

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**10th Annual New Orleans Entrepreneur Week presented by
JPMorgan Chase & Co. Launches Registration and Calendar of Events**
*Seminars, keynotes, and citywide events announced for March 19th–23rd;
Registration is now open.*

NEW ORLEANS—Today, The Idea Village unveiled plans for the 10th anniversary of New Orleans Entrepreneur Week (NOEW), a weeklong celebration of business, innovation, and entrepreneurship in New Orleans. In the past decade, NOEW has engaged global luminaries, featured local thought leaders, and showcased hundreds of local startup companies, while engaging the masses. This year's event will highlight the significance that entrepreneurship has had on the city of New Orleans, leveraging the theme: *Connect in a City Like No Other*.

“This year marks an exciting benchmark for The Idea Village and the broader entrepreneurial ecosystem. NOEW has become a hallmark event for our community. It's the place where dreams are seeded, companies are funded, and our collective successes are celebrated,” said Victoria Adams Phipps, NOEW's Executive Producer. “We're excited to bring fresh energy to the event with our new presenting sponsor, JPMorgan Chase, in addition to a dynamic lineup of keynote speakers, presenters, and partners.”

As one of the longest standing corporate partnerships of The Idea Village and one of the earliest funders of the entrepreneurial ecosystem in New Orleans, JPMorgan Chase's enhanced commitment as the presenting sponsor elevates and strengthens the work of The Idea Village at NOEW even more.

This year's slate of events covers a wide-range of topics including focuses on marketing strategy, women in tech, diversity and inclusion, digital literacy, the future of New Orleans, and more. Announced headliners include Jim Coulter, Founding Partner and Co-CEO at TPG Capital, Kevin Dawson, Vice-President of GE Digital, Kevin Lin, Co-founder of Twitch, and Gabrielle Toledano, Chief People Officer at Tesla, with future headliners to be announced in the coming weeks. All of NOEW's events are free and open to the public to attend.

New this year, NOEW is expanding its reach, working with local partners to host events that will take place in locations across the city, making NOEW a citywide affair that's more accessible and engaging in neighborhoods across the Greater New Orleans region—and offering locals a better opportunity to participate near where they work or live. Citywide events will take place March 19–21. Following that, The Idea Village will introduce the NOEW Summit, which will comprise two days of educational sessions, keynote speakers, pitch competitions, and networking events. The NOEW Summit will take place March 22–23 at the Contemporary Arts Center (CAC) and The Shop at the CAC shared workspace.

“When The Idea Village kick started the startup ecosystem in New Orleans in 2000 and hosted the first New Orleans Entrepreneur Week 10 years ago, we hoped it would grow to become the impactful event and entrepreneurial scene it is today,” said Sally Forman, Acting CEO of The Idea Village. “With the city’s tricentennial year, there are more eyes on New Orleans than ever before. We are ready to rise to the occasion, bringing the power of entrepreneurship to neighborhoods near and far.”

NOEW’s full schedule and registration is now available online at www.NOEW.org. While access to NOEW is free, attendees must register and are encouraged to do so in advance online. For more information on The Idea Village, please contact at info@ideavillage.org.

ABOUT THE IDEA VILLAGE: The Idea Village was formed in 2000 by a group of New Orleans citizens who saw entrepreneurship as a catalyst for change. The Idea Village is an independent 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that provides direct service to high impact entrepreneurs, convenes the ecosystem through NOEW, and supports initiatives that strengthen our entrepreneurial infrastructure. The Idea Village received the Gold Excellence award from the International Economic Development Council for our Entrepreneur Season model in 2012 and was recognized as a top-three entrepreneurship ecosystem developer in 2014 by the Global Innovation Summit. For more information: www.ideavillage.org.

ABOUT NEW ORLEANS ENTREPRENEUR WEEK: New Orleans Entrepreneur Week (NOEW), presented by JPMorgan Chase & Co., is the leading platform for celebrating business, innovation, and entrepreneurial thinking in New Orleans. Produced by The Idea Village in partnership with Solomon Group, NOEW elevates entrepreneurship through discussion, debate, education, competition, and celebration. For more information: www.NOEW.org.

ABOUT JPMORGAN CHASE & CO.: JPMorgan Chase and its bank predecessors have been doing business in New Orleans for more than 180 years. The bank has more than 2,500 employees in Louisiana and more than 2 million customers statewide. Chase has been ranked the State’s #1 SBA lender for five consecutive years. Since Hurricane Katrina in 2005, JPMorgan Chase has invested \$40 million to nonprofits working in Louisiana, including \$6.5 million statewide in support of Workforce Readiness and \$2 million in support of Small Business Development.

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