

Bard Center for Entrepreneurship
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Press Ready Information
14 June 2007

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Entrepreneurial Winners Announced at Bard Center Business Plan Competition



Denver - Sandy Bracken, Executive Director of the Bard Center for Entrepreneurship announced the winners for the 6th Annual Business Plan Competition at the luncheon on 13 June, held at the Grand Hyatt, Denver.

First place and a cash prize of \$10,000 went to **Apex Design, PC** and Nate Algoe, Jason Osaki and Scott Thomas.

Apex Design, PC is a transportation engineering consulting firm. The firm provides services to the Intelligent Transportation Systems market. Their

customers include public sector transportation agencies, private industry developers and other consulting firms.

“We are extraordinarily pleased with this award and are pleased and honored to represent the Bard Center,” said Scott Thomas, Vice President of Apex Design, PC, as he accepted the prize.

Jeff Cahoon, Jeffrey Kohn and Tomas Kaplan with **Dizgo**, took second place and a prize of \$5,000. Dizgo is a mobile-based advertising for brick and mortar retailers. Using standard text messaging (SMS) technology, consumers in a shopping district can instantly locate discounts for the products and services they want to purchase

ValveXchange, led by Ivan Vesely, Ph.D., placed third and received \$2,500; in addition, the company was also awarded the BioScience Award with a \$5,000 prize. ValveXchange is a medical device company developing a two-part heart valve consisting of a surgically implanted base and an exchangeable bio-prosthetic tissue leaflet set. They provide a lifetime tissue valve replacement system that does not require use of anticoagulation drugs.

Three finalists earned \$1,000 each: **DenverVIP.com**, an online luxury lifestyle concierge company; **Red Rocks Motion Pictures International**, which was formed to create entertaining

pictures while offering new perspectives on filmmaking and current events; and **VenueJet**, an online venue search directory.

In addition to their placing, the six companies will receive in-kind prizes totaling over \$100,000 from the two dozen award sponsors. For more information contact the Bard Center at 303-620-4050 or visit www.cudenver.edu/bard.

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