

Annual *Report*

FY 26

The Hurt Hub *at* Davidson College

Jay Hurt Hub for Innovation and Entrepreneurship at Davidson College


The Hurt Hub
at Davidson College


Inclusive
Coworking

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A message from *Liz Brigham '04*

W. Spencer Mitchem '59 Executive Director of Innovation & Entrepreneurship

Dear friends,

One venture tells this year's story best. Dermalytixs formed at a Techstars Startup Weekend, bringing together a team of students, a community member and Dr. Nicole Snyder, our Cornelson Faculty Innovator-in-Residence. They then tested their innovation in Dr. Snyder's chemistry lab, were paired with an alumni mentor, Keith Kleeman '97 (our incoming Alumni Innovator-in-Residence), and won the Nisbet Venture Fund's acceleration track: an equity investment of $25,000. This summer, Jennet Ylyasova '29, a member of the team, continued that work as a Yoder Applied Research Fellow, working alongside Dr. Snyder. We were able to support their journey because of your generosity and the robustness of our programming.

The Davidson College Consulting Group closed its first year in the new model, growing to 43 students and serving 86 clients across 3,665 project hours, including 11 businesses in Chimney Rock recovering from Hurricane Helene. This year, we served over 400 Davidson students, faculty, staff, alumni, and Greater Charlotte community members, delivering 40+ educational programs with 54 volunteers and community partners. Our programs spanned cohort-based classes, lunch & learns, speaker series, and communities of practice, supporting participants' professional growth and business expansion.

Operationally, we focused on three strategic objectives: our rebrand, fourteen months in the making and visible in this report's new look and our redesigned website; making innovation an accessible skill, tool, and mindset for all; and accessibility, which moved from aspiration into daily practice through a shared best practices guide and closed captioning at major events, one of the clearest signs that inclusion is something we do, not something we say.

The Applied AI Lab is part of our next chapter, providing educational programming, speakers, hands-on exploration of tools, and consulting to help our community make informed decisions about AI. We also launched the Davidson Innovation Fellows program in partnership with the Matthews Center for Career Development and Lucid Bots, bringing everything full circle with our Alumni Innovator-in-Residence, Andrew Ashur '19. Lucid Bots has since hired four recent graduates, three shaped by Hurt Hub programming, exactly the kind of campus and community partnership the Hurt Hub was built for.

With gratitude, Liz

What we *believe*

Vision

We facilitate access and exposure to innovation and entrepreneurship for all Davidson students, alumni, faculty, staff, Hurt Hub coworkers and community members.

Mission

The Hurt Hub at Davidson College convenes innovators and entrepreneurs in the college community and the Greater Charlotte region to catalyze innovative solutions to critical problems through educational programming, experiential learning in a safe environment, an inclusive coworking space, uncompromising ethics, a robust mentor network, access to startup capital and innovation consulting.

Values

We believe innovation is born out of Freedom, Integrity and Inclusion.

Freedom to take risks.
Freedom to fail and to succeed.

Integrity is our expectation.

Inclusion is the foundation of everything we do.



The Hurt Hub *team*



Liz Ahwal

Marketing Manager



Andrew Ashur '19

Alumni Innovator-in-Residence



Meg Blanchard

Community Engagement and Operations Manager



Liz Brigham '04

W. Spencer Mitchem '59 Executive Director of Innovation and Entrepreneurship



Carleigh Damron

Community Coordinator



Wendy Johnson

Facilities Custodian



Erin Moreau

Assistant Director, Operations



Madeleine Page '20

Senior Learning Experience Designer



Amy Quilala

Assistant Director, Ecosystem Development



Evan Rozantes

Assistant Director, Innovation Portfolio



Dr. Nicole Snyder

Cornelson Faculty Innovator-in-Residence, Professor of Chemistry



Charles Smith

Entrepreneurship Program Manager



Amy Tirpak

Consulting Program Manager



Keith Varriale

Sales & Sponsorship Manager



Kelly Weaver

Community Experience Manager

Student team members

Delila Cruz ’28

Natalia Dascombe ’26

Jody He ’26

Clara Hudson ’28

Reyna Mehta ’29

Chidindu Ohaegbulam ’28

Pablo Quintero ’28

Victoria Ochieng ’27

Davis Moore ’27

Brooke Roumy ’27

Henry Royster ’27

Ceyda Yesillik ’28

A Year in Review

Fall 2025

SEPTEMBER 2025

Techstars Startup Weekend

More than thirty participants from Davidson, Elon, UNC Charlotte and the community. Fifty-four hours, six ventures.



OCTOBER 2025

Truist Immersive Learning

A two day program at the Truist Innovation Center in uptown Charlotte helping Truist reimagine the Truist Championship experience.



NOVEMBER 2025

DEN Innovation Showcase

IdeaSprint finals, CATS Pitch awards, Avinger Impact Fund winners and the FACES of Innovation Award to JP LeJacq.





OCTOBER 2025

DCCG Visits Chimney Rock

Student consultants supported eleven businesses recovering from Hurricane Helene and traveled to Chimney Rock to meet business owners on-site.



NOVEMBER 2025

First Maker's Market

Twenty-six local artisans, alongside the Staff and Faculty Art Reception with the Van Every/Smith Galleries at Davidson College.

A Year in Review

Spring 2026

MARCH 2026

Silicon Valley Spring Break trek

The second annual Entrepreneurship Club trek. Six students, six days, sixteen meetings.



APRIL 2026

Building a Lean Startup

Participants learned how to jumpstart their business ideas in this seven session course.



MAY 2026

Battledecks: An Improv Experience

Amy Quilala led participants through a crash course in improv with interactive activities.





MARCH 2026

Nisbet Lecture

A day with Spindrift founder Bill Creelman.



APRIL 2026

Nisbet Venture Fund Pitch

Ten student and alumni ventures pitched for funding to grow and scale their businesses.

Impact by the *numbers*

Education and community programming

400+
People served by in-person programming

40+
Educational programs delivered

54
Volunteers

23
Building a Lean Startup graduates, two cohorts

26
Maker's Market artisans



Impact by the *numbers*

Student experience



30+

Techstars Startup Weekend participants

22

IdeaSprint students across **5** teams

16

Meetings in six days, San Francisco trek

3

Internships from the trek

Impact by the *numbers*

Consulting

3,665
Davidson College Consulting Group hours

43
Student consultants

86
DCCG clients

110
Student applications to DCCG

11
Chimney Rock businesses served



Impact by the *numbers*

Digital Learning with edX



51,937
individual self-paced online learners

1 new course launched **3** in production

Impact by the *numbers*

Access to capital

26

Try It Fund awards

12

Industries represented

38%

International student recipients

9

Try It Fund recipients who went on to further Hurt Hub funding or mentorship



Impact by the *numbers*

Access to capital



6

Avinger Impact Fund ventures funded

$32,500

Available through the Nisbet Venture Fund

$20,000

Awarded through CATS Pitch

5

Community Try It Fund companies launched

Our FY26 Strategic *Objectives*

Beyond our core programs and services, we set three goals for FY26:

Innovation

Objective:

Make innovation an accessible skill for everyone.

Innovation objective work was led by Andrew Ashur ’19, Carleigh Damron, Amy Quilala, Evan Rozantes and Dr. Nicole Snyder.

Accessibility

Objective:

Set the standard for campus accessibility by identifying and removing visible and invisible barriers.

Accessibility objective work was led by Meg Blanchard, Maddy Page ’20, Erin Moreau and Amy Tirpak.

Rebrand

Objective:

Complete a comprehensive visual identity rebrand and website redesign, recommitting the Hurt Hub to the FACES we serve.

Rebrand objective work was led by Liz Ahwal, Liz Brigham ’04, Charles Smith, Kelly Weaver and Keith Varriale.

Our FY26 Strategic *Objectives*

Innovation

One of our team's collective objectives this year was to establish innovation as an accessible skill, tool, and mindset for all. We believe innovation is not confined to any one discipline; it belongs in how we learn, teach, and solve problems. Three core ideas guided that work: innovation should be learnable, inclusive, and applied. In practice, that meant building our own team's innovation skills first, then carrying that work into classrooms, campus processes, and community partnerships.

To lay the foundation for innovation initiatives across campus and the broader community, we first turned inward. We strengthened our own staff's innovation competencies through professional development, including the i2 innovation skills assessment and the launch of learning teams.

From there, we broadened innovation's reach beyond its ties to entrepreneurship, positioning it as something to explore through academic study, process improvement, and everyday problem solving. A few highlights from the year reflect that range: Dr. Snyder incorporated the innovation mindset into her course on public health challenges; our staff redesigned the interview process for the Davidson College Consulting Group (DCCG) into an engaging, role-playing learning experience; we continued supporting Hack@Davidson's Hackathon as a venue sponsor; and we maintained leadership involvement in the campus AI initiative while developing new courses on AI tools.

The Results

- **80% of team members reported measurable gains in innovation mindset characteristics**
- **Mobilized 20+ innovation experiments throughout the Hurt Hub community**
- **Launched 3 innovation initiatives with academic and student-support partners across campus**

Our FY26 Strategic *Objectives*

Accessibility

This year, we focused on making accessibility part of how we work every day.

We started by asking. Every event listing and registration form now includes accessibility questions, so attendees can tell us what they need before they arrive. We also wrote an event accessibility best practices guide for hosts. It covers venue selection, technology, catering, and ways to make sure everyone can participate. With the guide in hand, our whole team now plans events with accessibility in mind from the start.

Over the year, we put that planning into action. We offered closed captioning at major events, improved physical layouts, added new sound amplification technology, and built our digital communications around inclusive design.

To close out the year, we launched our first dedicated accessibility webpage. It shares our commitment, what to expect when you visit, a video tour of our building's accessibility features, and our best practices guide.

Accessibility is core to our mission of convening innovators and entrepreneurs in an inclusive, ethical, and welcoming environment. As needs change, we'll keep working to remove barriers to participation, both the ones you can see and the ones you can't.

The Results

8 new accessibility initiatives turned commitment into standard practice

Our FY26 Strategic *Objectives*

Rebrand

In July 2025, we began our visual identity rebrand the way we approach everything: by listening. We conducted qualitative research with each of our FACES of innovation (faculty, alumni, coworkers, community members, entrepreneurs, students, and staff) to understand how they see and experience the Hurt Hub. Their perspectives shaped every decision that followed.

Our search for the right creative partner led us to Cooth, a Charlotte-based agency with deep roots in the region's entrepreneurial ecosystem. Their team brought care and expertise to every stage of the work, from market research and rounds of logo iterations to new website copy and quality assurance testing for our redesigned site.

The result is a new identity centered on a mark of intersecting pathways, representing the overlapping communities we serve and the nonlinear nature of entrepreneurship. By adopting Davidson College's colors and typography, the brand makes our shared connection with the college more visible. The look is modern and bold, built to command attention today and endure for years to come.



The Hurt Hub
at Davidson College

Our FY26 Strategic *Objectives*

Rebrand















On September 3, more than 200 students, staff, faculty, alumni, coworking members, and community members joined us for A New Path Forward: Hurt Hub Rebrand Bash to celebrate our new brand and website. The celebration kicked off FY27, but the work behind it took shape throughout FY26, and we're proud to share it here as the culmination of that year.

Growing Entrepreneurship Across Greater Charlotte

Truist Charitable Fund

At the end of 2024, the Hurt Hub received a $300,000 grant from the Truist Charitable Fund, a shared investment in strengthening Charlotte's small businesses and underrepresented founders that continued to power our programming into FY26.

Truist Strategic Pillars	*Hurt Hub Initiatives*
Increase Access to Capital	Student and Community Based Pitch Competitions
Increase Access to Technical Support, Education, and Networks	Entrepreneurial Skills and Mindset Programming/Classes
Strengthen Equitable Small Business Ecosystems	Pro Bono Business Consulting, Speakers Series, and Mentorship

Growing Entrepreneurship Across Greater Charlotte

Truist Charitable Fund

With this support, we broadened our geographic and participant reach, connecting entrepreneurs across Greater Charlotte to startup capital, expert technical support, education, and networks that are building a more equitable small business ecosystem.

Goals	*Outcomes*
Catalyze the launch of 25 new businesses in the Greater Charlotte region	26 new businesses launched
Provide access to over $35,000 in startup capital	$35,000 in startup capital provided
Support at least 70 small businesses through 3,000 pro bono consulting hours, removing cost as a barrier for owners	4,198 pro bono consulting hours provided
Increase educational programming participation by 20%	Increased educational programming participation by 30%
Drive positive influence in business growth and/or professional development & skill building in at least 90% of programming participants	96% of programming participants reported a positive influence in business growth and/or professional development & skill building

Truist University Immersive Learning Experience

The University Immersive Learning Experience, hosted by Truist, is a two-day program in Charlotte that brings students from Davidson College, Appalachian State, Johnson C. Smith, UNC Charlotte, Queens, and Wingate together with client and partner companies to tackle real-world business challenges. Each university team takes on a different project. The 13 Davidson students, supported by the Hurt Hub, were asked to reimagine the fan experience at the Truist Championship, a PGA Tour event, working alongside team members from Cisco. Unlike other teams, which were solving clearly defined problems and building working prototypes, the Davidson group had a more open-ended charge: envision a new experience and the technology that could support it. Using human-centered design and rapid prototyping, they turned early ideas into final presentations, and along the way they networked with company representatives and toured the Truist Innovation Center. For many participants, the experience showed how a liberal arts approach, drawing on psychology, creativity, and technology at once, can translate directly into professional problem-solving.



Students from all universities and colleges represented at the event.



Cillian Hallinan ’28 speaking to his peers during a brainstorming session.



Davidson College students presenting their final presentation.

Amplify Davidson

Amplify Davidson, a partnership between the Hurt Hub and the Town of Davidson, is dedicated to helping local small businesses and emerging entrepreneurs succeed. The initiative provides skills-based educational programming, small business consulting, and access to talent through the Davidson College Consulting Group, giving participants the tools and knowledge they need to grow.

By connecting the expertise and energy of Davidson College with the creativity and resilience of local business owners, Amplify Davidson strengthens the economic and social fabric of our community. Each engagement creates ripple effects, supporting individual businesses, fueling innovation, and contributing to the long-term vitality of the Town of Davidson and the region beyond.

Consulting through Amplify:

- **21** businesses served
- **532** consulting hours delivered

Workshops & Cohorts:

- **6** learning opportunities, ranging from single-session workshops to multi-week series
- **65** entrepreneurs and business owners served

Programs & Initiatives:

- Monthly Solopreneur Circle
- Building a Lean Startup class
- Entrepreneurial Mindset Cohort
- Small Business Workshops (Grow with Google, Truist Bank on Your Success Series)
- Leading the Change: Women Shaping Sustainable Futures Conference
- Pro Bono Small Business Consulting
- Pro Bono Engagements with the Davidson College Consulting Group

Testimonials

"Working with the students was an absolute pleasure. They are exceptionally bright and personable with excellent communication, organizational, and planning skills."

- Flora Wang, ANT Insurance

"I feel I have learned a lot that will help my business flourish. The book was amazing, the videos showcasing experiences of other entrepreneurs were eye-opening & I really enjoyed the speakers that came to our class. It has been extremely helpful for me to set a plan of action in place & I am very optimistic for 2026."

- Fall 2025 Entrepreneurial Mindset Participant

Educational Programming

The Hurt Hub's in-person educational and community programming served over 400 Davidson College students, faculty, staff, alumni, and members of the broader Northern Mecklenburg community this year. With the help of exceptional instructors, student and community partnerships, and 54 volunteers, we produced 40+ educational programs.

Our programming includes:

- Entrepreneurship Cohorts and Discussion Groups
- The Hub & Spoke Speaker Series
- Small Business Skill Development Workshops, Labs, and Roundtables
- Innovation Community of Practice
- Design Thinking & CliftonStrengths Workshops
- Techstars Startup Weekend

Time and again, participants credited their instructors' expertise with unlocking real, practical progress in their businesses. As one Small Business Skills Lab participant shared: "Jason was awesome! So helpful, knowledgeable and approachable. I never would have known that no one was finding my website via searches because I wasn't following the SEO and HTML rules. So this workshop was game-changing for me!"



Small Business Skills SEO workshop instructor Jason Shaffer with participant Chef Maria Kemp.

IdeaSprint Mathare: *Five Weeks, Five Ventures, One Community Transformed*

In January 2026, Victoria Ochieng '27 stood before a room of aspiring entrepreneurs in Mathare, a densely populated neighborhood in Nairobi, Kenya and challenged them to stop waiting for opportunity and start building it.

Victoria designed IdeaSprint Mathare, a five-week, team-based entrepreneurship program, drawing on her Hurt Hub roles as Community and Events Ambassador and Programs and Events Specialist, her leadership of the Davidson College Entrepreneurship Club, and her venture, Koredo Koir.

The curriculum was built on DavidsonX's Building a Lean Startup course on edX, taught by Rebecca Weeks Watson, and our DavidsonX team provided pro bono access so every participant enrolled free. Each Saturday, teams gathered for three-hour sessions, then took their ideas into the streets of Mathare to learn from the residents they hoped to serve. Mentors, Nairobi guest speakers, and micro-grants helped move concepts to prototypes.

By the February 21 showcase, five ventures had taken shape: Ubunifu Kit, affordable play kits for early classrooms; Gesyi Hub, printing and design services for schools; Nadra Initiative, professional attire and interview coaching for job seekers; Team Klin, low-cost cleaning for shared toilet facilities; and Afripicha, digital media and storytelling for NGOs and community initiatives.

Over 40 people applied for 20 spots. Eighteen participants earned certificates, 12 Nairobi entrepreneurs and business leaders served as speakers, mentors, and judges, and the winning team received $540 to keep building. Participants named mentorship, the Lean Startup course, and guest speakers as the most impactful parts of the experience.

For the Hurt Hub, IdeaSprint Mathare represents something powerful: proof that the tools, mindset, and methodology cultivated on Davidson's campus can travel, and that a single student with the right support can create a program that changes lives thousands of miles from North Carolina. Victoria built a community of practice, embedded it within local partnerships, and centered the people of Mathare as the designers of their own solutions.







"The platform was user-centric and the modules were easy to follow. I can attest that this was way better than other courses I've taken. We touched on everything needed."

— Eugene Wema, IdeaSprint Mathare participant and co-founder of Afripicha

Solopreneur Circle

Each month, solo entrepreneurs gather at the Hurt Hub for the Solopreneur Circle, an intimate community facilitated by Michelle McKown-Campbell. Over coffee and candid conversation, members celebrate wins, work through challenges, and discover resources alongside people on similar paths.



"Through the group, I learned about the valuable resources at the Hurt Hub and gained a supportive community of experienced entrepreneurs... I honestly don't think I would have made as much progress in my business without the Solopreneur Circle."

- Solopreneur Circle member

Building a Lean Startup

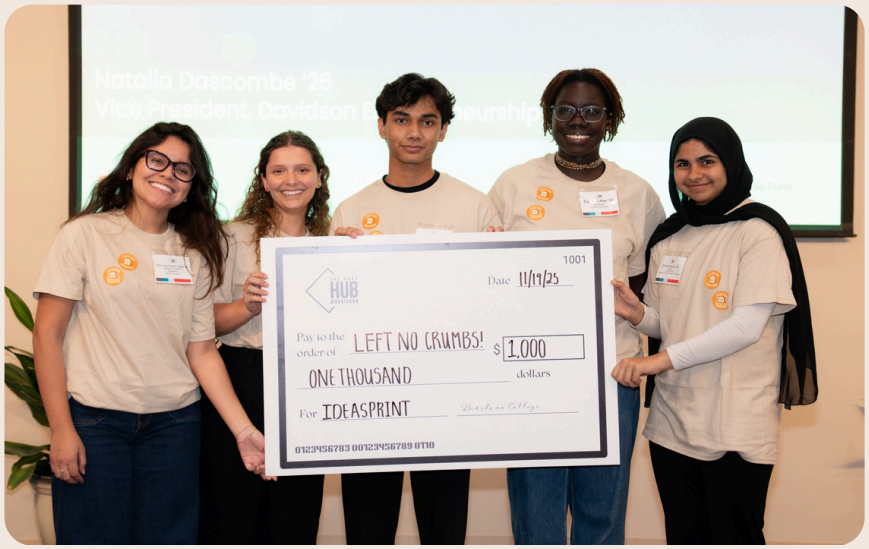
Across two cohorts, twenty-three people completed Building a Lean Startup, facilitated by Rebecca Weeks Watson, with students, staff, community members, and entrepreneurs from across Greater Charlotte in the room together. Graduates were then invited to apply for a Community Try It Fund microgrant. Made possible by the Truist Charitable Fund, the program awarded $1,000 grants to five new companies during the year, among them Sincerely Tea House, now open on Davidson's Main Street.

"As a first-time solopreneur, this course has given me the playbook for building my business model. A startup is constantly faced with uncertainty, but I can be intentional about using small experiments to figure out the best way forward."

- Anonymous, Fall 2025 Building a Lean Startup graduate



IdeaSprint



The Davidson Entrepreneurship Club, in collaboration with the Hurt Hub, co-led the second annual IdeaSprint, a month-long competition designed to foster innovation and action. IdeaSprint is a team-based competition where groups of Davidson students aim to tackle an ongoing problem, or challenge, on campus. Each team was provided $200 in seed funding to develop a prototype, presentation materials, or whatever else they needed to assess and test their idea.

After a month of work, mentorship, guest lectures, and late nights, the teams presented their solutions to a live audience attending the Hurt Hub's Davidson Entrepreneurship Network Innovation Showcase. Twenty-two students across fine teams presented their solutions to over 100 live participants. At the end of the evening, Left No Crumbs!, a food security initiative on Davidson's campus, was crowned the winner.

Silicon Valley Spring Break Trek

Six students. Six days. Sixteen meetings. Through the second annual Entrepreneurship Club Spring Break Trek, the Hurt Hub co-led a week in San Francisco that put students inside one of the country's most important startup ecosystems. Made possible by the generosity of Ed Van Deman '69, the trip connected participants with leaders across sectors, where they saw the real benefits and costs of venture-backed growth, the speed at which AI is reshaping tech, and the high bar top companies set for engineers at every age. Just as lasting was a firsthand look at the depth and diversity of the Davidson alumni network. The impact extends well beyond the week: past participants have found internships, mentors, and colleagues through these trips.



"Every alum we connected with gave us real time and real honesty... It reminded me that the Davidson community is something worth actively investing in, not just something that looks good on paper."

- Natalia Dascombe '26

NEXT Level: *Learning by Doing*

What happens when a student project has a real client, real data, and real decisions riding on the outcome? That's NEXT Level.

NEXT Level (Network Engage eXplore Together) connects first-generation sophomores with local businesses, entrepreneurs, and organizations that need fresh perspectives and innovative thinking. Over eight weeks, each student takes on a paid project for a client partner who serves as both project sponsor and mentor. Weekly meetings give students professional guidance and a clear view of how their skills create value beyond the classroom. In FY26, 15 students partnered with 12 organizations.

One of those partnerships paired Eliza Park ’28 and Branton Mogeni ’28 with the Davidson Housing Coalition (DHC) on donor development. The two dug into DHC's donor data to identify giving patterns and opportunities to grow support. Along the way, they learned how relational databases work, how to analyze data, and how information shapes decision-making at a nonprofit.

The work had a real audience: Eliza and Branton presented their findings directly to DHC's board.

For students, NEXT Level is about more than a line on a résumé. It means working alongside professionals and seeing how their work contributes to an organization's goals. For community partners like DHC, which is also a Hurt Hub coworking partner, it brings fresh perspectives and meaningful student talent to work that matters.



Eliza Park ’28 and Branton Mogeni ’28 pose with Davidson Housing Coalition Executive Director Connie Wessner.

"The program was really great, and the involvement with valuable co-workers and clients made it even better," Eliza shared. "Thanks so much for the opportunity!"

That exchange is at the heart of NEXT Level: students gain the confidence and experience that come from doing meaningful work, while community partners gain new perspectives that help move their work forward.

Design thinking on campus: *How might we?*

Design Thinking sessions facilitated by the Hurt Hub often start with a deceptively simple question: How might we?

It sounds simple, but it changes the conversation. Instead of jumping straight to an answer, participants slow down, get curious, and spend time figuring out what problem they are actually trying to solve.

In FY26, the Hurt Hub brought that question to students, faculty, and campus programs in a variety of ways. It anchored two semester-long Design Thinking cohorts, became part of the NEXT Level experience, and showed up in smaller group sessions throughout the year.

For NEXT Level students and their client partners, leading with “How might we?” offered a new way to approach their projects. Rather than feeling pressure to have the right answer from the start, they were encouraged to ask better questions, explore possibilities, and stay curious about where the work might lead.

The fall cohort, Power of Purpose, invited students to think about how purpose shapes the way they make decisions and approach challenges. Ally Williams ’26 captured the value of that pause: “As a college student, it's easy to get lost in the sauce of day to day life and little dramas… [The Power of Purpose] helps you extend past your direct perspective and remember there is much more to your life.”



Student Ally Williams ’26 on graduation day.

In the spring, Unlocking Creativity brought the Hurt Hub’s first faculty participant into the cohort. A biology faculty member joined to explore how Design Thinking might fit into her teaching. By the final sessions, she had identified ways to incorporate the approach into her spring course, Being Human in STEM, and invited the Hurt Hub to help facilitate portions of the course.

That’s the bigger opportunity: weaving a Design Thinking mindset into campus through courses, student organizations, and Hurt Hub programming. The goal is for “How might we?” to become less of a workshop exercise and more of a habit of mind.

Consulting

Davidson College Consulting Group by the numbers:

- 3,665 consulting hours delivered
- 43 student consultants
- 86 clients

Small Business Consulting the numbers:

- 94 consulting hours delivered
- 28 clients



Davidson College Consulting Group

This fiscal year marked the Davidson College Consulting Group's first full year of operation as a formal program, and the results exceeded every early projection. What launched in summer 2025 with seven students and a pilot model grew into a 36-student team by fall. Demand from both students and clients has been consistent and strong. More than 100 students applied to the program, and projects are booked approximately three months in advance.

Over the course of the year, DCCG served 86 businesses, spanning industries from technology and financial services to hospitality and sustainable goods. Clients range from pre-revenue startups to established companies with multi-state operations, and they come to us through referrals, the Hurt Hub community, municipal partners, and Davidson's broader alumni and family networks. DCCG also extended its work into Western North Carolina, partnering with 11 businesses in Chimney Rock as the town recovered from Hurricane Helene. Students traveled to Chimney Rock in October for an on-site visit to meet directly with business owners and see the impact of the storm firsthand.

The student experience has matured alongside the program's growth. Consultants work in small teams on projects spanning customer research, market intelligence, growth strategy, data analysis, and digital solutions while developing real skills in client communication, project management, and professional delivery. Beyond project work, the group meets every two weeks for a shared meal and professional development opportunities. This year's programming covered topics like design thinking, improvisation, and building AI agents, and featured guest speakers including executive coach Donna Peters '89, professor emeritus Dr. John Kello, and recent alumni working at McKinsey.





"This program has been incredibly rewarding by allowing me to solve problems for clients and businesses and truly make a difference. DCCG has pushed me to figure out what I'm passionate about while shaping both my personal and professional growth."

- Clara Hudson '28

Small Business Consulting

This year, members of the Hurt Hub leadership team provided 94 hours of consulting to small businesses, serving as both thought partners and problem-solvers for local entrepreneurs. We collaborated with business owners on challenges ranging from operational efficiency and strategic planning to marketing and finance. We also partnered with the Charlotte Mecklenburg Library North County Regional Branch in Huntersville to bring pro bono, one-hour consulting sessions directly to entrepreneurs in the community, meeting with 7 business owners through that initiative.

Our approach is intentionally personal: we meet founders where they are, listen closely to their goals and concerns, and co-create practical, ready-to-implement solutions. Just as importantly, we provide encouragement, perspective, and a trusted space to think through challenges without judgment.



"Working with the Hurt Hub team has increased my confidence as a business owner and helped me step into a more strategic leadership mindset. Amy and Evan provided thoughtful guidance around structuring processes, improving efficiency and navigating a potential partnership. I now feel more grounded, more prepared, and more intentional about how I grow Good Bubbas."

- Ashley Cunningham, Good Bubbas

Digital Learning and the Applied AI Lab

DavidsonX by the numbers:

New course created: Building AI Agents for Beginners

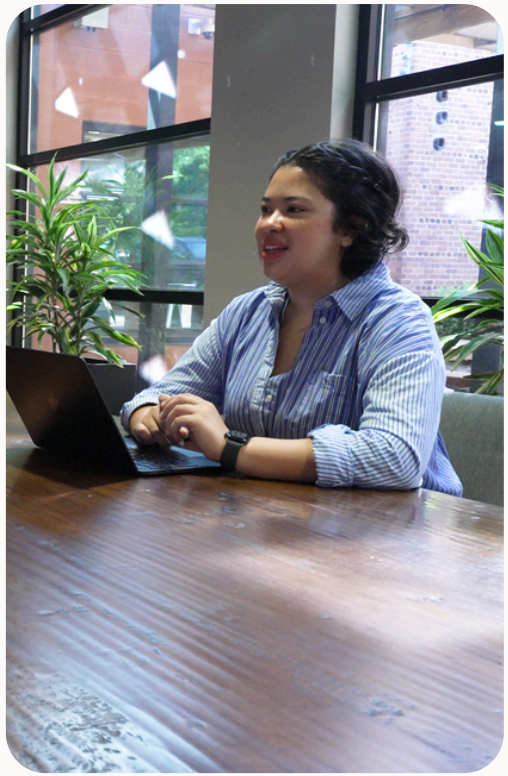
835,156 learners engaged to date

What the Applied AI Lab is

Our goal is to prepare students and our community to navigate and shape a future where AI is woven into how we work, learn, and create. We do this with curiosity, rigor, and ethical awareness, through five focus areas:

- Learn by building. Students and community members create, test, and iterate real AI systems.
- Applied research and inquiry. Original AI research alongside faculty, staff, alumni, and community partners.
- Campus tools and student life. AI solutions for real administrative, academic, and student experience challenges.
- Community and local impact. Partnerships with the Town of Davidson and regional organizations to bring AI capability to startups and small businesses.
- Ethics, governance, and reflection. Ethical reasoning embedded in every project.

The Lab lives inside an active innovation ecosystem: student venture funding, community consulting through the Davidson College Consulting Group, and daily proximity to a coworking community of 234 members representing roughly 169 businesses.



Joe Holmes and building AI Agents for Beginners

Joe Holmes builds the tools he teaches. As founder and lead of Curriculum AI Labs at Codecademy, he spends his days shipping production AI tools and training teams at companies like Dell and Microsoft to put AI agents to work. When DavidsonX set out to build a course that could take working professionals from curious to capable, Joe brought the blend the Hurt Hub looks for: real technical fluency paired with a teacher's instinct for making hard things approachable.

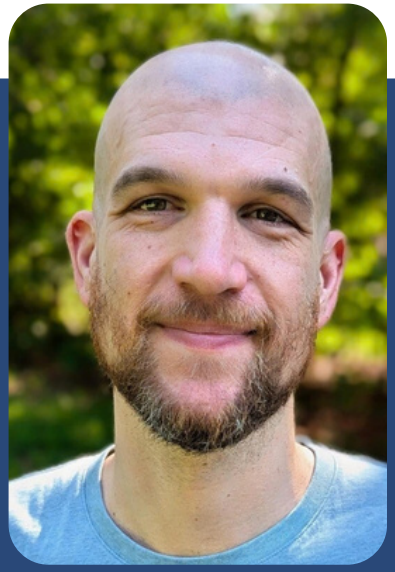
The result is Building AI Agents for Beginners, a four-week, no-code course that meets learners wherever they start. Students move from prompting today's most capable AI models like a power user, to building automated workflows that run across sessions, to connecting AI to the tools they already use, to directing autonomous agent software on their own computers.

The course reflects a conviction Joe and the Hurt Hub share: that building and directing AI agents is fast becoming a core professional skill, and that it belongs in everyone's hands, not only engineers'. Joe's own path mirrors that belief. He came to AI engineering by way of a philosophy degree, a route that echoes Davidson's commitment to liberal arts learning applied to real-world problems.

Joe went on to partner with the Applied AI Lab in hosting a learning hackathon for a group of Davidson College students who built apps, websites and research tools using the skills they learned in the course and during Joe's seminar. Students will use this high-impact experiential learning opportunity as a springboard into their AI experience as well as for portfolio projects to bring to future employment conversations.

"It has been a delight working with Davidson and the Hurt Hub to deliver an approachable, world-class AI curriculum for everyone. The lean start-up mentality of the Hurt Hub, coupled with the rich, liberal arts worldview at Davidson, created an inspiring environment for me to develop my agentic AI curriculum in partnership with the Hurt Hub team. The recent success of our learning hackathons suggests the Hurt Hub's Applied AI Lab has a very bright future ahead."

— Joe Holmes



Access to Capital

The Hurt Hub offers access to capital for students, alumni, faculty, and local entrepreneurs to fuel expansion of their innovative ideas. We believe that transformative ventures require more than just funding; they need comprehensive support through guided mentorship and strategic resources to help entrepreneurs navigate every stage of their growth journey.

Student funding opportunities:

- Try It Fund
- Avinger Impact Fund
- R. Craig and Sheila Yoder Applied Research Fellowship
- Nisbet Venture Fund Pitch Competition

Community funding opportunities:

- Community Try It Fund
- CATS Pitch



Try It Fund

The Try It Fund, made possible through the generous support of the Charlie Hinnant ’72 Fund, Davidson alumni, and community sponsors, empowers Davidson students to transform creative and innovative ideas into reality with grants of up to $1,000. At the beginning of the academic year, we purposefully repositioned the Try It Fund as a mechanism to de-risk students taking the first step toward making their idea a reality, and to serve as a stepping stone toward in-depth mentorship and additional funding. That approach proved sound as the 2025-2026 academic year saw the Try It Fund continue to serve as a launch pad for innovative student ideas and ventures.

The Try It Fund had a record year by volume, with **26 awards across 12 industries**, and also helped innovators and founders grow their ideas beyond the scope of their initial awards. In particular, nine Try It Fund recipients applied for, and received, mentorship and funding through other Hurt Hub opportunities. Additionally, seed funding through the Try It Fund drove the formation of multiple companies and significant progress towards product patents.



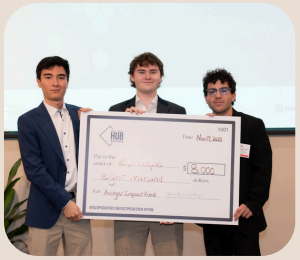
“I am extremely grateful to the Hurt Hub for their support … and impactful guidance throughout my project. Our meetings were very helpful for figuring out various logistics such as creating and promoting a brand, and taking the steps to start receiving compensation for my services and the value they hold. The Try It Fund has given me a significant boost in the world of photography and has helped give me the confidence to continue pursuing this endeavor on a heightened level post-grad.”

— CJ Jenkins ’26

Avinger Impact Fund

Established in honor of Robert L. Avinger, Jr., a member of the Davidson Class of 1960 and professor of economics from 1967 to 1980, the Avinger Impact Fund fuels the vision, qualities, and passions of an innovator, with a focus on creativity, energy, and initiative that will lead to success in future endeavors. This focus on the energy and passion of the innovator, as opposed to simply their idea, is what makes the Avinger Impact Fund so unique. During the 2026 fiscal year, the selection committee funded six ventures.

Fall 2025 Winners:



Daulet Berdikulov '28, Isaiah Dinar '28 & Cillian Hallinan '28

Zip Campus



Henry Russell '26

Campus Swap



Srijit Banerjee '26 & Anushri Modi '26

CaseMock

Spring 2026 Winners:



Eli Lacey '29

Align Stabilization



Sumin Kang '27 & Taehee Kim '27

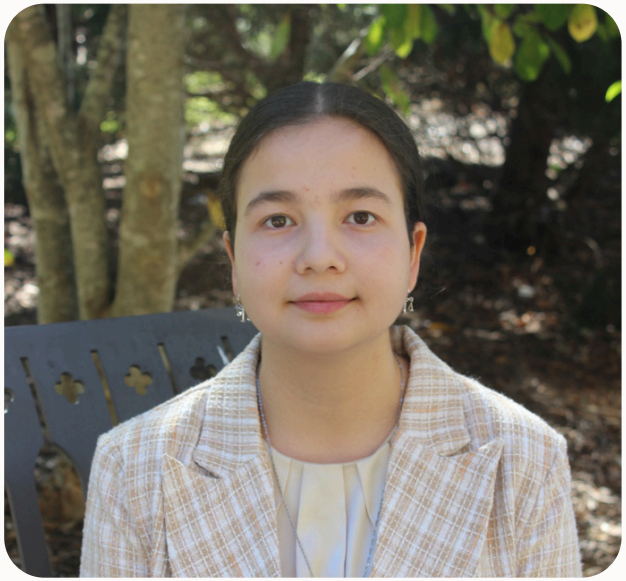
Hodam



Jacary Lightsey '27

CaryMadeThose

R. Craig and Sheila Yoder Applied Research Fellowship



Each summer, the R. Craig and Sheila Yoder Applied Research Fellowship gives one student the time and support to turn an idea with commercial potential into real-world application. Fellows own both the idea and its implementation, working alongside a Davidson faculty mentor and a subject matter expert from a related industry partner.

This year's fellow, Jennet Ylyasova '29, spent the summer with faculty mentor Dr. Nicole Snyder advancing Dermalytixs, the startup she built from her own personal experience. Her rapid diagnostic test strip had already been validated in the lab; the fellowship moved it toward realistic conditions. Jennet and Dr. Snyder developed and troubleshot the strip, tested it across different biological matrices, and began evaluating it with human samples (her own, at this stage). Her goal was twofold: confirm the strip works, and determine whether Dermalytixs can become a viable, scalable product that improves access to early infection detection.

> "It taught me how differently science behaves outside ideal conditions and how much patience, iteration, and collaboration it takes to move an idea closer to something that could one day help people."
>
> — Jennet Ylyasova '29

The fellowship is made possible through the generous support of R. Craig and Sheila Yoder. This fellowship gives students like Jennet the time and freedom to explore the questions they care about most.

Bill Creelman Brings Real Ingredients and Real Talk to the 12th Annual Nisbet Lecture

Spindrift founder and chairman Bill Creelman spent a full day with the Davidson community as our 12th Annual Nisbet Lecturer, and he made every moment count.

The day started over coffee and pastries with our coworking community, where Bill joined a casual conversation in the Hurt Hub lobby and fielded questions from members. That afternoon, he held office hours with Davidson students, meeting in small groups to talk through ideas, career paths, and the realities of building a business.









The evening brought the main event. After opening remarks from President Doug Hicks ’90, Bill sat down for a dinner conversation with Alumni Innovator-in-Residence Andrew Ashur ’19, founder and CEO of Lucid Bots. Bill shared the story behind Spindrift, the first sparkling water in America made with real squeezed fruit, and the conviction that has guided the company since 2010: use real ingredients, and make the right decision even when it isn't the easy one.

Students and community members alike left inspired. True to form, Bill stayed long after the program ended, trading stories with guests over dessert and coffee.

Thank you, Bill, for your generosity, candor, and time.

Nisbet Venture Fund



Established in 2014 through the generous support of Marian Nisbet and Dany and Chip Nisbet ’86, the Nisbet Venture Fund gives Davidson students and alumni up to five years post-graduation the chance to compete for up to $32,500 in grants and investments for their for-profit ventures. This year, teams led by first-year students swept all three tracks.

Acceleration Track ($25,000 equity investment, managed by Davidson’s endowment in partnership with the Hurt Hub): Dermalytixs. Founders Leeya Chaudhuri ’29, Arya Mody ’29, Casey O’Keefe ’29, Jennet Ylyasova ’29, Cal Ross ’29, and Maria Kemp formed the team at the Hurt Hub-sponsored Techstars Startup Weekend. They are developing a rapid, low-cost test strip for early detection of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* infections. A Try It Fund award, a Yoder Applied Research Fellowship, and work in Dr. Nicole Snyder’s chemistry lab have already yielded the team’s patent. Now the team is pushing both the science and the business forward.

Incubation Track ($5,000 grant): Align Stabilization. Living with patellar tracking disorder, Eli Lacey ’29 set out to build a better knee sleeve. With timely mentorship and funding, he took it from paper sketches to production, working with manufacturers, testing materials, and consulting clinicians to land on a novel, low-profile design.



Entrepreneurial Excellence Award ($2,500 grant): Aqualux. DJ Ahn ’29 saw opportunity where others saw hassle. Maintaining his family’s pool showed him how quickly water chemistry shifts, so he built a floating autonomous robot that monitors conditions and dispenses chemicals in real time.



The formation and success of the Dermalytixs team is a true example of the power of purposeful serendipity at the Hurt Hub and within the Davidson network. Their idea and team formed at the Techstars Startup Weekend in fall 2025, where they met community member Chef Maria Kemp, who now serves as the team's entrepreneurial advisor. From there, the team carried their momentum into the Nisbet competition under the mentorship of alum Keith Kleeman ’97, now the Hurt Hub's Alumni Innovator-in-Residence, and team member Jennet went on to win the Yoder Applied Research Fellowship. Faculty member Dr. Nicole Snyder has served as both a founding member and academic advisor, and the students continue their work in her lab this year. Students, faculty, alumni, and community members all played a part, and each program built on the last to turn a weekend idea into a growing venture.

Community Try It Fund

SINCERELY
TEA HOUSE
108 S Main St, Davidson, NC



Damien from Sincerely Tea House conducting a tea tasting at Solopreneur Circle.

The Community Try It Fund, made possible by the Truist Charitable Fund, gives graduates of Hurt Hub entrepreneurship programs up to $1,000 to cover the first real costs of launching: registration fees, licenses, permits, and other startup essentials. The fund rewards founders who have done the legwork, completing at least 10 customer discovery conversations and letting what they heard reshape their idea. This year, five new companies received awards, including Sincerely Tea House, now open on Davidson's Main Street. The family-run shop is built on the belief that tea should feel welcoming, not intimidating. Co-owner Damien, a lifelong student of tea, keeps a well-worn notebook of tasting notes and origin research, and they help every guest find a cup they truly love.

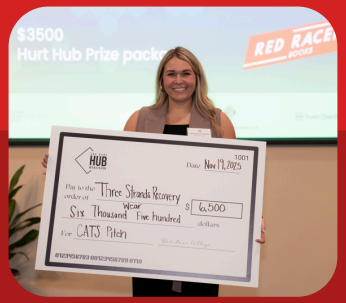
CATS Pitch

Made possible by a generous grant from the Truist Charitable Fund, the CATS (Capital, Advisors, Talent, Space) Pitch Competition invited for-profit business founders to compete for comprehensive prize packages in the fall. Three finalists were selected to receive funding, a pro bono project from the Davidson College Consulting Group, coworking or event space, and an opportunity to enroll in the LaunchCLT mentorship program.



Keep Good
Aleksandra Stein ($10,000)

Aleksandra is simultaneously addressing food insecurity and food waste through innovative freeze-drying technology. Keep Good transforms fresh surplus food into nutrient-dense, shelf-stable meals requiring no kitchen, stove, or refrigeration. By partnering with food equity organizations and nonprofits, Keep Good helps these organizations extend their impact, preserve nutrition, and serve more people with dignity, all while reducing landfill waste.



Three Strands Recovery Wear
Leah Wyrick Smith ($6,500)

Recognizing a significant gap in post-surgical care for breast cancer patients, Leah created Three Strands Recovery Wear, which offers specially designed recovery bras providing comfort, support, and dignity during the healing process. Her venture addresses both practical and emotional needs, helping patients feel more comfortable and confident during recovery.



Red Racer Books
Andy Amendola ($3,500)

As a parent and motorsports enthusiast, Andy created Red Racer Books to fill a void in children's literature. His vibrant, educational books introduce young readers to the exciting world of motorsports while promoting STEM fields, teamwork, and diversity. By showcasing various roles beyond the driver's seat, Andy is inspiring the next generation to explore countless career paths in the racing industry.

Dr. Nicole Snyder: Cornelson Faculty Innovator-in-Residence

Ideas in Action, From the Lab Up

This year, as our Cornelson Faculty Innovator-in-Residence, Dr. Nicole Snyder helped students and community members take the next step: turning discoveries into ventures.

A professor of chemistry at Davidson College, Dr. Snyder leads an undergraduate research program focused on carbohydrate-based constructs for studying disease. She has mentored nearly 50 student researchers, including Goldwater Scholars and NSF Graduate Research Fellows.

At the Hurt Hub, she served as academic advisor to Dermalytixs, the winning team of the 2026 Nisbet Venture Fund, and is now a co-writer on the team's patent. This summer, she partnered with Yoder Applied Research Fellow Jennet Ylyasova ’29 to advance the Dermalytixs research, putting lab science to work in a real-world application.

She also led an Intellectual Property Workshop series open to students, faculty, staff, coworkers, and entrepreneurs, and held office hours for any student ready to talk through an idea.

Her residency shows what happens when faculty expertise, student ambition, and entrepreneurial curiosity build together.

We are deeply grateful to Dr. Snyder for the time, knowledge, and generosity she shared with our community this year.



Andrew Ashur ’19: Alumni Innovator-in-Residence

Andrew Ashur ’19 wrote the business plan for Lucid Bots at the Hurt Hub as a student. It became the first company to launch here and is now the leading platform for autonomous drones and robots for exterior cleaning in the United States.

For the past two years, Andrew has given that experience back as our Alumni Innovator-in-Residence. He hosted student office hours, interviewed Nisbet Lecture guest Bill Creelman, and served as MC of the 2026 Nisbet Venture Fund. Thank you, Andrew, for showing the next generation of Davidson builders what is possible from where they stand.

“We wouldn’t exist without the support of the college, the Hurt Hub, and the local community.” - Andrew Ashur ’19, founder and CEO, Lucid Bots





Davidson Innovation Fellows: A Paid Pathway Into Robotics

In April 2026, the Hurt Hub, the Matthews Center for Career Development and Lucid Bots launched the Davidson Innovation Fellows Program, a paid, 12-month fellowship for recent Davidson graduates that may extend up to five years. Lucid Bots expects to host up to four fellows each year across robotics testing, engineering, software development, data analysis and operations. The first students selected for the fellowship were:

- **Srijit Banerjee ’26** (Robotics Software Engineer): Building and maintaining Lucid Bots’ fleet management platform and data systems.
- **Anushri Modi ’26** (IT/AI Deployment Specialist): Integrating AI and automation into Lucid Bots' daily internal tech stack.
- **Jack Potter ’26** (Finance Associate): Driving data-backed leadership decisions through financial reporting and forecasting.
- **Henry Russell ’26** (Test Engineer): Running drone hardware testing and keeping the Sherpa test lab moving forward.

The partnership reaches beyond recent graduates. Current students gain a priority internship pipeline through the Matthews Center for Career Development, student ventures can use Lucid Bots’ labs and testing spaces, and faculty gain new research connections.

“Establishing the Davidson Innovation Fellows is a true ‘full-circle’ moment as we work with Andrew and his team who were the first company to launch at the Hurt Hub.” Liz Brigham, W. Spencer Mitchem ’59 Executive Director

Thank you to our volunteers and mentors:

A heartfelt thank you to our volunteers and mentors, who generously give their time and talents to strengthen our programming. Your guidance and commitment help our students and participants grow, and you make our vision of access and exposure to entrepreneurship and innovation for all possible.

Brandon Aldridge
Frances Allen
Andrew Ashur '19
Robert Avinger '90
Lucretia Carter Berry
Hank Chou
Sandro Chumashvili '24
Henry Davis
Angelique de Buhr
Constantine Desjardins '24
Brett Dioguardi '07
Sophie Eldridge '23
David Ethridge '88
Eric Fender
Wil Fowler
Adam Franklin
Julia Franklin
Gifton Gammon
Juan Garzón
Ann Gonzalez
Cynthia Hayes
Ana Henriques '05
Stacie Immesberger
Lorena James '21
Larry Jones
George Keller
Dr. John Kello
Maria Kemp
Keith Kleeman '97
Stephen Lackey
JP LeJacq
Jim Linsenmeyer
Tereka Louise
Ed Lubowicki
Jill Marcus '86
Joe Marko
Scott Matthews '13
Bill May
Peggy McBride
Lindsay McClelland
Mbye Njie '04
Jack Nolan
Amartey Nuno-Amarteifi '05
Stacy Pahl
Donna Peters '89
Michelle Serrano '91
Dr. Carl Smart
Dwayne Sutton
Chris Tapia
Samuel Waithira '24
Rebecca Weeks Watson
Andy Wheeler
Cristina Wilson '10
Chris Young '75

Your time and talents can transform a student's journey. Scan the QR code to explore how you can share your experience and power our mission.

Scan or click to volunteer with us

Coworking

By the numbers:

Overall coworking occupancy rate over 80%

Increased occupancy from Davidson College students/staff/faculty due to library renovation:

- 730 meeting room and event space hours by 39 different departments or campus organizations
- Influx of students using our space for collaboration and study time (not quantifiable)

1,162 external booking hours from companies and organizations utilizing our space for off-sites and meetings

234 coworking members

169 businesses represented

Member Spotlight: Sweet Relish

When we opened our doors on July 1, 2018, Sweet Relish walked in with a team of three. This year, one of our longest-standing members moved into the corner office near our patio, a milestone years in the making.

Founded in 2017, the company tested its communication platform across five industries before committing to automotive dealerships in 2019. Today, more than 350 dealerships across North America use Sweet Relish's omni-channel call center software, and the team has reached profitability while self-funding its growth.

Community has shaped that growth. A former Hurt Hub staff member introduced the team to a large dealership's owner, a connection that became one of their largest accounts.

“The beauty of the Hurt Hub was its flexibility... the Hurt Hub could adapt with us,” says William “Bill” May, President and CEO.

Next goal: 1,000 dealerships, built from Davidson.

Coworking Community Engagement

This year, coworking programming took concrete shape through a blend of professional development, social connection, and family-friendly engagement. Coworking Happy Hour kept growing into a community staple, and all-day programs like our Earth Day activation drew enthusiasm by letting coworkers join on their own schedules.

Hub & Spoke sessions earned strong feedback, bringing back entrepreneurs who got their start here, alumni eager to share their expertise, and friends of the Hurt Hub who champion our mission. The well-attended sessions now live on as podcast episodes.

The bond within our coworking community was always there. Now it has more intentional ways to come together.





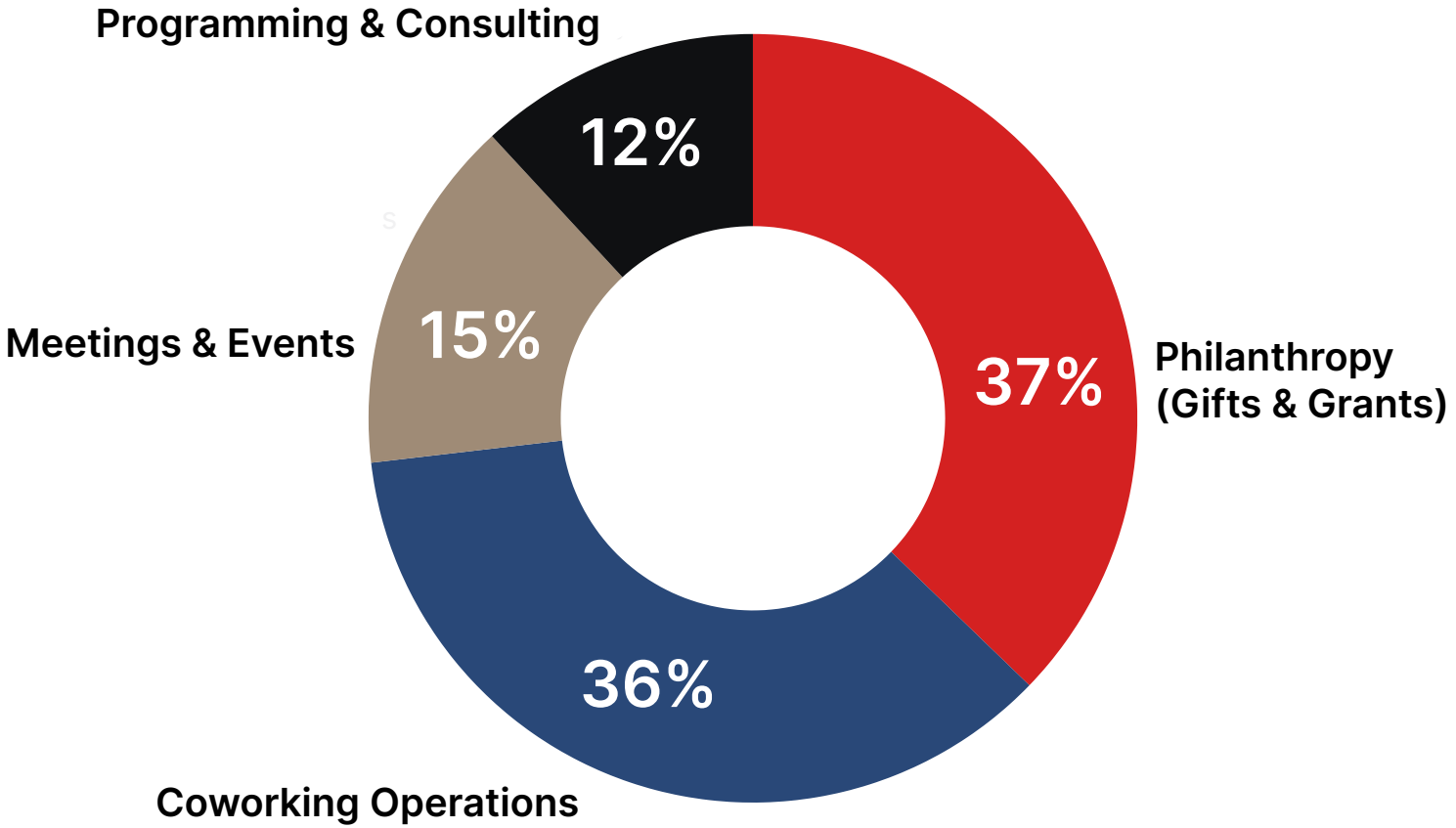
First Annual Maker's Market

On November 14, the Hurt Hub's Innovation Lab became home to our first annual Maker's Market, featuring 26 local artisans selling handcrafted pottery, jewelry, small-batch jams, original prints, curated vintage clothing, and more. Many vendors were early in building their businesses and used the market to test whether in-person sales fit their plans. Every vendor received a free table and kept 100% of their sales, giving them a low-risk way to learn what works. All of our FACES were represented among the vendors, and attendees spanned our audiences, with especially strong turnout from Davidson College faculty and staff.

The same evening, we hosted the Staff and Faculty Art Reception, displaying work by members of the Davidson College community throughout the Hurt Hub. Both events were presented in partnership with Van Every/Smith Galleries at Davidson College.

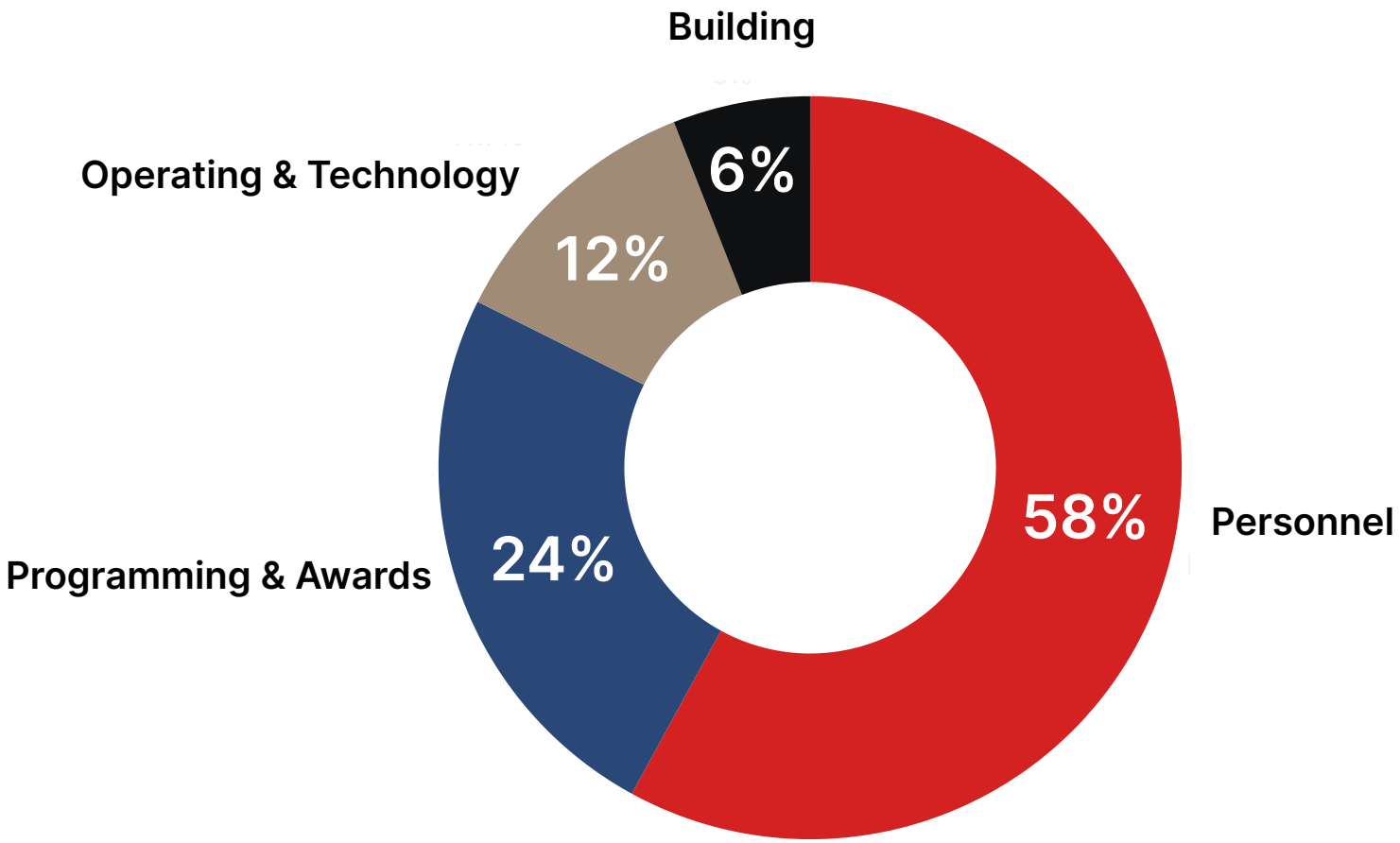
Total Revenue

Financial Summary



Total Expenses

Financial Summary



Thank you to our supporters:

A huge thank you to our donors, corporate sponsors, and partners, without whom we could not realize our vision of providing access and exposure to entrepreneurship and innovation for all.

Special thanks to the following donors for their transformative support of Davidson College and The Hurt Hub since its inception:

Vicky and Peter Andrews '59
Jane Avinger
Sarah and Bill Boehmler
Demarest and Sion Boney '78
Frances and Cal Calcote '51
Ann Cornelson
Rosie and Dave Donahower '83
Schuyler and Charlie Hinnant '72
Jay Hurt '88
Virginia Kaul
Kristi Mitchem '92 and Thomas Mawhinney
Dany and Chip Nisbet '86
Marian Nisbet
Nancie Fimbel and Ed Van Deman '69
Rebecca Weeks Watson
Becky and K.D. Weeks '69
Sheila and Craig Yoder '74

Thanks to the following individuals for their generous support of Davidson College and The Hurt Hub over the past year:

Sut Ahuja
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Ana-Clara and Andrew Ashur '19
Jane Avinger
Amber Franz and Tee Bahnson III '01
Brittany Narr Barr '09 and Bryant Barr '10
Kathryn Cole Becker '09 and Wiley Becker '06
Carlos Bell
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Liz Smith Brigham '04 and Michael Brigham
Michelle and Stewart Cates '90
Alaina Beach Chaffin '04 and Patrick Chaffin
Aarya Chowdhry '28
Harley and Bill Creelman
Carol and Kenneth Crochet
Yazeed Dahleh '25
Angelina Darrisaw '09
Natalia Dascombe '26
Chetna Dawda '26
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Constantine Desjardins '24
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Brooke and Brian Francis '96
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Kristina and Jim Hamilton '60
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Stacy and Jeremy Head '91
Donna Henkel
Aidyn Hill '29
Schuyler and Charlie Hinnant '72
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Pat and Jim Houser Jr. '67
Julie and Bryan Hudson
Annie and Rory Huntly '06
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Jay Hurt '88
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Tait Jensen '16
Barbara Benson and David Jones '72
Virginia Kaul
Chris Keally '11
Beth Corrigan Kelley '04 and Zeb Kelley '04
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Heather Bane and Robert Koch '04
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Katherine and Andrew Leventhal '03
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Allison Luekens '03
Niya Ma '24
Kaye Mao '21
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Maggi Fitzpatrick '07 and Taylor McLemore '07
Kristi Mitchem '92 and Thomas Mawhinney
Anushri Modi '26
Patrick Muller '12
John-Michael Murphy II '16
Dany and Chip Nisbet '86
Amy Laukkanen O'Keefe '94 and Andy O'Keefe
Noelle Thomas O'Neal '06 and Jason O'Neal
Tony Owens
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Sara Lyn Goodman Pascal '96 and Bob Pascal Jr. '94
Jackie and Brad Pilon '04
Davy and John Powell '01
Mary Montgomery and Michael Presnell
Anne Titus Price '96 and Marston Price
Amy Quilala
Pablo Quintero '28
Lee Raney '79 and Nick Marinaro
Sarah Pate Reynolds '08 and Edward Reynolds
Laura Rizzo '04
Evan Rozantes
Mark Schiebler '77
John Sheets
Cameron Smith '06
Sode Smith '23
Nicole Snyder
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Ian Spurlock '04
Margaret and Shelton Steele '01
Lilia and Ryan Stroker '01
David Suggs '99
Ivy and Dan Tedrick '97
Sabra and Dave Thompson '96
Laura Barnes Tidwell and DeVane Tidwell '94
Aidan Twombly '22
Nancie Fimbel and Ed Van Deman '69
Keith Varriale
Akanksha Velath '26
Max Vierling '21
Shawn Walker '89 and Scott Fumicello
Meredith Shuba Watson '03 and Paul Watson '02
Annie Wells '14
Luci and Brendan Willmann '00
Cristina Wilson '10 and Morgan Koukopoulos '08
Anna-Lindsay and Ben Yarbrough '89
Sheila and Craig Yoder '74
Hani Zaitoun '20

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The Town of Davidson

INNOVATE CHARLOTTE

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Inclusive Coworking
Access to Capital
Educational Programming
What's possible here?
This wall holds the stories of people who came before you: students testing ideas, alumni building companies, coworkers growing ventures.
Their path brought them here. Yours can too.
Strategic Consulting
Mentorship
Our Values
FREEDOM
INTEGRITY
INCLUSION
DAVIDSON COLLEGE
Jay Hurt '88: The Alum Who Came Back to Build Something New
Davidson College and Andrew Ashur '19 of Lucid Bots Launch Innovation Fellows Program
Victoria Ochieng '27 Wins $8,000 Avinger Impact Fund
Ed Van Deman '69: Saying Yes to What's Next
Community Partnership in Action: Davidson Housing Coalition Teams Up with Elite Roof and Solar


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