



**CENTRAL WYOMING
INNOVATION &
ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

Partnering for Progress



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Thursday, April 10, 2025

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Registration

Robert A. Peck Arts Center
– Theatre Gallery

1:00 - 2:45 p.m.

Opening Address

Robert A. Peck Arts Center
– Theatre

1:00 - 2:45 p.m.

Keynote Tabatha Coffey

Robert A. Peck Arts Center
– Theatre

2:45 - 3:45 p.m.

Industry Roundtables

Robert A. Peck Arts Center
– Theatre

Snack hosted by BWXT Advanced Technologies.

BWXT Advanced Technologies, LLC and the Wyoming Energy Authority (WEA) are evaluating the feasibility of deploying small nuclear reactors at industrial sites in Wyoming. As part of this effort, we are proactively developing our supply chain and assessing potential suppliers.



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, April 11, 2025

7:30 - 8:30 a.m.

Registration/Light Breakfast

Robert A. Peck Arts Center
– Theatre Gallery

8:30 - 9:15 a.m.

Opening Address

Governor Mark Gordon

**2025 Wyoming Small
Business Person of the Year**

Robert A. Peck Arts Center
– Theatre

9:15 - 10:15 a.m.

Keynote Bill Rancic

Robert A. Peck Arts Center
– Theatre

10:30 - 11:15 a.m.

Breakout Session #2

11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Lunch

Student Center Gymnasium

12:45 - 1:30 p.m.

Breakout Session #3

1:45 - 2:30 p.m.

Breakout Session #4

2:45 - 3:15 p.m.

Keynote Mike Wandler

Robert A. Peck Arts Center
– Theatre

3:15 - 3:30 p.m.

Conference Close

Robert A. Peck Arts Center
– Theatre

Thursday, April 10, 2025

Industry Roundtable

Gain valuable insights from top industry leaders at our upcoming panel discussion, with a focus on innovation and entrepreneurship as key drivers of success.

- Rocky Case- Manufacturing Works Director (Moderator)
- Kevin Kershnik - Executive Director of IDEA Inc.
- Dan Starks - Former CEO of St. Jude Medical, Founder of National Museum of Military Vehicles
- Mike Haggerty- BANR Program Manager at BWXT Technologies
- Dana Miller- Entrepreneurship Ecosystem Coordinator at Gillette College.
- Lindsey Strutheit- Director Entrepreneurship & Innovation: The Business Studio at LCCC.

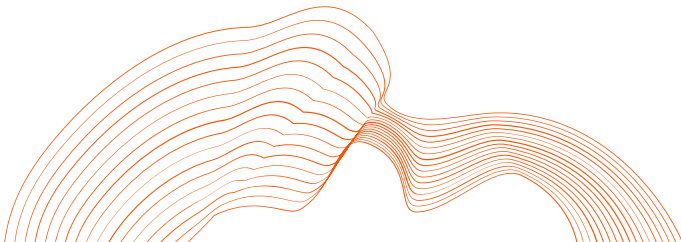
Don't miss this opportunity to connect with industry experts and explore the latest trends and opportunities!

Breakout Session #1

A conversation with Bill Rancic - TV Personality & Entrepreneur Moderated by Will Hill, President of KAIROS Communications

Join Bill Rancic, TV personality and entrepreneur, as he shares his journey from The Apprentice to building successful businesses. Moderated by Will Hill, President of KAIROS Communications, this session will offer insights on leadership, risk-taking, and entrepreneurship. Attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions and connect.

Location: HS 100



Thursday, April 10, 2025

Silicon Couloir: StartUp Wyoming - Phase II

Join Rob Kellogg (Silicon Couloir), Blossom Ko Lumley (StartupWY), and Taylor Vignaroli (WBC) as they discuss the partnership between Silicon Couloir and the Wyoming Business Council. This panel will cover their efforts to support Wyoming's next generation of entrepreneurs, sharing key lessons, their vision for the future, and resources available to local innovators and business founders.

Location: ITECC 116

Wind River Development Fund: Recompete Grant Projects - Updates & Strategies

Join us for an update on the Wind River Development Fund's Recompete Grant Projects, highlighting their impact on local communities and economic growth. Learn strategies for leveraging these grants and gain insights into funding opportunities and best practices for future projects.

Location: ITECC 125

Chamber of Commerce: Maximizing Support from Your Local Chamber

Discover how your local Chamber of Commerce can be a powerful resource for business growth and community engagement. This session will explore the various programs, networking opportunities, and support services available to help businesses thrive. Learn how to leverage Chamber resources to enhance visibility, gain new clients, and connect with fellow entrepreneurs and industry leaders.

Location: ITECC 106

Friday, April 11, 2025

Breakout Session #2

Tabatha Coffey – Bravo TV Personality, Entrepreneur & Women’s Leadership Advocate

Join Bravo TV’s Tabatha Coffey as she shares her journey in entrepreneurship and women’s leadership. Moderated by Leslie Larsen, Owner of Studio 402 in Riverton, WY, this session offers insights on overcoming business challenges, building confidence, and leading with purpose. Attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions and connect.

Location: HS 100

Getting Your Small Business Funded and Other Small Business Resources

Looking to successfully launch or expand your business but don’t know where to start? Join P.J. Burns, NE WY Regional Director of the WY Small Business Development Center, to evaluate different funding sources, calculate anticipated costs, and understand strategies for securing a business loan. She will also review small business resources available in the state of Wyoming.

Location: ITECC 106

Wyoming’s Innovators & Entrepreneurs (WIE) Panel: How to Innovate in Your Business

Innovation drives business success in Wyoming. Join industry leaders Brian Deurloo (Frog Creek Partners), Lauren Heerschap (Brunton), and Josh Law (Only Co.) as they share how creativity, adaptability, and bold decision-making have fueled their growth in the state’s unique landscape. Moderated by Josh Law, this panel offers practical insights and inspiration for entrepreneurs and future Wyoming leaders.

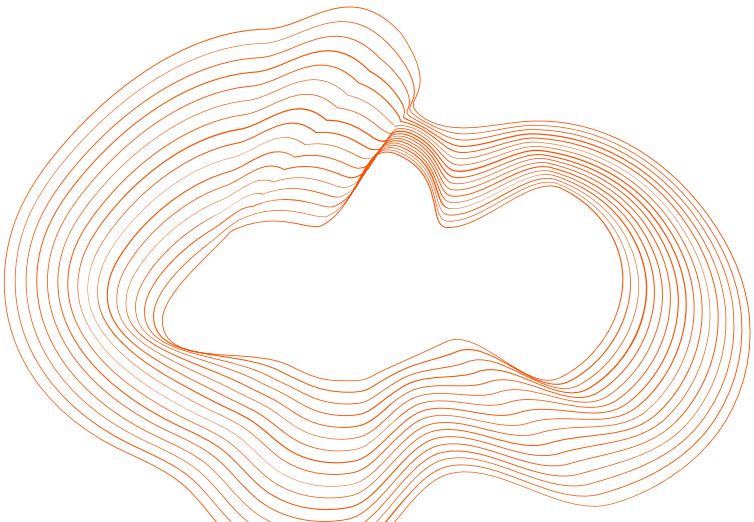
Location: ITECC 116

Friday, April 11, 2025

gBETA Panel: Founder Success Stories & Lessons Learned

Join us for an inspiring panel discussion featuring founders from the gBETA accelerator program as they share key lessons learned on their startup journeys. From overcoming early challenges to scaling their businesses, this session will provide real-world insights, actionable advice, and a behind-the-scenes look at the entrepreneurial process. Whether you're launching a startup or looking to refine your business strategy, this panel is a must-attend for valuable takeaways and networking opportunities.

Location: ITECC 125



Friday, April 11, 2025

Breakout Session #3

Mike Wandler, President, L.H. Industrial Inc.: Leadership in Innovation & Energy Solutions

Mike Wandler, President of L.H. Industrial Inc., leads the company in delivering innovative energy solutions and cutting-edge technologies. This session will explore Mike's leadership strategies, how L.H. Industrial stays ahead in the energy sector, and the role of innovation in creating a sustainable, efficient energy future. Attendees will gain insights into industry leadership and the future of energy solutions.

Location: HS 100

Cybersecurity Myths and Simple Steps to Make Your Small Business Cyber Ready

No business is too small to be a target for hackers and scammers, and there are very simple steps you can take to make your online activities safer and more secure. Join P.J. Burns, NE WY Regional Director of the WY Small Business Development Center as she debunks commonly held myths about small businesses and cybersecurity and reviews some simple safeguards against cyber attacks that cost little or no money

Location: ITECC 106

Women in Business: Entrepreneurship Panel

Join a distinguished panel of accomplished women entrepreneurs as they share their insights, challenges, and strategies for success. Moderated by Erica Warren-Yarber, Chief Operating Officer of the Wind River Development Fund, this session will offer valuable perspectives on leadership, resilience, and innovation. Attendees will gain practical advice on overcoming obstacles and building a strong, supportive network in business.

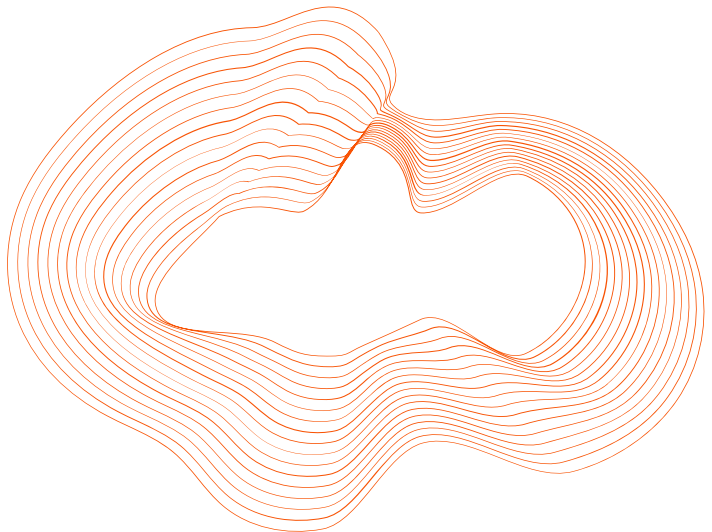
Location: ITECC 116

Friday, April 11, 2025

gAlpha/Beta Accelerator Program

Baylie Evans will describe and answer questions about the free gALPHA and gBETA Wyoming startup accelerator programs. These are completely free programs created and hosted through gener8tor, a national venture capital firm and accelerator network. They are designed to help foster high-growth startup ideas and/or support existing companies achieve revenue goals and potentially take on venture capital investment.

Location: ITECC 125



Friday, April 11, 2025

Breakout Session #4

Manufacturing Works: Leveraging Artificial Intelligence (A.I) for Innovation & Efficiency

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is transforming Wyoming's key industries boosting efficiency and reshaping the workforce. Led by Rocky Case, Director at Manufacturing Works, this session will explore how to leverage AI to drive productivity and innovation. This session is essential for professionals in manufacturing, energy, agriculture, transportation, and beyond who want to leverage AI to drive innovation, sustainability, and economic growth, shaping Wyoming's AI-powered future.

Location: HS 100

Aggie Macy: Innovative Data Solutions & Methodologies

Join Agnes Macy for a session on cutting-edge data solutions transforming industries as she shares lessons and insights from her environmental project. Learn practical approaches to harness and leverage data from this local temperature and air quality study.

Location: ITECC 106

Wyoming Business Council: WyoBiz Link – Connecting Entrepreneurs with Opportunities

Join the Wyoming Business Council to explore WyoBiz Link, a platform designed to connect entrepreneurs with resources, funding, and partners. Learn how it helps businesses grow and thrive in Wyoming, offering valuable tools and success stories to support startups and established companies alike.

Location: ITECC 116

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



TABATHA COFFEY

Tabatha is a transformative force in the world of business and personal coaching. Her unique blend of no-nonsense advice, business acumen, and personal empowerment stems from her diverse life experiences. An accredited coach, Master NLP Practitioner, and certified member of the ICF, IAC, and IACT therapy boards, Tabatha possesses a multifaceted approach to transformative coaching.



BILL RANCIC

After bursting onto the scene as NBC's first Apprentice, Bill Rancic has traveled to every part of the globe, sharing his life experiences and business acumen with tens of thousands of leaders, businesses and organizations on a variety of important topics. His expertise ranges from why some companies thrive in chaos — and others don't — to the leadership behaviors needed in a world beset by turbulence, uncertainty and dramatic change.



MIKE WANDLER

Mike Wandler's priorities are love, freedom, mental and physical fitness, energy, and flow. Mike is President of L&H Industrial, Inc., a third-generation family-owned business that provides Engineering & Design, Manufacturing & Repair, and Field Services to heavy industries around the world. Serving Mining, Oil and Gas, Railroad, Wind, Government, and other custom industries, L&H provides innovative solutions to their customers through quality, service, safety, and innovation.



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Vendor Showcase

Located in ITECC Building

We're excited to feature a fantastic lineup of vendors at the conference! Come by and connect with businesses bringing cutting-edge solutions, innovative services, and valuable insights to the industry.

Here's who you'll find at the table:

- ✓ SBDC
- ✓ Countryside Photography
- ✓ University of Wyoming
- ✓ Wyoming Department of Workforce Services
- ✓ 10,000 Small Businesses - Goldman Sachs Foundation
- ✓ Shannon Watts Art & Design
- ✓ BWXT

Whether you're looking to explore new tools, network, or get inspired, the vendor table is the place to be!



Stay informed for 2026 CWIE Conference





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