

# COLUMBIA | FOUNDERS PLEDGE

Columbia Founders are our community of creators and innovators dedicated to making a lasting impact through mentorship, knowledge sharing, and philanthropy. Committed to the future of entrepreneurship, Founders align their passion for discovery with their desire to empower Columbia's students, faculty, and research to change the world.

## **Who can take the Founders Pledge?**

- Anyone who holds equity in a company such as founders, investors, and institutional investors.
- All stages of entrepreneurs are welcome to join. Like a well-constructed team, our Founders are diverse in talent, background, expertise, and experience. Founders are encouraged to support each other as well as current and future generations of Columbia entrepreneurs as they begin and work through it all—that is, realize the joy of the journey, as bumpy as it can be.

## **Why do members make the Pledge?**

- Founders are curious about what is happening in entrepreneurship across the University.
- To build a community invested in entrepreneurship. To compare stories, mentor, and support each other.

## **What do members do?**

- Founders have the opportunity to become engaged via volunteering, mentoring students, and participating in entrepreneurship programming across campus and throughout the world including that created by the [Columbia Venture Community](#) where they can use the skills they've honed to benefit our entrepreneurial ecosystem.
- When the time is right, Founders can choose to support what is most meaningful to them be it Columbia students, faculty, research, or programs and receive tax benefits at the same time.

## **What are the expectations of Columbia Founders?**

- To be open-minded, curious, and supportive of the Founders activities and the community's endeavors.
- To share their passion for entrepreneurship and leadership with fellow founders and with the Columbia community.
- There are no time or financial commitments. The Founders Society exists to steward members, showcase their efforts, thank them for their engagement at Columbia, and serve as a resource for the community.

To learn more about [Columbia Founders](#) contact Ed Cangialosi at [ec2731@columbia.edu](mailto:ec2731@columbia.edu) or 917-913-8607.