



FOUNDERS
FORUM
NORTH AMERICA

2023 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In partnership with

Globant 

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Katherine Ryder
Maven Clinic



Michael Lynton
Snap Inc.

INTRODUCTION

Our 11th annual FF North America brought together inspirational founders, investors, and government and corporate leaders from both sides of the pond.

400+ trailblazers from over 20 countries and 50 industries – including 60 unicorn founders – discussed new breakthroughs in AI, productivity gains, risks, ethics, and regulation.

We learned about a new wave of space tech and longevity pills for dogs. We heard how movies will become video games and zero-emission engines will power supersonic flight.

Plus, our Game Changers, pioneering founders who are revolutionising their industries, shared their stories of innovation, disruption, and hypergrowth.

Over the course of the day, five standout themes emerged::

America and Beyond! | VC Politics and Space 3.0.

AI in Practice | Society Transformed.

Media & Creativity | Augmented Worlds.

Health & Longevity | Cracking Cancer and Longevity For Dogs.

Climate, Culture, Impact | Doing Well While Doing Good.

Read on to discover our key takeaways from FF North America 2023.

Cover (left to right):
Kevin Ryan (AlleyCorp),
Julie Rice (Soul Cycle)
& Cristóbal Valenzuela (Runway).

Content: Marco De Novellis
Design: [Znine.uk](#)

AMERICA AND BEYOND!



Dylan Taylor (Voyagerspace),
Luca Rossetini (D-Orbit),
Anthony Baker (SatVu) &
Mark Boggett (Seraphim)



Amy Griffin
G9

Caroline Hyde (Bloomberg),
Kevin Ryan (AlleyCorp) &
Adam Valkin (General Catalyst)



VC Politics

National interest is trumping globalisation. Every country is thinking about independence in the core verticals that underpin their economies – semiconductors, manufacturing, healthcare, defence, and AI. Yet immigration is the secret to success. When VCs decide where to allocate dollars, they consider countries with the friendliest immigration policies.

US VC investment fell by more than 45% during Q1-Q3 this year, compared with the same period last year. Only top performers in hot sectors like AI are raising at high valuations, and companies are doing insider-led extensions to avoid going to market. LPs are reducing their VC relationships and consolidating around top performers, and returns will suffer as tourist capital – private equity and family offices – exit the market.

Companies need several quarters of consistent performance before public market reception will improve. M&A is also challenging with few obvious strategic buyers. Still, growth and multi-stage equity are active, many private companies are showing signs of profitability, and big companies will go public next year

The View From LatAm

Latin America has the lowest levels of interpersonal trust in the world, ecommerce penetration is low, and logistics and payments infrastructure is still in its infancy. These challenges provide green fields of opportunity – Mercado Libre built its ecommerce infrastructure from scratch and is now a multi-billion dollar company.

There’s also a talent boom and founders innovating in the region can capture markets underserved by offline incumbents. By building trust through transparency – real-time pricing, order tracking, and balance visibility – and using AI to optimise logistics and conversational interfaces to increase ecommerce adoption among less tech-savvy consumers, founders can find their competitive advantage.



Munjal Shah
Hippocratic AI

“Latin America can become the next strategic partner for the US.”

Martin Migoya, Globant



“Countries with the most favourable immigration policies will attract the talent to build the best companies”

Adam Valkin, General Catalyst



Anjana Rajan
Office of the National Cyber Director



\$89b

US VC investment during Q1-Q3, 2023
[Global Data](#)

There’s an Emerging Space Economy...

The early space age was defined by government-led exploration and satellites used for communications and weather monitoring on Earth. In Space 2.0, companies like SpaceX are building out digital infrastructure, satellites are smaller, lighter, and cheaper, and services like Starlink mean we’ll soon have high-speed internet everywhere coming from space.

These companies are also building the physical infrastructure to enable a transition to Space 3.0, where space tech enables not just Earth services but a self-sustaining commercial space industry and space-to-space businesses, covering space mining, manufacturing, tourism, and logistics. We’ll see logistics networks with transportation systems between planets, and space will become an extension of life on Earth.



Pablos Holman
Deep Future

...And These Companies Are Leading the Charge

Luca Rossetti’s D-Orbit provides an industrial taxi service for the space industry, transporting satellites from their drop-off orbit after a rocket launch to the specific orbit they need to operate in, and reducing launch to operation time by up to 85%. D-Orbit has a fleet of 12 satellite carriers and has completed over 90 satellite deployments to date. It’s also developing in-orbit servicing, maintenance, and recycling of satellites, space situational awareness to track objects in orbit, and an orbital cloud computing system using satellites to process space data.

Dylan Taylor’s Voyager Space is building a commercial space station, Starlab, to replace the International Space Station and become a one-stop shop for space infrastructure needs, supporting research, manufacturing, and space tourism. Backed by Airbus and NASA, Voyager Space has already delivered more than 2,000 space missions for commercial, civil, and national security customers from over 35 countries. Starlab is set to launch in 2028.

Anthony Baker’s SatVu operates high-resolution thermal imaging satellites to monitor economic activity, energy efficiency, and extreme weather on Earth. Use cases include tracking the spread of wildfires, monitoring the urban heat island effect, and providing data to support disaster response. SatVu pre-sold over \$160m in data contracts before even launching its first satellite. HOTSAT-1 launched in 2023 and is the first of a planned constellation of eight.

Saurabh Gupta (DST Global)
& Fabian Gutierrez (Frubana)



Luca Rossetti
D-Orbit

“Governments recognise the opportunity to build infrastructure in space, and they’re queuing up to invest.”

Dylan Taylor, Voyager Space



Globant

AI IN PRACTICE

Cristóbal Valenzuela
Runway



Cal Henderson
Slack



Frida Polli
pymetrics

“AI is touching everything we do – this is bigger than we even think.”

Anant Bhardwaj, Instabase



Society Transformed

Everyone is now experimenting with AI. At an operational level, most deployments are experimental, but we’ll see huge productivity gains in the next 12-18 months. In the next decade, generative AI could boost productivity growth by 1.5%, automate work activities that take up 60-70% of employees’ time today, and increase global GDP by 7%.

In SaaS, generative AI has already become table stakes. Models are predicting what users want to do based on their workflow and past behaviours, meaning AI is augmenting work without humans realising it. In education, AI is personalising learning, providing tools for continuous assessment and feedback that could help replace exams, and automating marking and lesson prep to free up teachers’ time.

While AI systems have been around for a while, the economics of generative AI is shaking up the market. LLMs have pushed the high variable cost of correctness, testing and reviewing AI models, to end users who make and correct their own errors that the model then learns from. We’re seeing almost software-level margins for product companies – and conversational AI is just the beginning. More efficient modes of human-AI interaction will emerge and wearables and edge computing will offer tap-in/tap-out access to AI from anywhere.

Focus on Outcomes

With AI automating many tasks that we couldn’t do ourselves, we have an explosion of potential thoughtlessness at scale in a technology that impacts billions of people’s lives. Regulation is needed and AI companies should pay close attention to how and where they get the data to train their models. To allow space for innovation, regulation should focus on outcomes rather than the technology itself.

Frida Polli, Co-Founder and CEO of pymetrics, helped to orchestrate a first-in-nation New York City law to mandate the public reporting of bias in algorithms used by companies to screen and recruit job candidates. The law, which came into effect in July 2023, is designed to improve AI hiring tools to benefit candidates rather than ban them, and is being replicated in states across the US.

+7%

Generative AI’s potential impact on global GDP in the next decade
Goldman Sachs



Katherine Ryder (Maven Clinic), Cal Henderson (Slack),
Munjil Shah (Hippocratic AI), Peter Sarlin (Silo AI)
& Jeremy Johnson (Andela)

“The promise and peril of AI is that it’s a thoughtlessness enabler – you don’t have to know how to do a task to automate it.”

Cassie Kozyrkov, Data Scientific



AI Regulation For All

President Biden’s Executive Order shows the US government is committed to AI, but new safety and security standards risk helping big companies cement their positions and could negatively impact open-source AI and a whole ecosystem of small, agile companies, students, and researchers testing new AI tools and driving innovation from the bottom up.

Already, incumbents can hire the best AI talent and add new features into existing products with scale in a way that’s difficult for startups to dislodge. Regulation must shift attention from the largest foundational models and debate should include all members of society, not just the tech sector.

An internationally-agreed AI charter, outlining basic ethical principles, should be the foundation for AI legislation around the world. The UK AI Safety Summit, which saw 28 countries and the EU sign the Bletchley Declaration committing to identifying AI risks and building national frameworks for AI safety, was a positive forward step.



AI Defence

The US-China AI race is on – the Department of Defense’s 2024 fiscal budget request includes \$1.8b for AI. The US government needs new AI expertise to cut through the hype and understand the real capabilities and limits of AI systems, but there’s a cultural mismatch. AI founders want to move fast and stay flexible, not fill out timesheets. The slow speed of defence acquisition and rigid procurement cycles mean opportunities are being missed.

Congress needs to reform acquisition laws and speed up funding for innovative capabilities. Explainable AI will be critical for defence applications, to ensure systems can be understood, validated, and trusted. And defence actors should explore partnerships that don’t compromise security but allow for shared tech advancement, while global AI talent exchange will improve international cooperation.

“Open-source AI is the life-blood of our industry and we need to protect it.”

Martin Casado, Andreessen Horowitz



Nayur Khan (McKinsey), Anjana Rajan (Office of the National Cyber Director), Bernhard Gademann (Institut auf dem Rosenberg), Cassie Kozyrkov (Data Scientific) & Frida Polli (Alethia)

“A small group of companies are driving AI regulation. We need a broader conversation.”

Cristóbal Valenzuela, Runway

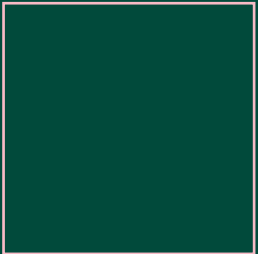


Jana Eggers (Nara Logics) & Jennifer Ross (InterVallo)

MEDIA & CREATIVITY



David Cancel
Drift



Richard Edelman
Edelman



Lauren Wright
(The Natural Nipple) &
Aloe Blacc (Major Inc)

“Companies on TikTok are reaching a million dollars in sales with no advertising.”

Michele Romanow, Clearco



Media + AI

AI has already caused two Hollywood strikes and many in the creative industries have cause for concern. AI is writing books, cloning actors’ voices, and making Harrison Ford look 50 years younger while up-and-coming actors struggle to find work. Still, you can’t copyright something created purely by generative AI in the US, and originality is difficult – AI can predict patterns but can’t make huge creative leaps like inventing hip hop just yet.

To protect journalism, AI companies training LLMs on online content, aggregating content, and synthesising articles, need to pay to do so – conversations between media and AI players are ongoing. At the same time, news websites need to provide the same kind of experience users expect from social media, AI chatbots included. Traditional media can connect content with social media and commerce by leveraging TikTok’s in-app shopping feed, but they should be wary of social engineering algorithms that turn platforms into echo chambers and reinforce dangerous beliefs.

Fighting Fake News

Fake news is profitable. It’s easy to produce and attracts big audiences and advertising revenue. Next year, it poses a significant threat to democracy as potentially more than half the world’s population go to the polls. To combat misinformation, we need online identity verification and new economic models that incentivise quality journalism. Fact checking is a blunt sword as people aren’t receptive to the correction of misinformation they already believe. Instead, pre-bunking fake news, inoculating people against misinformation tactics before they encounter them, is key.

Jigsaw’s Perspective API uses machine learning to moderate toxic comments online and analyses more than two billion comments daily. Two things have become clear since the tool’s launch in 2017: social signals are playing a greater role in trust heuristics online and removing the most toxic online comments doesn’t get us to discourse that’s aligned with a healthy democracy. Perspective API is expanding to help restructure online conversations to spotlight comments that are constructive, channel curiosity, and evoke empathy.



4 Billion+

People will potentially vote in democratic elections in 2024, the biggest election year in history.

Robert Thomson (News Corp) & Kevin Mayer (Candle)

Story Time

When Cristóbal Valenzuela started Runway, he focused on AI’s potential for story-telling and creativity based on LLMs that didn’t exist yet. Investors thought he was crazy. Now, everyone, from award-winning filmmakers to children on their phones, is using generative AI to create new content quickly at low cost. More than half of Fortune 100 companies use Runway and it was valued at \$1.5b in a \$141m Series C extension round in June 2023.

Runway’s text to video generator is also helping a leading TV animation studio reduce the time it takes to create new episodes from months to seconds. Soon, movies will be more like video games where you’ll use LLMs in real time to follow your own viewing journey. In the future, AI models will enable us to experience and create storylines that activate all of our senses.

“We need to transform the conflict we have online into something productive.”

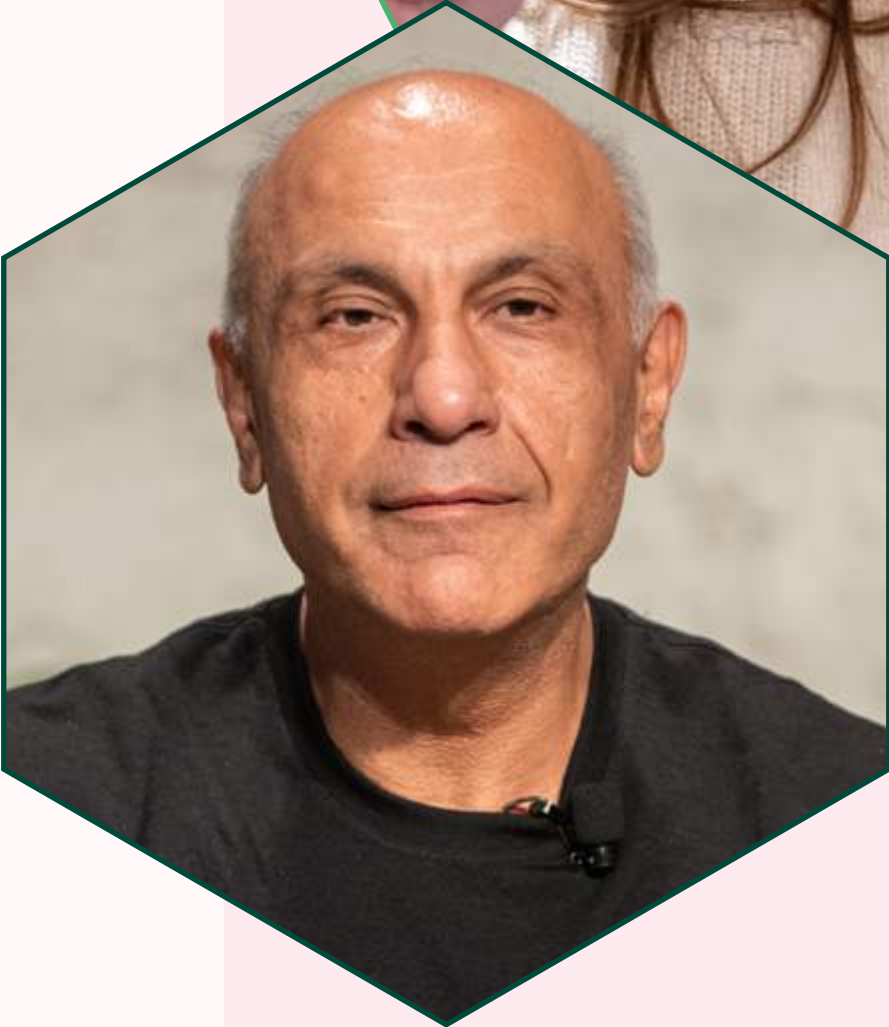
Yasmin Green, Jigsaw



Augmented Worlds

Magic Leap raised \$3.5b to bring its headset-based augmented reality to market, switching focus from consumer to enterprise and applying AR in industries like healthcare and defence. For mass adoption, AR devices must become smaller, lighter, and more affordable. In the meantime, AR companies can licence their tech patents to non-competitors to boost their income.

Eventually, AR will be used in daily life via contact lenses connected to a small device in your pocket. The holy grail is digital content intelligently placed in an environment, so you can be more selective about what you look at, compared with the onslaught of content we get from our phones.



Hovhannes Avoyan
Picsart



Peggy Johnson
Magic Leap

HEALTH & LONGEVITY

James Peyer
Cambrian Bio



Kristen Fortney (Bioage Labs)
& Celine Halioua (Loyal)



Amy Killen
Human Optimization Project

“There’s a direct correlation between how early you catch cancers and mortality reduction.”

Reed Jobs, Yosemite



Cracking Cancer

Our body produces 330 billion new cells each day; 1,700 of those are potentially cancerous. Understanding how these cells become immortal, mobile, and why they treat the body as an adverse environment is the key to solving cancer. Up to 50% of all cancer cases are preventable. First, we need a paradigm shift from the treatment of end-stage disease to prevention and early detection.

Studying high risk groups like cancer survivors will help us find early biomarkers. And we should leverage the innate anticancer mechanisms in our biology that restrain cell growth and lifespan, rather than destroying immune systems with chemotherapy. Rapamycin can help to inhibit cell growth and restore anti-cancer surveillance in senescent immune systems.

As the disease reoccurs, the strategies we develop for early detection will apply to late-stage cancer too. Soon, cancers will be grouped by cell behaviours rather than their location in the body, AI and genomics will enable earlier diagnosis, and wearable devices will scan the body 24/7 looking for signs of inflammation and disease.

Prevention Problem

There are no incentives for prevention within the current US healthcare system. Doctors and hospitals make money from treatment, not for keeping patients healthy. And, as consumers frequently switch providers, insurers also have little incentive to invest in long-term preventive care.

Regulation is needed to realign incentives. In the meantime, AI can accelerate drug discovery and commercialisation, crunch patient data to help doctors diagnose better, and support chronic care management, medication adherence, and pre-op calls to enable a level of prevention and outreach that hasn’t been possible before.

Ariel Katz’s H1 has built a mega digital professional database and data analytics platform to connect stakeholders across the healthcare ecosystem. H1 provides AI-driven insights that help patients find the right doctors and biotech and pharma firms accelerate drug discovery and commercialisation. H1 graduated from Y Combinator in 2020 as a bootstrapped startup with less than 10 employees. Now, it employs more than 500 people and has customers in more than 80 countries. It has raised \$193m and maintains detailed information on over 10 million medical providers globally.



Celine Halioua Loyal

“The US is the best health tech market in the world because we have the worst healthcare system.”

Kevin Ryan, AlleyCorp



330 Billion

New cells are produced by the body each day.

Extending Life

Kristen Fortney’s BioAge Labs has raised \$127m to develop a pipeline of treatments that treat disease and extend healthspan. Its AI discovery platform combines quantitative analysis of human samples with detailed health records to map the key molecular pathways that impact healthy human ageing. Next year, BioAge will begin Phase 2 trials for an anti-obesity drug that mimics Apelin, a hormone secreted in response to exercise that regulates metabolism and promotes muscle regeneration, to increase weight loss.

More longevity drugs, extending healthy lifespan in humans and preventing age-related diseases will come to the market in the next 5-10 years. These therapies won’t just be for the wealthy. As patents expire and prices drop, people will change how they plan their careers, when they retire, and when they have children.

But education is needed to drive acceptance. The FDA banned nicotinamide mononucleotide (NMN), an anti-ageing ingredient used in dietary supplements, last year. Until regulators recognise ageing as a disease, companies need to apply for approval for drugs that treat individual diseases rather than anti-aging treatments more broadly.

“Adding 10-20 years to the average human lifespan is achievable.”

Kristen Fortney, Bioage Labs



Dogeivity!

That’s why Celine Halioua’s Loyal is first aiming to extend the healthspan and lifespan of dogs and convince regulators that similar drugs for humans are viable too. Loyal is running an FDA-recognised study, covering more than 60 veterinary clinics and 1,000 dogs across the US, to evaluate the safety and effectiveness of its longevity drugs in a real-world setting. It has raised \$65m and built a team with over 190 years of research experience to bring canine anti-ageing pills to market by 2025.

Emi Gal
Ezra



“If we can slow ovarian ageing, women will be fertile for longer and won’t go into menopause or experience the hormonal decline that we do now.”

Amy Killen, Human Optimization Project



Nacho Figueras
Black Watch Polo Team



CLIMATE CULTURE IMPACT

Kathleen Breitman
Coase



Eamon Jubbawy
Isometric

Blake Scholl (Boom Supersonic),
Val Miftakhov (ZeroAvia)
& Bobby Healy (Manna
Drone Delivery)



“Nature-based carbon credits are higher volume and lower priced, while technology-based carbon removal credits are higher priced and in much shorter supply.”

Dana Gibber, Flowcarbon



Carbon Assets

Carbon markets could provide more than \$1t to fund decarbonisation if major corporations purchase credits for their residual emissions. These carbon credits create climate assets that can attract financing and become bankable for traditional lenders. But we aren't there yet. Regulation is needed to bring institutional capital into the market and transparency and verification of carbon credits is a challenge.

Eamon Jubbawy's Isometric aims to fix this problem by building a science-based carbon removal registry that issues credits for carbon removal and makes all the data and analysis behind each credit publicly available. Isometric raised \$25m in Seed funding in July 2023 to build its science and engineering teams and ensure its credits represent real climate impact.

Carbon removal should work hand-in-hand with conservation. Once we have better monitoring and standards, more companies will supplement removal credits with offsetting via avoided emissions like rainforest preservation.

Flying Fast, Responsibly

Val Miftakhov's ZeroAvia is developing the world's first zero-emission engines for commercial aviation. Its hydrogen-electric engines have 90% lower life cycle emissions than jet engines and 75% lower hourly maintenance costs. ZeroAvia has completed the first stage of flight testing of its ZA600 prototype and is targeting a 300-mile range in a 9–19 seat aircraft by the end of 2025 and a 700-mile range in 40–80 seat aircraft by 2027.

Blake Scholl's Boom Supersonic has raised \$700m to bring supersonic flight back to the skies. Its supersonic airliner, Overture, is designed to fly at more than 1,300mph on 100% sustainable aviation fuel and will start commercial operations in the late 2020s. Its XB-1 supersonic demonstrator aircraft – the world's first independently developed supersonic jet – is set to make its first test flight this year.

Both companies are backed by Saudi Arabia's Neom Investment Fund and various institutional partners, including Airbus, AWS, United Airlines, and the US Air Force. They use advanced software, automation, and cloud computing to accelerate sustainable aircraft design, allowing small, nimble teams to iterate designs quickly, run simulations, and achieve feats that previously required thousands of engineers.

“We're looking forward to a future of sustainable supersonic flight – flights that are significantly faster and completely net zero.”

Blake Scholl, Boom Supersonic



Julie Rice (Soul Cycle)
& Amy Griffin (G9)



Culture Cheat Code

Jon Gray’s Ghetto Gastro built a culinary brand rooted in honesty about his background, blending diverse influences like hip hop, jazz, and classical music to tell unique stories through food. Julie Rice’s SoulCycle transformed from an idea to a \$900m business by creating an inclusive, people-first culture that made employees feel like they mattered so they could make customers feel they mattered too.

To create a successful culture, be authentic, build real relationships, understand your community deeply and emphasise with their needs. Gather inspiration from various sources, but stay focused on your core mission. Representation of women is an obvious point and makes economic sense – women influence at least 80% of all household spending in the US. We need more role models and more women on boards from non-finance backgrounds.

Doing Well, Doing Good

More than a third of food grown in the US is wasted, while almost 40 million Americans live in food deserts without access to affordable and healthy food. Abhi Ramesh’s Misfits Market solves both these problems by partnering with farms and food producers to buy ‘ugly’ or surplus fruits, vegetables, and other fresh food items rejected by major retailers and shipping them direct to consumers at a discounted price.

Misfits has raised more than \$526m and acquired its competitor, Imperfect Foods, in 2022, putting the company on an 18-month path to profitability. Abhi built a unicorn startup by age 29. He’s now looking to leverage its national fulfilment infrastructure to offer third-party logistics to other brands.

Founders motivated by leveraging their success for good should start thinking about their giving early. David Goldberg’s Founders Pledge empowers entrepreneurs to commit a percentage of their current or future wealth to charity, holding their future selves accountable to their values. More than \$10b has been pledged and \$1b given to charity from over 1,800 members of the community. Pledges are often fulfilled at higher percentages than initially committed.



“A brand is about how you make somebody feel. When you’re building a business, making people feel like they matter is the most important thing.”

Julie Rice, Soul Cycle



Miguel McKelvey (WeWork),
Jon Gray (Ghetto Gastro)
& Katie Longmyer (Proto
Collective)

40m

Americans live in food
deserts without access to
affordable and healthy food.

AECE

Kristin Stoller (Forbes),
Ariel Katz (H1) &
Abhi Ramesh (Misfits)

VISION TO REALITY

Insights from Globant▶



James Vincent (FNDR) &
Martin Migoya (Globant)



Jane Lauder
Estée Lauder

Cleo Abram (Huge if True),
Guibert Englebienne (Globant)
& Kevin Guo (Hive)



“Everything we’ve built has been about creating emotional experiences for our customers.”

Martin Migoya, Co-Founder & CEO of Globant, took to the main stage at FF North America with FNDR’s James Vincent, to share his inspirational startup story and the lessons he’s learned along the way.

Flip the Org Chart

Organise for innovation, not hierarchy. Decentralisation fosters agility and innovation, and big companies can do big things when small cells close to customers can behave autonomously. Early on, we flipped the org chart, placing the leadership team as the foundational base at the bottom, providing support and resources for the teams on top.

Embrace New Tech

Globant invested in AI training years before it became mainstream. Every Globant employee, from engineers to executives, took basic AI courses, and that gave us a competitive advantage. With 29,000 employees, understanding how to allocate the right people to different projects is a challenge, and AI can help us with that. Companies must push the use of AI – we are just scratching the surface of what we can do.

Champion Emotion...

Big ideas that are very simple and well-executed can take you anywhere. Blend technology with design thinking. Don’t just engineer; make products intuitive and emotional. This philosophy, inspired by Apple, has become central to our success.

...And Give Back

When we started, it was tough to find five decent engineers. Today, the tech ecosystem in Latin America is flourishing. When we launched our engineering training programme, 150,000 people subscribed in three months; we were only able to train 10,000. The most important impact we’ve had is in driving the tech ecosystem in Latin America, and we want to do more!



Gillian Zucker (LA Clippers) and Jane Lauder (Estée Lauder) spoke with Patricia Pomies (Globant) about disrupting their industries before Kevin Guo (Hive) and Guibert Englebienne (Globant) discussed how to scale new innovations with AI in conversation with Cleo Abram (Huge If True).

Start Early

Don't wait around before adopting AI. Think about Bitcoin; huge value can come from being an early adopter. AI is being packaged into APIs and tools that make it simple for people and companies to leverage, without needing deep technical expertise. Harnessing AI, even in small ways, can pay big dividends down the road. Think about your AI strategy and fit the AI model to the problem you're trying to solve – custom-built AI often outperforms general models.

“Think about what people really want – that’s what should drive disruption.”

Gillian Zucker, LA Clippers



“Don’t do AI for the sake of AI. Focus on outcomes and applying AI to something useful.”

Guibert Englebienne, Globant



Innovation Culture

Take risks on new technologies, promote a competitive spirit, use new technology hand-in-hand with creativity, and democratise AI access within organisations to foster a culture of innovation. By leveraging new digital channels, companies can transform and personalise communication with their consumers – like in fashion and beauty, where virtual try-on technology is dramatically reducing returns by helping consumers pick the right products.

Augment Human Capabilities

AI can enhance and expand what humans can do; automating repeat processes or reviewing graphic content so humans don't have to. It's a copilot for every kind of work out there, but be pragmatic about its capabilities. True general intelligence is still far off. Focus on solving practical business problems and don't get caught up in the hype.

GAME CHANGERS

Inspirational Founders Disrupting Their Industries



Karman+

Asteroid mining has been an idea in science fiction for 100 years. Teun van den Dries started Karman+ to make it a reality and mine space resources from near-Earth asteroids at scale. Why now? There's a legal framework for the commercial exploitation of space, launch costs are coming down, space stations are being built, and there's activity in orbit – signs of an early market for space mining.

Teun is also the Founder of data analytics platform, GeoPhy, acquired by Walker & Dunlop in 2022. After he couldn't find an asteroid mining company to invest in, he started his own. Now, he has a team of 30 working to make asteroid mining possible in the next decade and provide abundant sustainable energy and resources in space and for Earth.

Founded: **2022**

Country: **USA**

Stage: **Seed**

Total Funding Raised: **\$25m**

Investors: **Angels & Family Offices**



Milkshake

Doug Wightman has dedicated his career to making fast technology faster. He worked on Search and Project Loon at Alphabet before leaving to start a machine learning hardware unicorn, Groq. Now, Doug is the Co-Founder and CEO of Milkshake, which builds exascale silicon photonic processors.

Founded: **2021**

Country: **USA**

Stage: **Series A**

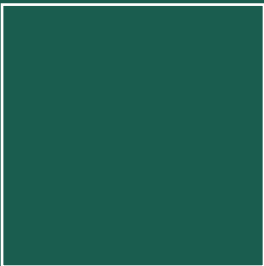


Noom

Everyone knows they should eat more healthily, exercise more, and get better sleep, but most people don't know how. Saeju Jeong's digital healthcare company, [Noom](#), uses the latest in behavioural science to empower millions of people to meet their personal health and wellness goals.

Saeju previously founded South Korea's first-ever heavy metal record label. After the death of his father, he decided to drop out of college, move to the US, and look to make a greater impact. Noom has raised roughly \$669m to date. It's expanding from weight management to stress, anxiety, hypertension, diabetes, and clinical obesity management, and driving a wider shift from sick care to health care.

Founded: **2008**
Country: **USA**
Stage: **Series F+**
Total Funding Raised: **\$669m**
Investors: **Novo Holdings, Oak HC/FT, RRE, Samsung Ventures, Sequoia Capital, Silver Lake, Temasek, TransLink Capital**



Dame Natalie Massenet
(Imaginary Ventures /
Net-a-Porter) in the audience.

Topgolf

Steve Jolliffe co-founded [Topgolf](#) with his identical twin brother, Dave, to bring new life, plus plenty of beer and music, to golf. Topgolf boasts 95 venues globally and attracts more than 50 million visitors each year. It has raised \$3b to date and has a pipeline of 24 new sites across the UK and the US.

Steve's goal is to reinvent sports we think we know with cutting-edge tech. He's also the Co-Founder of tech-infused minigolf company, Puttshack, which attracts more than five million guests to its indoor courses annually. Next, he's bringing his unique ball tracking technology to the game of pool.

Founded: **2000**
Country: **USA**
Stage: **Acquired by Callaway Golf for \$2.6b in 2021**
Total Funding Raised: **\$3b**
Investors: **Dundon Capital Partners, Providence Equity Partners, WestRiver Group**

2023 AGENDA



The Health of the US Tech Ecosystem – New York and Beyond	Adam Valkin (General Catalyst) & Kevin Ryan (AlleyCorp). Moderator: Caroline Hyde (Bloomberg).
Ethics in AI: Navigating Policy, Practice, and Purpose	Anjana Rajan (Office of the National Cyber Director), Bernhard Gademann (Institut auf dem Rosenberg), Cassie Kozyrkov (Data Scientifico) & Frida Polli (Alethia). Moderator: Peter Zipparo (McKinsey).
The Next Frontier: Art in the Digital Age	Charlie Stewart (Sotheby’s) & Scott Lynn (Masterworks). Moderator: Marion Maneker (Art Market Monitor).
Technology Reinventing Industries	Gillian Zucker (LA Clippers President) & Jane Lauder (Estée Lauder). Moderator: Patricia Pomies (Globant).
Computers Cracking Cancer’s Code	Azra Raza (Columbia University), Emi Gal (Ezra), Reed Jobs (Yosemite) & James Peyer (Cambrianbio). Moderator: Jack Kreindler (WellFounded Health).
Strategies for Impactful Giving	John Simon (GreenLight Fund), Scott Harrison (Charity: Water) & David Goldberg (Founders Pledge). Moderator: Lara Lewington (BBC Click).
AI’s Impact on Education	Satya Nitta (Merlyn Mind), Deborah Quazzo (GSV), Jon Woodard (Wolfram Blockchain Labs), Joachim Horn (SAM Labs) & Richard Price (Academia.edu). Moderator: Amanda Slavin (LearningFREQUENCY).
Longevity Roundtable	Evelyne Bischof (Healthy Longevity Medicine Society), Amy Killen (Human Optimization Project), Jim Mellon (Burnbrae) & Inaki Berenguer (LlfeX).
Building The New Female Ecosystem	Amy Griffin (G9) & Julie Rice (Soul Cycle). Moderator: Mike Tiedeman (Alti).
We’re Back in the Office, Now What?	Ryan Denehy (Electric.AI), Brett Martin (Kumospace), Misha Leybovich (Google Labs) & Lydia Gilbert (Dia&Co). Moderator: Kweilin Ellingrund (McKinsey).
How Do We Innovate to Win the War?	Jana Eggers (Nara Logics), Jennifer Ross (InterVallo) & John Kaufhold (Deep Learning Analytics). Moderator: Thorold Barker (Wall Street Journal).
Unlocking Lifespan: Innovations and Insights in Longevity Science	Celine Halioua (Loyal), Richard Barker (Metadvice), Kristen Fortney (Bioage Labs) & Michael Greve (Forever Healthy Foundation). Moderator: Lara Lewington (BBC Click).
Is Climate Transition an Asset and Liability Management Problem?	Eamon Jubbawy (Isometric), Jonathan Goldberg (Carbon Direct), Tommy Ricketts (BeZero Carbon) & Dana Gibber (Flow Carbon). Moderator: Dave Sabow (HSBC Innovation Banking).
Practical Uses of AI	Munjal Shah (Hippocratic AI), Peter Sarlin (Silo AI), Jeremy Johnson (Andela) & Cal Henderson (Slack). Moderator: Katherine Ryder (Maven Clinic).
How Space Innovations Reshape Global Industries	Dylan Taylor (Voyagerspace), Anthony Baker (SatVu) & Luca Rossetini (D-Orbit). Moderator: Mark Boggett (Seraphim).
The Future of Creativity	Hovhannes Avoyan (Picsart), Kyle Bradstreet (Tremont Productions) & Anthony Geffen (Atlantic Productions). Moderator: Laurie Segall (Mostly Human Media).
The Evolving Fintech Landscape: Navigating Global Challenges and Opportunities	Dan Allred (Liquidity), Kathryn Petralia (Keep Financial), Leif Abraham (Public) & Kathleen Breitman (Coase). Moderator: Ad Arreman (Adyen).

The View from LATAM	Fabian Gutierrez (Frubana) in conversation with Saurabh Gupta (DST Global).
Community Economies & New Majority Markets: Next Gen Panel	Anu Duggal (Female Founders Fund), Hesam Hosseini (Match Group), Saeju Jeong (Noom) & Alvin Cai (Singapore Economic Development Board). Moderator: Bing Chen (AU Holdings).
Scaling Globally with a Purpose	Martin Migoya (Globant) in conversation with James Vincent (FNDR).
VC Meet the VC	Fabrice Grinda (FJ Labs), Martin Mignot (Index Ventures), Danielle Lay (NEA) & John Borthwick (Betaworks). Moderator: Sunita Patel (HSBC Innovation Banking).
Data-Driven Decision Making	Alexandre Perez Casares (Fever), Neil Cawse (Geotab) & Sam Hendel (Dataminr). Moderator: Duncan Painter (Flywheel).
Forbes 30 Under 30 – Doing Well While Doing Good	Ariel Katz (H1) & Abhi Ramesh (Misfits). Moderator: Kristin Stoller (Forbes).
AI’s Impact on Enterprise, Infrastructure, and Beyond	Anant Bhardwaj (Instabase) & Martin Casado (Andreessen Horowitz). Moderator: Jackie Davlos (Bloomberg).
Digital Transformation: Evolving Platforms, Forging Connections	David Cancel (Drift), Jorrit Steinz (ChannelEngine), David Spector (Third Love) & Michele Romanow (Clearco). Moderator: Harry Kargman (Kargo).
From Vision to Reality: Building and Scaling Tech Innovations	Guibert Englebienne (Globant) & Kevin Guo (Hive). Moderator: Cleo Abram (Huge if True).
Shifting the Storytelling Paradigm	Cristóbal Valenzuela (Runway) in conversation with Diane Brady (Forbes).
From Noise to Trust: Reframing Authentic Communications	Richard Edelman (Edelman) in conversation with Roy Schwartz (Axios HQ).
The Future of Aviation	Val Miftakhov (Zeroavia) & Blake Scholl (Boom Supersonic). Moderator: Bobby Healy (Manna Drone Delivery).
Disrupting Culture: Next Gen Panel	Katie Longmyer (Proto Collective), Jon Gray (Ghetto Gastro) & Miguel McKelvey (WeWork). Moderator: Marcus Collins (University of Michigan).
The Future of Media	Kevin Mayer (Candle) & Robert Thomson (News Corp). Moderator: Mika Salmi (Lakestar).
Tackling Misinformation Online	Yasmin Green (Jigsaw) & James McKelvey (Invisibly). Moderator: Amanda Slavin (LearningFREQUENCY).
Bringing Emerging Technologies to Market	Peggy Johnson (Magic Leap) in conversation with Nick Thompson (The Atlantic).



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