



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Jan. 19, 2020

**MEDIA CONTACT**

Nathan Acevedo

630-401-5259

nathan@gener8tor.com

**Black and Brown Founders Invited to Pitch to Investors During Lightning Rounds**

*Free, virtual event to help close the investment gap on March 4*

**MADISON, WISCONSIN** - Nationally ranked startup accelerator [gener8tor](#) announced today an exciting opportunity for startups to pitch to investors through its Lightning Rounds pitch event on March 4, 2021. Lightning Rounds is gener8tor's quarterly event that connects startups with accelerators and investors via quick-pitch opportunities. Through Lightning Rounds, gener8tor's goal is to create an industry-leading pitching series centered on investing in underrepresented founders. gener8tor believes a gold-standard pitch event that connects diverse-led innovation, venture capitalists and thought leaders is long overdue.

According to BLCK VC, "more than 80 percent of venture firms don't have a single Black investor, and just one percent of venture-funded startup founders are Black." In addition, only two percent of venture capital investment goes to Latinx founders, according to the U.S. Securities & Exchange Commission. gener8tor hopes that by creating an opportunity for Black and Brown founders to pitch investors, we can work to close this investment gap and create better opportunities for underserved and untapped founders of color.

gener8tor will provide free office hours for startups who are not selected for pitches to coach them on improving their presentation skills and businesses so that everyone can walk away from the event with a positive experience.

One of gener8tor's goals is to close equity gaps for founders, continually improve the workforce and foster relationships with diverse communities and organizations that are dedicated to diversity, equity and inclusion.

The deadline for startups to apply is Feb. 1, 2021. To apply for a chance to pitch at Lightning Rounds visit [www.gener8tor.com/lightning-rounds/investor-pitches-black-and-brown-founders](http://www.gener8tor.com/lightning-rounds/investor-pitches-black-and-brown-founders). Investors interested in participating in this event can reach out to [nathan@gener8tor.com](mailto:nathan@gener8tor.com). This event is held in collaboration with [Northwestern Mutual Fund Ventures](#), [Bronze Valley](#), [American Family Institute](#), [TechTown Detroit](#), [Lightship Capital](#), [NVNG](#) and [midwest.tech](#).

For more information on Lightning Rounds, please visit [www.gener8tor.com/lightning-rounds/](http://www.gener8tor.com/lightning-rounds/).

###

**About gener8tor**

[www.gener8tor.com](http://www.gener8tor.com)

gener8tor's turnkey platform for the creative economy connects startup founders, musicians, artists, investors, universities and corporations. The gener8tor platform includes pre-accelerators, accelerators, corporate programming, conferences and fellowships.