



**Ideas for  
Entrepreneurs.**

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**Media Contact:**

Amber Fischvogt  
(812) 379-4457  
[afischvogt@cedcorp.com](mailto:afischvogt@cedcorp.com)

**TEN Conference Details:**

Date: Thursday, September 15<sup>th</sup>  
Time: 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM  
Where: Columbus, Indiana  
Venue: Commons Conference Center  
Website: [www.tenconference.com](http://www.tenconference.com)

## **TOP ENTREPRENEURS TO TALK AT PREMIERE INDIANA CONFERENCE**

*Featuring Ari Weinzweig, founder of the “Coolest Company in America”*

Some of Indiana’s best and upcoming entrepreneurs, alongside of Ari Weinzweig, founder of Zingerman’s Delicatessen, will join together to share their experiences of growing innovative companies at a new statewide conference to be held this fall.

The Entrepreneurial Network (TEN), a consortium of more than 160 Indiana company founders, has created the *TEN Conference*, a day-long event that will present ten of the top Indiana entrepreneurs in a high-impact, twenty-five minute talk format. Each founder will reveal what discoveries they have made in the process of growing their companies.

The TEN Conference will be presented on Thursday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at the newly-constructed Commons Conference Center in the heart of Downtown Columbus, Indiana. Conference registration is available online at [www.tenconference.com](http://www.tenconference.com)

In talking about the Inaugural TEN Conference, Rainmakers founder and presenter, Tony Scelzo, said, “There is a newly-formed entrepreneurial vibe occurring right now in Indiana, and it’s our job to tell and share that story.”

Featured to appear is Ari Weinzweig who co-founded Zingerman’s Delicatessen located in Ann Arbor, Michigan—the business *Inc. Magazine* named the “Coolest Company in America.”

A self-proclaimed “anarchist,” Ari’s a hero to food lovers and a serious business mogul. The popularity of Zingerman's Deli allowed Weinzweig to open a number of food-related

enterprises. Today, the Zingerman's Community of Businesses generates more than \$35 million in revenues and employs more than 500 employees including a catering arm, a coffee company, a bakery, a creamery, a mail-order operation, and a staff-training consultancy, among others. The success of the company has been noted by *Fortune*, the *New York Times*, and the *Wall Street Journal*.

Presenter Ron Brumbarger, founder of Bitwise Solutions, said he believes the Indiana has all the right ingredients to become "The Entrepreneurial State." "We have nationally-ranked, collegiate entrepreneurship programs, top-ten states in which to do business, a business-friendly tax climate and a state government willing to do what it must to enable the Entrepreneurial Dream."

Top entrepreneurs and emerging company founders to talk at the conference include:

- Ron Brumbarger (Bitwise Solutions)
- Matt Hunkler (Verge Indy)
- Brent Tilson (Tilson HR)
- Brad Wisler (SproutBox)
- Cathy Langham (Langham Logisitics)
- James Burnes (Mobiltopia, Project Brilliant)
- David Hoeft (Export USA)
- Tony Scelzo (Rainmakers)
- Daniel Orr (FARMbloomington)
- Charlie Weikert (Entrepreneur & Yo-Yo Enthusiast)

To celebrate innovation in all of its various forms, the conference will also present a number of creative performances from Guitarist Michael Kelsey, Poet Matthew Jackson, and a cutting-edge classical ensemble performance from the Columbus Philharmonic with a special featured artist.

Jack Hess, Conference Sponsor and President of the Columbus Area Chamber of Commerce, believes that "there is a true opportunity in front of us to create the next generation of entrepreneurial leadership within the State of Indiana. An important part of building this culture is to recognize our most successful entrepreneurs and let them tell their stories. We need to show more people that entrepreneurial success can happen and indeed is happening right here in Indiana. That's how true cultural shifts occur."

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#### **ABOUT THE ENTREPRENEURIAL NETWORK (TEN)**

In 2003, twenty entrepreneurs from southern Indiana came together to form The Entrepreneurial Network (TEN). Their vision was to reveal the crucial experiences necessary for growing small ventures by sharing ideas, learning from one another, and doing business together. Since then, TEN has expanded to include over 160 entrepreneurial companies and has hosted over 100 of Indiana's top entrepreneurs and business founders.