Breakout Labs

An experiment in philanthropic support of scientific innovation
Inspiration

Scientific Progress

Corporate Demand

Entrepreneurship
Inspiration: Building on science

- Deeper insights: genomics, microbiome, neuroscience, nanotechnology
- Better engineering: microfluidics, photonics, 3D printing
Inspiration: Filling pipelines

- R&D investment retreating
- Corporate innovation scouts on the prowl
- Limited academic translation with misaligned incentives
Inspiration: Leveraging the zeitgeist

- New generation of scientist-entrepreneurs
- University support for entrepreneurship
- Minimal infrastructure required: Outsourcing, internet-enabled marketplaces, shared workspaces
Execution

Atoms, not just bits
Money
Community
Execution: what we look for

- Deep tech; Frontier tech
- Fundamental scientific advance
- Platform technology
- Dedicated scientist-entrepreneurs
- Commercial hypothesis
Execution: how we fund

- Expenditure responsibility grant to for-profit entity
- Peer Review meets Investor Diligence
- Grant is exchanged for equity at qualified financing
Execution: what we give

- Board observer role
- Network of investors and corporate relationships
- Resources
- National peer group
- Events
Evaluation

Portfolio Progress

Program Value

Challenges
Evaluation: how we’ve done

- 42 companies funded since 2012 ($15M)
- 12:10:10:10
- Total additional investment: $300M
Evaluation: what helps

- Program 7X more important than money
- Corporate engagement
- Platform/market fit
Evaluation: what is still needed

Challenges

• Fundraising
• Team building
• Scaling
• Systematic corporate engagement
Evolution

More!

$500K

Breakout Ventures
Connection

Learn
breakoutlabs.org

Apply
breakoutlabs.org/apply

Tweet
@breakout_labs