



BIG IDEA FINAL COMPETITION AND AWARDS EVENT

Northern State University Johnson Fine Arts Center

Wednesday, December 10, 2025

- 8:45 – 9:00 am Judges Orientation (online system)
- Students Begin Arriving
- 9:00 -10:00 am Honorable Mention Pitches
- 9:00 -11:50 am Presentations by 8 Finalists (20 minute intervals)
- Small group activities throughout morning
- Mentor Discussions
 - Radio Interviews (10-11:15)
 - NSU Interviews
 - Thank you notes
 - Campus Tour (10:30ish)
 - Booths – Schools, Others
 - Selfie Station
 - Final Event Orientation Finalists & Special Award Winners (11:50)
 -
- 11:50-12:15 pm Final Scoring by Judges for all Awards
- 12:00 pm Lunch (sponsored by Aberdeen Development Corporation)
- 12:45 pm Move to Main Stage
- 1:00 pm Welcome, Acknowledgements
- 1:15 pm Elevator Pitches – Finalists/Category winners present elevator pitches
- 1:45-2:30 pm Business Keynote Speaker / Panel
- 2:30-2:55 pm Awards Presentation
- Partners in Business Award
 - Elevator Pitch Winners
 - Category Winners: Wellness, Agriculture Innovation, Hometown Business, Makers
 - Competition Awards – virtual and in person 1st, 2nd, 3rd
 - Thank You's and Wrap Up
- 2:55- 3:15 pm Collect Information Forms and Take Pictures (all finalists)