Press release: 2012: 10: 16: College of Business to host Social Enterprise Summit, featuring Shark Tank's Kevin Harrington

Tom Scherberger

Follow this and additional works at: https://digital.usfsp.edu/usfsp_news_press_releases

Recommended Citation
https://digital.usfsp.edu/usfsp_news_press_releases/318

This Other is brought to you for free and open access by the University Advancement at Digital USFSP. It has been accepted for inclusion in USFSP News and Press Releases by an authorized administrator of Digital USFSP.
Non-profit groups will be thrown into the “Pitch Tank” with Kevin Harrington Oct. 29 during the two-day Southeastern Summit of the Social Enterprise Alliance, sponsored by the USF St. Petersburg College of Business.

Harrington, chairman and founder of TVGoods Inc. and former panelist on the ABC-TV show Shark Tank, will lead a pitch tank before a live audience for non-profit organizations seeking advice on how to be more entrepreneurial.

Harrington also will be the luncheon speaker during the first day of the two-day summit at the Hilton Bayfront in downtown St. Petersburg, Oct. 29-30. His topic is titled, “Thinking Like An Entrepreneur?”

Non-profit groups interested in participating in the live pitch tank will present their ideas in writing. The top three will pitch before the live audience. Joining Harrington on the pitch panel will be Kevin Lynch, CEO of the Social Enterprise Alliance, and Rick Sebastian, CEO of Human
Technologies Corporation. All pitch applicants will have the opportunity to present to Harrington, who will provide feedback in individual sessions after the live pitch.

The pitch tank is just one of myriad events during the summit. The dinner speaker Oct. 29 will be Dr. Anousheh Ansari, astronaut and spokesperson for the XPrize Foundation. The luncheon speaker on Oct. 30 will be Mark Gordon, president of Odyssey Marine Exploration, the world leader and only publicly traded company specializing in treasure recovery and undersea exploration.

The USF St. Petersburg College of Business hosts the Tampa Bay Chapter of the Social Enterprise Alliance, which seeks to provide non-profit groups with the tools and resources they need to succeed. The alliance helps non-profits become sustainable through social entrepreneurship.

“We are pleased to sponsor the alliance’s Southeastern Summit,” said Alison Watkins, Ph.D., USFSP Associate Dean for Graduate and Certificate Programs. “It fits neatly with our mission of social responsibility and entrepreneurship.