

# MEET THE SPEAKERS

OPENING SESSION SPEAKER ... **Scott Gerber, Founder, Young Entrepreneur Council**  
Saturday, Nov 5



## "Rebuilding Young America"

Scott Gerber is a serial entrepreneur, internationally syndicated columnist and [TV host](#), and the founder of the [Young Entrepreneur Council](#) (YEC). He is also an active angel investor and author of the book [Never Get a "Real" Job](#). He has been featured in the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, TIME, CNN, Reuters, Mashable, CBS Evening News, MSNBC, US News & World Report, Fox News, Inc. and Entrepreneur.

Last month, with the support from President Obama and the White House, YEC is launching its first \$10 million fund for young entrepreneurs called Gen Y Capital Partners. The New York City based accelerator program will operate similarly to YCombinator and TechStars, providing seed investments of \$15K to \$50K, up to \$250K per startup in exchange for a 6-10% equity stake in each company. But this accelerator differentiates itself by focusing on business leaders age 35 and below. Gerber is calling it, "the world's first early stage venture accelerator program for Gen Y by Gen Y".

\*\*\*\*\*

KEYNOTE MYSTERY SPEAKER

## "Self-Reliance is the American Way"

Sunday Morning, Nov 6

## GUESS WHO?

\*\*\*\*\*

## FEATURED Luncheon Speakers

Sunday, Nov 6



MEET...

**Suzanne Harper**  
**Girl Scouts of the USA**

and

**Margaret Skene**  
**Girl Scouts of**  
**Historic Georgia**



" From Badges to Business ...  
from Cookies to Careers"



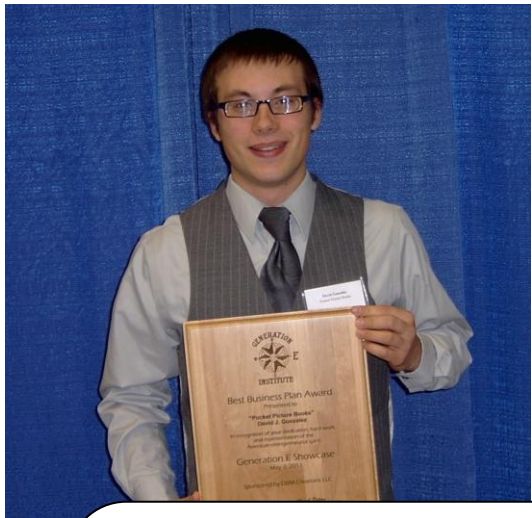
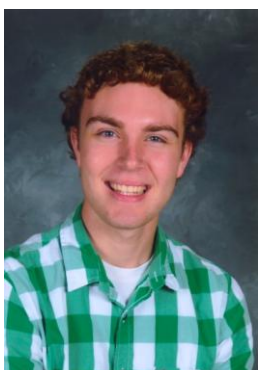
**Suzanne Harper** is the Director of Program Resources for Girl Scouts of the USA, where she oversees the creation of print and digital content for girls. Before coming to Girl Scouts, she was the editor-in-chief of *Disney Adventures* magazine. She is also an author who has published three novels (*The Secret Life of Sparrow Delaney*, *The Juliet Club*, *The Unseen World of Poppy Malone*) and six non-fiction books for middle-grade and high school audiences. She earned bachelor's degrees in both English and journalism at the University of Austin-Texas and a master's degree in writing at the University of Southern California. She drew on her editing and reporting skills in order to develop the Financial Literacy, Cookie Business and Innovation Badges that are now part of *The Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting*, the Girl Scouts' new badge book published in fall 2011.

**Margaret Skene** has been with Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia for almost 9 years. She has led the organization through restructuring, downsizing and a brutal economy through the use of innovative strategies. Margaret has extensive experience in the private sector. The FORUM experience will help our entrepreneurship initiatives by exposing our long-time work to a larger audience. Additionally, we hope it will provide an opportunity to develop alliances and partnerships with others who serve youth in our state, and across the nation. Girl Scouts all across the USA are engaged in entrepreneurial activities and we want to help others see us through a broader lens.

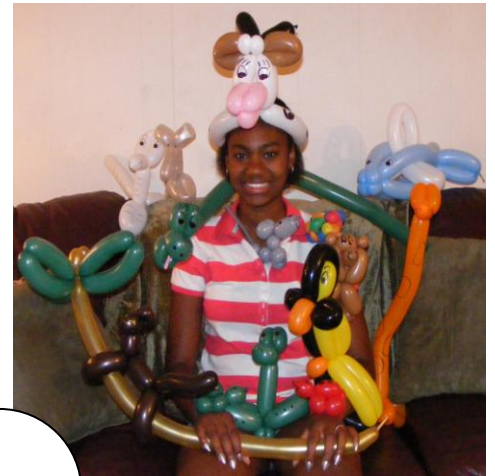
\*\*\*\*\*

**Monday Lunch: Panel of Young Entrepreneurs**  
November 7

**Moderator: Chip Lowe -**  
**Santa Fe College, Gainesville, FL**  
**Technology Consultant - CEE**



**David Gonzalez - Pocket Picture Books** are pocket-sized flip books with signs, words, pictures or a combination of the three, that people with communication disabilities use to show what they need or want. Many of the profits made by Pocket Picture Books are donated to Autism Speaks; a prestigious organization that helps in the research, diagnosis, causes and cures of autism. For 2 years as a student at the Branch Area Career Center in Marketing and Business classes. I participated in the Generation E Showcase and won major prizes. As a senior I won \$1,000 scholarship to Miller College to continue my business and entrepreneurship education.



**Amber J. Liggett** *Amber's Amazing Animal Balloons*

Determination and a strong desire to “own my own business” motivated 15-year-old Amber Liggett, to embark on a creative journey at 9-years-old. Enthralled with the idea of being her own boss, Amber (a self-taught balloon artist) practiced daily making animal shapes out of balloons. She began with a small list of creations, and now creates over 65 different shapes with balloons, and the menu grows constantly. Among many awards, in June, 2011 she won the George W. Tippins Regional Business Plan Competition, and advanced to the NFTE National Business Plan Competition, which was held in NYC October 6, 2011. Amber successfully advanced to the semi-finals (one of twelve students out of over 20,000 students in the NFTE program), and received praises from the judges for delivering a “flawless presentation”!



**Ryan Lewis - Jeff Dranks: All Natural Homemade Lemonade**

Jeff Dranks, had a small start in 2008 in a business class at Gwendolyn Brooks College Preparatory Academy in Chicago IL. Ryan Lewis, the man behind Jeff Dranks, created the product only to get a good grade. Anchored by his grandmother's secret lemonade recipe and his uncanny gift of charm, he knew he could quench everyone's thirst. With that in mind, he moved the product outside the class room and soon Jeff Dranks: All Natural Homemade Lemonade was born. Thus far over 15,000 bottles have been handmade, packaged and sold by Jeff himself. In his entrepreneurial journey, Ryan has won many honors including 2011 Global Entrepreneur of the Year-NFTE, 2009 Networker of the Year-IIEE, and several other business competitions. Ryan has since gone on to the University of Missouri where he has begun to create a line of apparel for the business. "I just want to one day go to the smallest grocery store in the smallest town in the smallest city and find Jeff Dranks"-Ryan Lewis