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FINALISTS ANNOUNCED FOR ANGEL OREGON LIFE & BIOSCIENCE (AOBIO)

Four bio startups announced as finalists vying for a potential \$300K angel investment via AOBIO; winner to be announced at the live Grand Finale on May 26th, 2022.

Portland, OR: Oregon Entrepreneurs Network and the AOBIO partners announced the finalists in the Angel Oregon Life & Bioscience (AOBIO) investment program at a live event on April 20th held at the Absci headquarters in Vancouver, WA. Each finalist will undergo due diligence in the coming month and pitch their company at the AOBIO Grand Finale & Innovation Showcase on May 26, 2022.

Finalists, in alphabetical order, include:

- <u>Biomotum</u> wearable rehabilitation robots empower mobility and discovery in people who have difficulty walking. Founder: **Ray Browning**.
- <u>Inherent Targeting</u> is developing fluorescent imaging agents that highlight nerves in real time to improve surgical outcomes. Founder: **Connor Barth**
- Savorease Therapeutic Foods is a revolutionary food tech company that has created
 the first crunchy finger foods specific for people struggling with swallowing or chewing
 difficulties. Savorease has made food that can enhance recovery of the swallow, support
 nutrition and stimulate the senses. Founder: Reva Barewal
- <u>StoneStable</u> is a stabilization company that has developed processes to coat vaccines in silica, dramatically increasing their stability without compromising their effectiveness.
 We make vaccines better. Founder: **Ken Stedman**

The AOBIO Grand Finale & Innovation Showcase will be held on May 26th, 3-7pm at the beautiful new Amaterra Winery in Portland. The program will include a panel discussion with investors sharing their secrets for making good science investments, main stage pitches from all four finalist companies, the AOBIO Emerge Award presentation, a showcase of life and bioscience innovations happening in Oregon right now, and a special keynote from Absci founder, Sean McClain. At the end of the day the AOBIO investors will announce their selection for a collective angel investment, projected to be as much as \$300,000. Details and tickets at www.oen.org.

"Any one of these finalist companies has the potential to become the next Absci. It's truly inspirational that collectively the AOBIO startups, program partners, sponsors and investors

demonstrate that Oregon is a burgeoning hub for the bioscience sector writ large," says Dr. Jennifer Fox, OEN board member and AOBIO volunteer investment director.

Angel Oregon Life & Bioscience (AOBIO) is presented in partnership with Oregon Bioscience Incubator (OBI), Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU) and Oregon Bioscience Association (OregonBio).

Oregon Entrepreneurs Network (OEN) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to helping entrepreneurs start up and scale up. The organization hosts a mix of sector-specific Angel Oregon entrepreneur education and angel investment programs each year, including Angel Oregon Life & Bioscience (AOBIO), Oregon Tech (AOTech) and Oregon Angel Food (OregonAF), as well as the annual OEN Entrepreneurship Awards. Learn more at www.oen.org.

The **Oregon Bioscience Incubator (OBI)** is the state's first and only bioscience-focused incubator. The multi-client company bioscience complex provides startups and scientists access to entrepreneurial mentoring, state-of-the-art bioscience facilities, meeting space and shared equipment. OBI is operated by Oregon Translational Research and Development Institute (OTRADI), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit funded in part by the Oregon State Lottery and administered by the Oregon Business Development Department. Learn more at www.otradi.org.

Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU) is a nationally prominent research university and Oregon's only academic health center. It educates health professionals and scientists and provides leading-edge patient care, community service and biomedical research. Learn more about OHSU Innovates at https://www.ohsu.edu/innovates/about-ohsu-innovates.

The **Oregon Bioscience Association (OregonBio)** seeks to create opportunity through advocacy, cultivation, education and group purchasing discounts for its members and the sector. Oregon Bio promotes the growth and quality of the bioscience industry in the region and continually seeks ways to support sustainability, acceleration and growth in the life science, bioscience, biotechnology and device manufacturing industries. Learn more at <u>oregonbio.org</u>.

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