IT'S MY LECHE

CAMILLA MARCUS
WEST-BOURNE

WILDCARD FINALIST
CINDY BELARDO
sunny
Speakers

Cheryl Contee
The Impact Seat Foundation

Lila Inman
Cooley

Laurie Bauer
Cooley

Gabrielle De La Cruz
The Impact Seat Foundation

Alex Ashour
Cooley
JUDGES

Anna Von Wendorff
SCOPi MEDICAL

Ilana Brand
COLEY

Cheryl Contee
THE IMPACT SEAT FOUNDATION

Joanne Forster
WISHLY

Gabby De La Cruz
THE IMPACT SEAT FOUNDATION

Kristina Montague
THE JUMPFUND

Julius Alejandro
VILLAGE UP

David Loseke
JPMORGAN CHASE

Misti Cain
TECHSTARS

S'Marie Young
S'MARIE YOUNG COACHING

SPONSORS

Holland & Knight  Cooley  THE IMPACT SEAT FOUNDATION
HERstory: Why We're Here
Building Awareness
Women's Fast Pitch

WVS Schedule & Speakers

WVS 2023 Stats
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## Schedule

### Day 1

**Registration, Coffee & Networking**

- Morning Keynote

**Workshops**

- Empowering Women: Building Financial Readiness
- Navigating Alternative Investment Landscapes
- Driving Financial Returns Through Impact & Diversity
- Alternative Funding Options

**Breakouts**

- How Women Invest
- Paths to Exit... Or Not
- Protecting Your Assets
- Vajayjay for Your Payday

**Lunch & Explore**

- Show Her the Money
- Brand Your Way to the Bank
- DIY Fundraising from Angels
- Writing Your First Check

**Closing Keynote**

- Happy Hour

### Day 2

**Registration, Coffee & Networking**

- Morning Keynote

**Breakouts**

- Diversity Isn't Niche
- Retail Smarter: The Road to Retail
- Mental Wellness in the Startup Ecosystem
- Dare to Evolve: Navigating the Future and Owning It

**Workshops**

- Interactive Due Diligence
- Beyond Competition: Collaborative Success
- Roadmap to Revenue: Building a Winning Tech Product
- Powerful Women Investing in Powerful Women

**Lunch & Explore**

- Show Her the Money
- Brand Your Way to the Bank
- DIY Fundraising from Angels
- Writing Your First Check

**Workshops**

- Leveraging Your Constellation
- 2 Be or Not 2 Be...
- Introducing Ecosystem 2
- Advisory Team TIPS & TRICKS

**Paddle Raise**

- Closing Keynote
- WFP Winner Announced
- Afterparty
10 YEARS IN REVIEW

YEARS IN REVIEW

6964 ATTENDEES
6.2M IMPRESSIONS
385 INVESTMENT GROUPS
413 SPEAKERS
320K WEBSITE VISITS

2023

YEARS IN REVIEW

2023

392 ATTENDEES
310K IMPRESSIONS
115 INVESTMENT GROUPS
84 SPEAKERS
60.9K WEBSITE VISITS
2023 WVS Breakdown

- **183** Entrepreneurs
- **2.3K** PR views
- **91** Community members
- **119** Investors
- **86%** Female
- **$175K+** In-kind donations
- **$8,784** Ticket scholarships
- **$175K+** In-kind donations

2023 WVS Breakdown
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Already I've met some amazing founders that I've introduced to other investors in my community, just in the last couple of hours.

Bridgette Smith
Purpose Led Ventures

People are pushing the envelope, talking about what are we going to do to change things. It is ripe with innovation. It is the most loving container of founders and investors you can imagine.

Julie Castro Abrams
How Women Invest & How Women Lead

Women's Venture Summit has been truly transformative. You're surrounded by amazing women who are trailblazers, who are fierce, who are empathetic, who are leaning in to helping one another solve today's biggest problems.

Alicia Hanf
Dear Mama Ventures
Events like WVS, but also the work Stella does in their accelerator programs and fast pitch competitions...I can’t say enough about how much it matters that we have spaces for women to learn about what it looks like to build a company.

Diondra Taylor
Mindset & Milestones

What I love about Stella is what they’re doing to help women founders connect with women investors, and creating an inclusive startup ecosystem.

Julius Alejandro
Village Up SD & Ganas Ventures

This was an awesome event.... just meeting founders, women-led venture capital funds, and like-minded women and people that care about changing the world.

Geri Stengel
Ventureneer
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ECOSYSTEM SHOWCASE

24 EXHIBITORS
EXHIBITORS
In-Kind Donations
WOMEN’S VENTURE SUMMIT 2024

ELEVATE EQUITY

WOMEN LEADING THE CAPITAL CHARGE

SEPTEMBER 25-27, 2024 | SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

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thank you