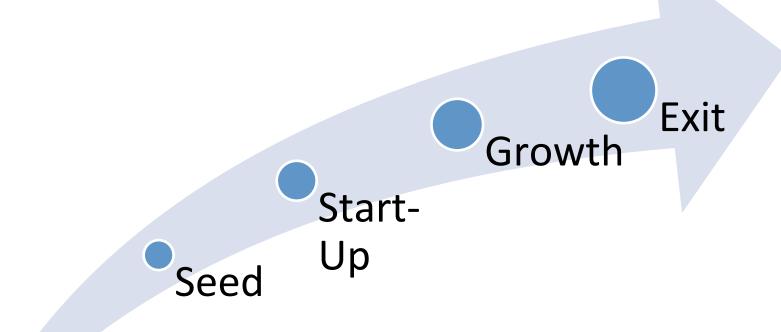
Funding Your St. Louis Start-Up October 2016

Jerome Katz, Director
Billiken Angels Network
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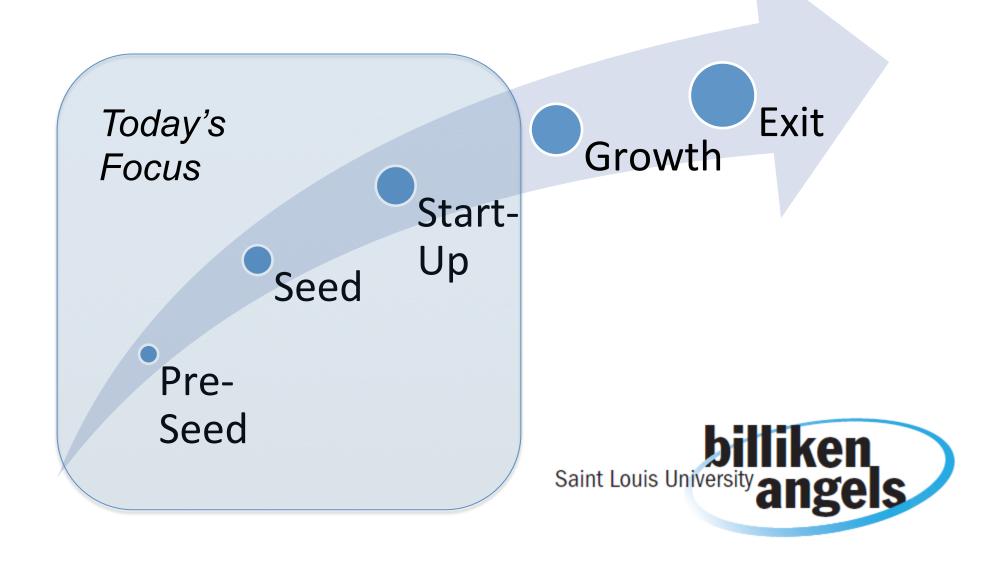
Stages of Business & Funding



Pre-Seed



Stages of Business & Funding



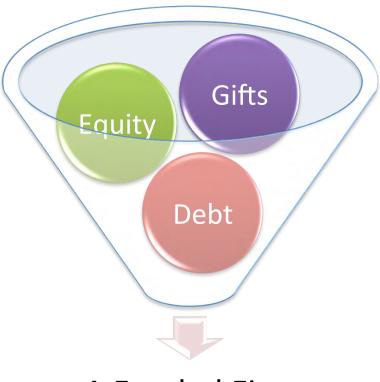
Start-Up Funding Stages

- Pre-Seed: Basic work, no business yet
 - Output: Feasibility analysis, patent apps, prototype
- Seed: Getting ready to start the firm
 - Output: Firm/Business Plan ready for investment
- Start-Up (Early Stage): Getting sales going
 - Output: Sales (contracts even better)
- Growth (Expansion): Getting bigger and better

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Exit: Cashing out from the business

The 3 Sources







The 3 Sources of Funding

Equity

- They own part of the business with you
- Business dies; you owe them nothing

Debt

- They own nothing, but you pay money back (+ int.)
- Business dies; you still owe them everything

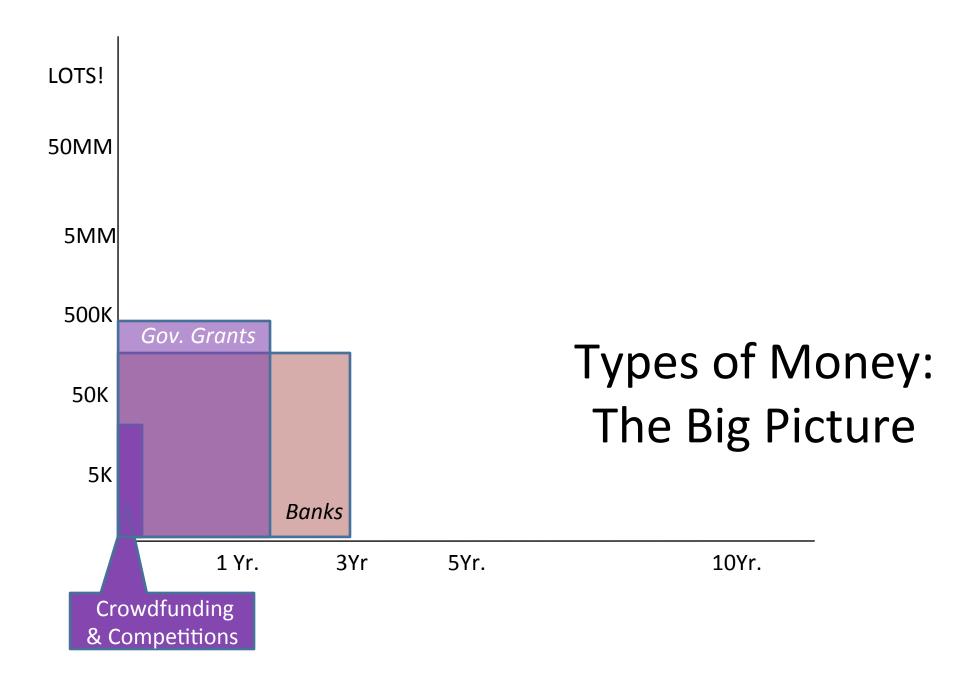
Gifts

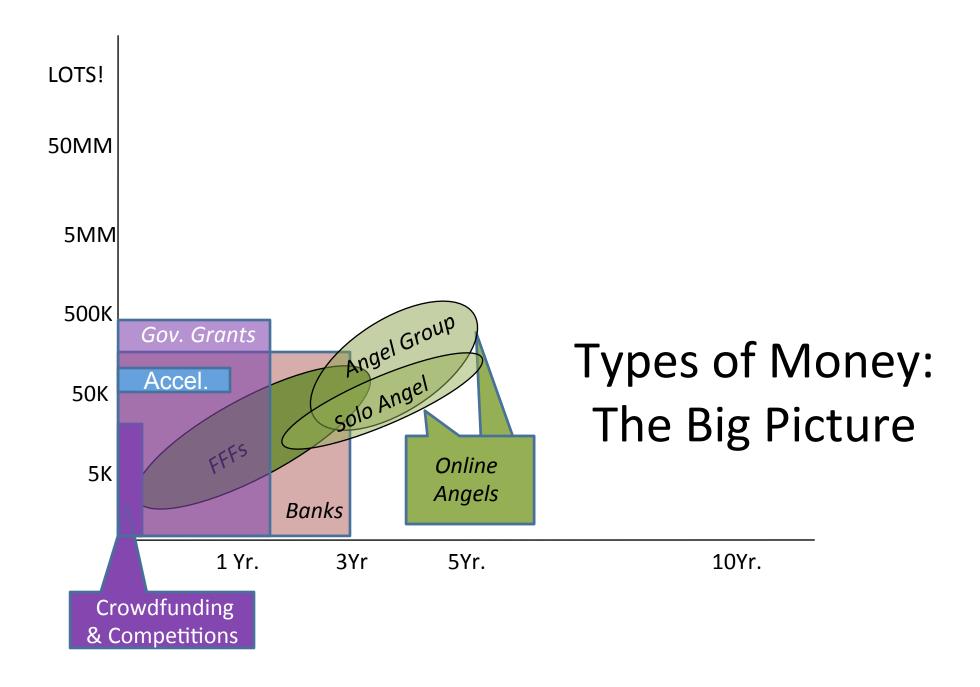
- They own nothing; they get nothing
- Business dies, still nothing

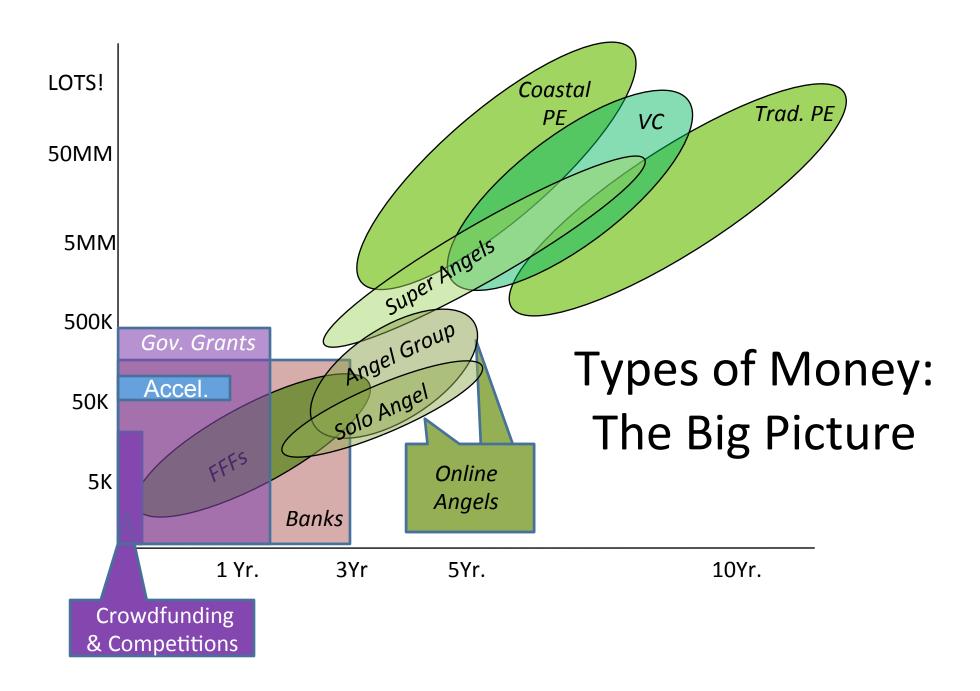


Guide To Funding

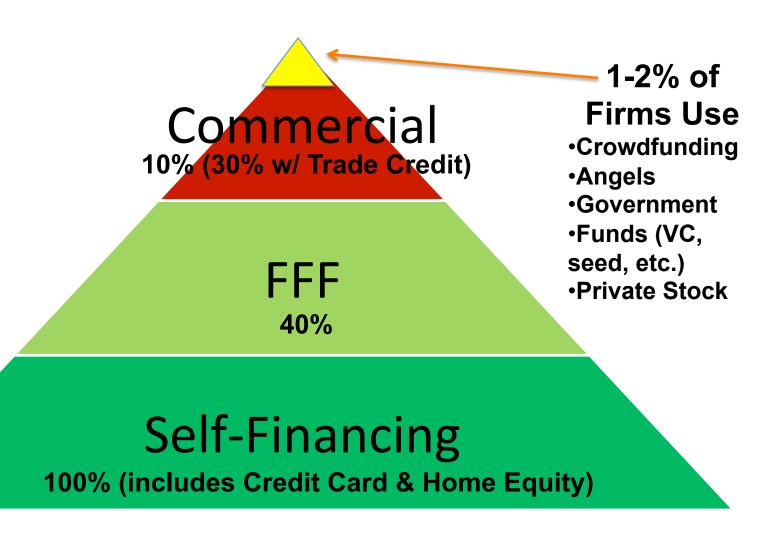
	Pre-Seed	Seed	Start-Up	Growth	Exit
Equity	Self-fund (1) FFF (2) Cust. Fund (3) Angels (5) Pre-Seed Funds (6)	Self-Fund FFF Angels Seed Funds (7)	Self-Fund FFF Angels Seed Funds Accelerators(8)	Self-Fund Angels SBICs VCs/PEs (9) Corp. Partn.	Angels VCs/PEs Corp. Partn. ESOP IPO
Debt	Self-Fund FFF	Self-Fund FFF	Self-Fund FFF Crowdfund Govt. Loans	Self-Fund Banks, Bonds SBICs Crowdfund Govt. Loans (10)	X
Gifts	Crowdfund (4) FFF Govt Grants (11) Competitions (12)	FFF Govt. Grants Competitions Crowdfund	FFF Govt. Grants Competitions Crowdfund	(Kiva – SocV Crowdfund)	X







What *Really* Happens



Basics of Self-Financing

- Always: Savings, credit cards, mortgage
- Bootstrap: Made do, repurposed, did small, found freebies, use cheap alternatives, borrow > rent > buy/lease used > buy/lease new
- Barter: trade skills, work, loan-outs (spouse & kids too, not just you)
- Create buzz



Proof of Bootstrapping







Why Push Self-Financing?

- Proves you have "skin in the game"
- Proves your passion
- Builds your sweat equity in the firm
- The more you bring, the more you own





FFF: The 5 Types of Personal Gifts

- Cash (direct to you, paid on your behalf, etc.)
- Discounts (letting you piggyback on a deal...)
- Freebies (free use of something or someone)
- Sweetheart Deals (overpayment, 1st choice...)
- Loan Forgiveness (from debt to gift)
- Push FFFs: Advice, mentors, followers, potential customers, suppliers



What FFFs Want

- To see you do well
- To be a part of something they value
- To be appreciated for the help they give you
- And if they gave you any money
 - They'd really like to get their money back
 - Or get something in return
 - And maybe make some money on the deal



FFF: Making Personal Gifts Work

- Gifts always cost time, usually cost aggravation, and sometimes even money
- Gifts work best when leveraged
- Most start-ups depend on gifts, but don't notice them
- Restate them as "in-kind payments" to realize their value
- Get it in writing, e.g. a promissory note, see: http://www.inc.com/guides/2010/10/how-to-write-a-promissory-note.html

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Can Your Customers Fund It?

- Matchmakers (like Airbnb, Uber)
- Pay-in-Advance (like online T-shirt firms)
- Subscription & SaaS models (Dollar Shave Club)
- Scarcity & Flash Sale models (Ziluly, Groupon)
- Service-to-product models (37signals)

From: John Mullins *The Customer-Funded Business*





What is Crowdfunding?

- The general term for using the Web to bring together folks willing to fund others. This can be done in several ways:
 - People giving money to projects they like (Gifts)
 - People loaning money to entrepreneurs (Debt)
 - People online investing money in businesses (Equity)



Well-Known Crowdfunding Sites

- Non-Equity "Investments" (aka Gifts)
 - Kickstarter, RocketHub, IndieGoGo, Fundable
 - Teespring (T-shirts), Patreon (arts)
 - GoFundMe, YouCaring, CrowdRise, GiveForward
 - FundStLouis.org, RallySTL.org,
- P2P Lending (Microfinance w/debt & donation)
 - Kiva.org, Accionusa.org (donate, or lend via Kiva)
- P2P Lending (Classic Debt)
 - BorrowersFirst, CircleBack, FundingCircle, FundingUniverse, LendingClub, Pave,
 PeerForm, Prosper, SoFi, Upstart,
- Online Angels (Equity list later)
- Online Banking (Debt list later)



What Crowdfunding Looks Like



Pixel Press: Draw Your Own Video Game

by Robin @ Roundthird

Updates 30 Home

Backers 2,256

Comments 363

St. Louis, MO

Video Games

Funded! This project was successfully funded on Jun 13.



Dival Proce is an iOC & Android and that late you draw your

2,256 backers

\$108,950

pledged of \$100,000 goal

seconds to go

90 days



Project by Robin @ Roundthird St. Louis, MO

Contact me

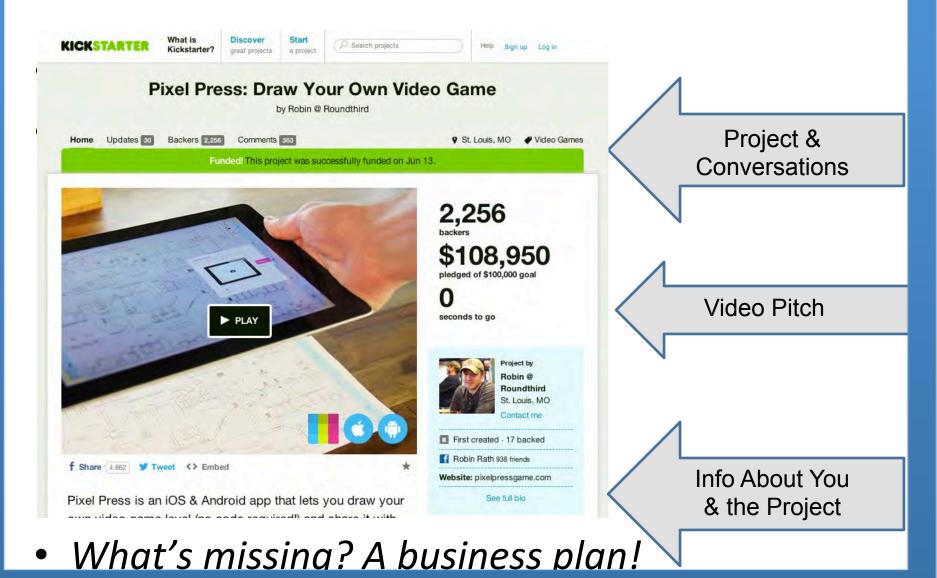
First created . 17 backed

Robin Rath 938 friends

Website: pixelpressgame.com

See full bio

Anatomy of a Crowdfund "Ask"



Pixel Press Pledge Rewards

- \$1 early update access
- \$6 add iOS game & badge
- \$40 Add poster & digital art
- \$100 Add T-shirt & hoodie
- \$250 Add launch party invite
- \$5000 Add input on designs
- Top pledge? \$10,000

Making Crowdfunding Work

- Plan your promotion before you launch
 - Get friends, family ready to join in on day 1
 - Use your social media connections to alert folk
 - Try and get local coverage
- Make the offering video and text grab people!
- Pick the right level Kickstarter: you need to meet goal to get any money, IndieGoGo not so
- Give yourself enough time
- Beware of the rules & costs



Fancy Financing Is *Really* Rare

	Metro STL	STL%	National
Small Businesses in MO	543,000 (est.)	1.8%	30.4M
Small Businesses in Metro STL	250,000 (est.)	0.82%	30.4M
Total SBA Loans/ Amount (MO)	351/\$157M	0.8%	\$19.2B
Total VC Investments Deals (MO)	45	1%	4454
SBIR Phase 1 Awards (MO)	3	0.4%	693
STTR Phase 1 Awards (MO)	0	0%	106
Angel Group Investments firms (STL)	77	9%	870

Total # MO Fancy-Financed Firms – 675 (.27%)

Sources: SBA, ITEN, Moneytree, SBIR.gov Data from 2014 except VC (4Q2014-3Q15)



Why Is Fancy Financing Rare?

- Government Programs / Banks
 - E's think there's a lot of free gov. money out there
 - E's don't know about the real programs out there
 - Applying & getting evaluated takes time
- Angels/VCs
 - E's misunderstand the investors' needs & focuses
 - Bigger burden for applying & negotiating



Fancy Financing: Private Sector

Equity

- Solo Angels (3) & Angel Groups (4,5) & Online Angels
- Accelerators
- Venture Capital / Private Equity / Investment Banks (6)
- Small Business Investment Companies (SBICs): Capital for Business & Bush O'Donnell

Debt

- Banks
- PE/Investment Bank Bonds
- STL Business Development Fund (8f)
- Crowdfunding or Peer-To-Peer (P2P) Lending (7b).

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Gifts

Competitions & Award Programs

Angels

- Angels are accredited investors worth > \$1M
 - Professionals, wealthy families, more established
 - Think your church, schools, network from work
- Angels look for high-potential investments
 - They become owners (you ready for that?)
 - They usually have industry preferences
 - \$25-50K or more to be worthwhile
 - 5X5 is typical return (can you meet it?)



Angels in St. Louis

- Organized angels: BAN, Arch, CultCap, iSelect
- Finding Motivated Solo Angels
 - Rich (working rich or retired)
 - Has time to spend helping
 - Tie to industry/occupation/customers
 - Easy to get along with
 - Think: trade/prof. associations, people who cashed out of firms in the industry



Angel Math

- \$50,000 invested for 1/3 of business
- In year 5, angels expect \$250,000
 - Business needs to be sold for \$750,000 in Yr5
 - Or \$50K profit/yr ← \$1.5M sales/yr @ 10% profit
- Why would do it?
 - Your stock share Yr5 is \$500,000
 - Your profit \$100K/yr
 - Could you have gotten here on your own this quick?



What Angels Look For: The 4 C's of Angel Financing

- Character Trustworthy, track record, passion
- Capacity Market size, value proposition, competition, ability to deliver & ramp-up
- Capital Enough? Right uses? Skin in game?
- Conditions Governance, transparency, fit, a clear exit strategy (other things possible)
- The business plan and your pitch should focus on these things
 Saint Louis University angel

Your Equity Goal With Angels & FFFs

- Give away as much of your company as you need to, as slowly as possible.
- Avoid giving voting stock when you can
- Have recourse, with enough time to avoid breaking your back or bank
- Got a deal? Get it in writing!



Getting Fund Money

- Highly Competitive
- Very Focused high-growth, often high-tech
- Formal & Structured
 - Long timelines (3 months 12 months to decide)
 - Forms to fill out
 - Plan done ahead of applying
 - For investments, you probably need legal advice
 - IP protection desired



Pre-Seed Funds Available Locally

- Funds to test for preliminary feasibility (product development, patents, initial market,...)
 - BALSA Foundation Entry Grant <u>www.thebalsafoundation.org</u>
 - Billiken Angels Network (BAN) <u>www.billikenangels.com</u>
 - Biogenerator Concept & Pre-Seed Funds <u>www.biogenerator.org</u>
 - MTC's Missouri TechLaunch http://www.missouritechnology.com/
 - Small Business Innovation Research Program (SBIR) and Small Business
 Technology Transfer Program (STTR)
 http://www.missouribusiness.net/fast/about_sbir.asp



(7)

Seed/Start-Up Funds

- Seed Funds used to prepare for subsequent major funding (typically VC or major corporation)
- Start-Up Funds get firm to first sales
- Local Seed & Start-Up Funds & Networks
 - Billiken Angels Network (BAN): <u>www.billikenangels.com</u>
 - Arch Angels: <u>www.stlouisarchangels.com</u>
 - Biogenerator Seed Fund: www.biogenerator.org
 - iSelect Fund: www.iselectfund.com
 - MTC (Mo Tech Corp) Seed Capital Co-Investment Program
 - Cultivation Capital: <u>cultivationcapital.com</u>
 - Regional Growth Capital: <u>www.regionalgrowthcapital.com</u>
 - Centennial Investors: <u>centennialinvestors.com</u>
 - Nidus Partners <u>niduspartners.com</u>
 - Bodley Group <u>www.bodleygroup.com</u>



Online Seed/Start-Up Funds

- AngelList
- Angelsoft.net
- CircleUp.com
- Crowdfunder.com
- EarlyShares.com
- ECS-Angels.com
- EquityNet.com
- Fundable.com
- FundersClub.com

- Fundingpost.com
- Gobignetwork.com
- Garage Tech Ventures PeerRealty.com www.garage.com
- Gust.com
- InvestorsCircle.net
- Lightbank.com
- Localstake.com
- Microventures.com

- MidwestVenture
- Onevest
- RockThePostcom
- SeedInvest.com
- Venturefund.com
- WeFunder.com
- Google "online equity funding"



(8)

Accelerators

- Typically Invest \$50K or \$100K & provide help
 - Arch Grants (non-equity!)
 - Balsa Foundation
 - BioGenerator (biotech)
 - Capital Innovators
 - STL Fashion Fund (fashion)
 - Prosper (women owned)
 - SixThirty (fintech)
 - Stadia (sports)
 - The Yield Lab (agriculture)



Growth Funds: (9) STL VC/PE Firms & Their Specialties

Biomed/LifeSci Focus

- Ascension Ventures
 - www.ascensionventures.org
- HealthCare Ventures, LLC
 - http://www.hcven.com
- Helix Fund
 - http://www.helixcenter.com/helixfund.html
- Oakwood Medical Investors
 - http://www.oakwoodmedical.com
- RiverVest Venture Partners
 - http://rivervest.com
- Triathlon Medical Ventures
 - http://www.tmvp.com

Technology Focus

- Augury Capital Partners
 - http://augurycapital.com
- Lewis and Clark Ventures (also bio)
 - http://lewisandclarkventures.com/
- Lindbergh Technology Fund
- Prolog Ventures (also bio)
 - http://www.prologventures.com/



Growth Funds: STL VC/PE Firms & Their Specialties

General Focus

- Advantage Capital
 - www.advantagecap.com
- Arch Equity Partners
 - www.archequitypartners.com
- Arsenal Capital Management
 - http://acm-stl.com/
- Chaifetz Group
 - http://www.chaifetzgroup.com/
- Eagle Private Capital
 - http://www.eagleprivatecapital.com/
- Forsyth Capital Investors
 - http://www.forsythcapital.com/
- FTL Capital
 - http://www.ftlcapital.com/
- Iron Rock Capital (real estate)
 - http://www.ironrockcap.com/

- O'Brien Capital
 - http://www.obcapllc.com/
- Open Prairie Ventures

http://www.openprairie.com

- Regional Growth Capital
 - www.regionalgrowthcapital.com
- Sage Capital
 - http://sagecapitalllc.com
- Stifel, Nicolaus & Co.
 - http://www2.stifel.com
- The Millstone Company
 - http://themillstonecompany.com/
- Visionary Private Equity Group
 - http://visionaryprivateequitygroup.com/





The Problem With Banks

"I'm afraid that you're too much in need of money to qualify for a loan Mr. Farnsworth."

The Problem With Banks

- Banks don't fund start-ups
 - They make a personal loan to you
- "Start-Up Loans" are usually personally guaranteed
- For the firm to get a loan it must pass rule of thumb survival threshold for banks
 - 2 years is common
- So then what? Maybe angels.



The 4 C's of Bank Financing

- Character Can they trust you? Will you work hard to do what you say you will do?
- Capacity Can the business generate enough money to pay up what you promised?
- Capital How much do you want (& for how long)?
- Conditions What else do you and the financier want from each other?



Getting Loans

- Credit cards & larger credit lines (easy)
- Personal Loans (harder)
- Mortgages, 2nd Mortgages (even harder)
- SBA-Backed Bank Loans
 - First bank has to reject you, then you qualify
- Microloans: SBA nonbank loans <\$50,000
 - Let's look at government money...



What You Want From A Bank

- Checking & Savings Account
- Cash flow management features (online check submission)
- Possibly credit card handling (check deal!)
- Credit & Debit card for the business
- Line of Credit
- Loans
- SHOP AROUND!!!



Local or Online Banks?

Local Banks / Credit Unions

- Branch/ATM convenience
- Personal connection (>CC)
- Chance to explain (>CC)
- Ability to connect personal
 & business accounts
- Local connections for you
- More tech investment (>LB)
- Fees: LB Higher, CC Lower
- Make cash deposits

Online Banks

- Not personal at all
- Typically open 24x7x365
 - Bankers available by phone
- Often higher interest rates
- Often lower fees



SBA Loans by Bank – 2014 as Example

Lender	Amount	# of Loans
Midwest Regional Bank	\$29 million	31
Econ. Dev. Ctr. St. Charles	\$20 million	33
US Bank*	\$11 million	104
Commerce Bank*	\$10 million	23
Pulaski Bank	\$10 million	12
Enterprise Bank	\$8 million	7
Wells Fargo Bank*	\$7 million	12
Business Finance Corp. STL	\$7 million	11
BMO Harris Bank*	\$6 million	9

^{*} SBA Preferred Lender

Source: STL Business Journal, 2014-15 Book of Lists

Small Business Banks

Online Only

Bofl Federal

CAN Capital

Credibility Capital

DealStruck

EverBank

Funding Circle

Kabbage

LendingClub

OnDeck

SmallBusinessBank

SnapCap

Swift Capital

Local Banks (Making SBA Loans)

- BMO Harris
- Commerce
- Enterprise
- Midwest Regional
- Pulaski
- US Bank
- Wells Fargo



Fancy Financing: Government

- Equity
 - (Small Business Investment Companies –SBICs)

Debt

- Federal & State Loan Guarantee Programs (8)
 - Via banks & dev. centers (8d, 8g, 8h)

Gifts

- Federal & State Grant Programs (9)
- Federal & State tax credit programs (9c, 9d)





SBA & Money

- There are NO SBA grants!
- SBA guarantees loans (<75%) given by banks to qualifying small businesses rejected by banks
 - 7(a)- loans provided to start-up or growing businesses with special requirements
 - Can be used for real estate, equipment, purchase of another business, and working capital
 - 504 loans (long-term fixed assets: real estate or major machinery)
 - Microloans (via Justine Petersen)



Specialized SBA 7a Loans

- Exporting: Export Express, Export Working Cap.
- Neg. Trade Impacts: Int'l. Trade Loans, CAIP Loans
- Group Specific Loans: Minority and women-owned businesses, Patriot loans (Mil/vet owned businesses)
- Eco-friendly/sustainable development- Pollution Control loans
- Industry specific (e.g. agriculture, manufacturing, etc)



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Source: STL Business Journal, 2014-15 Book of Lists

...the deals that make a difference

SBA Microloans

- Smaller, short-term loans used for equipment, supplies, or day-to-day expenses
- SBA- up to \$50,000 (previously \$35,000)
 - average loan: \$13,000
- Other lenders- up to \$35,000 per business
- MO Lenders: Justine Petersen Housing & Reinvestment Corp, Enterprise Development Corp. (Columbia), Rural Missouri, Inc. (Jeff City)
- http://www.sba.gov/content/microloan-program



Other Local Small Business Loans

- BOOST- 504 loans for businesses based in or expanding into St. Louis County
- Justine Petersen: Emerging Markets Loans, Green Loans
- Bioscience Industrial Expansion- up to \$500,000 for businesses in or improving bioscience
- Missouri Small Business Loan Program- loans up to \$50,000
- Accion USA- private firm, loans up to \$50,000
- Urban Enterprise loan- business must be within St. Louis or Kansas City. \$10,000-\$100,000.
- Illinois Department of Commerce Participation Loan Program
- RMI- 504 loans, loan program for rural areas, and Small Business Investment Fund
- St. Louis Business Development Fund established firms



Business Loans for Low Income Neighborhoods

- SBA Programs: Community Advantage (via ACCION Texas - MO, ACCION Chicago – IL), Rural Lender Advantage
- STL Community Development Credit Unions
 - St. Margaret's CU
 - Choices FCU
- STL Community Development Partners
 - Anheuser-Busch Employees' CU
 - Vantage CU



Ferguson-Related Business Funding

- http://northstlouiscounty.com/north-countyeconomic-recovery-toolbox/
 - Small Business Relief Program
 - Linked Deposit Program
 - Reinvest North County Fund
- http://northstlouiscounty.com/small-businessassistance-information/
- Crowdfunding (GoFundMe, IndieGoGo)



Programs for Non-Profits

- Guide: http://www.prattlibrary.org/locations/ssh/?id=3130
 - http://www.sba.gov/content/nonprofit-organizations
- Opportunity Finance Network http://ofn.org/cdfi-locator
 - Justine Petersen Housing and Reinvestment
 Corporation (STL) loans
 - Choices Federal Credit Union
- Examples of Specialized Programs
 - IFF (Chicago) Real estate & equipment financing
 - First Children's Finance (Minneapolis) Community facility loans
 Saint Louis University 2 notes

Govt. Gifts: Federal Research Grants

(11)

- SB Innovation Research / SB Tech Transfer
 - Three Phases build on each other
 - Phase 1 (\$225K, 6 mo., 20% hit rate)
 - Money for research & feasibility, not for the business
 - Phase II (\$1.5M, 40%)
 - Outside partner funding encouraged
 - Phase IIb (Match up to \$1M/yr for 3 years, 50%)
 - Outside partner funding required
- http://www.win-sbir.com/library/overview.html
- www.sbir.gov, www.grants.gov



Govt. Gifts: National Tax Credits

 The IRS lists more than 100 types of individual and business credits and deductions at:

> www.irs.gov/Credits-&-Deductions

Two types

- Nonrefundable Credits (e.g. electric vehicle, lifetime learning) can get your taxes down to zero
- Refundable Credits (e.g. payments to foreign corps.) could get you a tax refund

- Energy savings (e.g. car)
- Job creation
- Providing childcare
- Increasing R&D
- Locating in an empowerment zone
- Making certain types of investment



Finding Government Money

- US Government Money Finder
 - http://business.usa.gov/access-financing
- The Source for Government Grants
 - www.grants.gov
- The Source for Government Loans
 - www.govloans.gov





State Gifts: Grants & Credits

- Action Fund Loans: City applies on behalf of a start-up
- Certified Capital Co. (CAPCOs): Invest in MO firms
- Enhanced Enterprise Zone credits: 3 around STL
- MO Export Finance Program
 - Providing working capital, insurance, loan guarantees
- MO Quality Jobs Program (10 or more jobs)
- >50 more (SB and others) at
 - http://www.ded.mo.gov/programs.aspx



Other MO-IL Sources

- Missouri Business Portal Incentive Programs
 - http://business.mo.gov/incentives/index.html
- Missouri Small Business Development Centers
 - http://www.missouribusiness.net/sbtdc/index.asp
- Illinois Grants, Loans & Incentives
 - http://www.illinois.gov/Business/Pages/financetaxes.aspx
- IL SBDCs
 - www.ilsbdc.biz



Gifts from Institutions: (12) STL Competitions \$5,000-\$50,000

- Accelerate St. Louis Challenge: http://acceleratestlouis.org/challenge/
- WashU Olin Cup & SCIC http://skandalaris.wustl.edu/tag/olin-cup/
- Metro East Start-Up Challenge: http://www.siue.edu/metroeaststartup/
- STL iStart Business Plan Competition
 - http://stlsu2013.istart.org/
- Arch Grants
 - http://archgrants.org/



Gifts from Others: Competitions (2)

- MADE in Missouri State Entrepreneurship Comp.
 - http://www.mvcaa.net/index.cfm?Page=MADEinMissouriCompetition
- National and International Business Plan Competitions
 - From <u>www.bizplancompetitions.com</u>
 - Examples from the 260 they list
 - Cleantech Open National Competition
 - Rice Business Plan Competition (the biggest)
 - Global Social Venture Competition





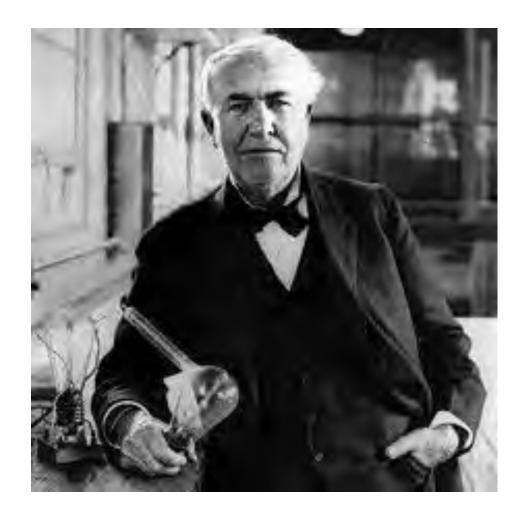
So?

- Do it yourself when possible.
- Start asking closest to home, then expand
- Try to own as much as you can, but when you start giving, give where it counts
- Gifts are best, use debt & equity when nec.
- Basic is simpler than fancy
- The more you learn, the more you find!



Remember This!

 'When you have exhausted all possibilities, remember this you haven't."
 Edison



Looking for More?

- http://www.acceleratestlouis.org/Resources
- Contact St. Louis SCORE: http://stlouis.score.org/
- MO SBTDC: http://www.missouribusiness.net/sbtdc/centers.asp
- IL SBDC: <u>www.ilsbdc.biz</u>
- SBA St. Louis Office: https://www.sba.gov/offices/district/mo/st-louis
- Justine Petersen:

 http://www.justinepetersen.org/small business/start up businesses/

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...the deals that make a difference

Thanks

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 John Cook School of Business
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 314-977-3850
 Jerome Katz, Director, katzja@slu.edu

