



transparent collective

FOUNDER INTRODUCTION



transparent collective

looking beyond faces and into the hearts of founders

Silicon Valley, the American Dream 2.0, has been a mecca of innovation for over 60 years, creating and incubating some of the most well known companies in the world. For each break out start-up company that has become a global success, there has been a founding team of persistent engineering and business minds. Regardless of schooling, two experiences most successful tech founders share are exposure to Silicon Valley and access to family (or friend) resources. This both increases the opportunity for funding and makes for a higher risk tolerance when pursuing entrepreneurial ventures. Not surprisingly, these experiences lend themselves to a particular demographic. From early-stage startups to accomplished corporations, Silicon Valley is primarily run by white males.

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The hiring process and culture of the tech work environment has been formed by the majority. The start-up fund raising process from angel to series A has been formed by the majority. Every component of the Silicon Valley dream to build the future is fraught with challenges, but when you come from a different background than those who have been working in the space for years, the challenges are amplified.

Transparent Collective (TC) is a group of founders dedicated to increasing exposure and access to Silicon Valley for African-American as well as Latino/Hispanic men and women. TC is working to break down barriers that acutely affect the success of minority founders at the early start-up stage. The first barrier we are addressing is access to capital. If your company is positioned for growth or has a very unique product market fit, apply to be one of the companies in our first quarterly event series.

TC Family and Friends Meetup

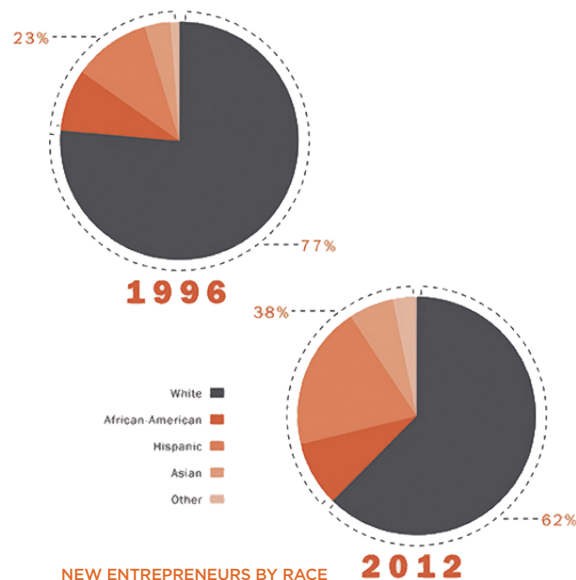
Every quarter in 2016, 10 of the top minority founded start-ups from across the country a chance to network with and pitch an audience of Bay Area investors that want to diversify their portfolio, literally. Every founder who takes the stage will have a chance to get feedback from seasoned founders and venture professionals. We are targeting March 2nd, 2016 as the first meet-up date.

FOCUS FOUNDER

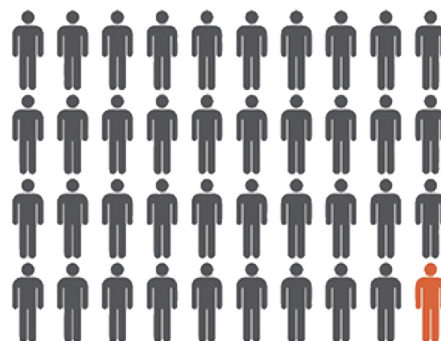
Become one of the 10 founders that gets an all expense paid trip to one of our quarterly events. Receive access to mentors weekly and a chance to pitch a room of investors that are excited about helping you achieve success

SPECIAL ATTENDEE

If your company is not at a point where it meets the qualifications to be a pitching founder, reach out to become a special guest. Make connections and get exposure to the Silicon Valley pitch process



ONLY 1% OF SEED / SERIES A FUNDING IS INVESTED IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN FOUNDERS



ONLY 2% OF VENTURE CAPITALISTS ARE AFRICAN-AMERICAN OR HISPANIC

Sources : National Venture Association, Nov 2011 / CB INSIGHTS, Mar 2014

Over the past few years, the challenge of obtaining funding has affected founders of all walks of life. With the seed round having been redefined, becoming what used to be considered Series A, access to capital has been reduced. Moreover, when you're outside of Silicon Valley, or don't have a network within the eco-system, fundraising can be even more painful. In 2016, join us in our efforts to change this. Build relationships with fellow founders, connect with our network of mentors and position your company to grow revenue as well as raise money. Let Transparent Collective help your start-up reach the next stage. While there is no fee to join the Collective or attend our events, our only expectation is that you give back knowledge to the Collective. Once you've found your

We are here to enable minority founders ... connecting them with funding sources so they have the opportunity to both fail and succeed

stride in success, or even if you experience failure, reach back into the network to help a fellow founder achieve their vision. Together, we will make the American Dream 2.0 accessible to talented entrepreneurs from all walks of life.



connect with us

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Expertise : SaaS / Consumer Products

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collective leaders



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CEO @ Thread



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