

# Your success started here.



Now, you can help us  
build more success stories  
in your hometown.

**INNOVATE|120**

Learn more:  
[www.innovate120.org/founders](http://www.innovate120.org/founders)

Work. Learn. Build. Connect.

# You are invited to join us in the 120 Founder's Campaign.

**Who we are asking:** We are reaching out across the state, country and world to talented individuals who share Maquoketa and Jackson County as a hometown. Those who have achieved professional and personal accomplishments, are invited to help us continued supporting the growth of youth and adults in this community.

**What we ask:** We are asking for a contribution of \$1000 each year. Innovate 120 is a federally recognized 501(c)3 so your contributions are tax-deductible.



Restored historic facade at 120 S. Main Street in Maquoketa

**Why we are asking:** We have invested in a state-of-the-art business and conference facility in the historic former bank on Maquoketa's Main Street. Many of us knew it as Jackson State Bank. We have created innovative programming to engage students and adults in envisioning a brighter future.

This funding enables us to ensure the delivery of our programming and to continue building a sustainable foundation for future growth.



**What you get:** We hope it creates satisfaction in helping drive opportunity for individuals in the same community where you got your start. With permission, we will recognize each of the 120 Founder's members and their unique paths from Maquoketa and Jackson County to success.

Also, as a member, you get complimentary access to our business and meeting facilities. If you are in town and need a quiet place with a fiber internet connection for working, or a private conference room for a meeting or video conference, it will be available to you.



## **What we are already delivering:** A few examples of our current programming include:

**User Experience Design Internship**, focused on developing critical thinking and strong communication skills. Students gain real professional experience working with leading global companies including Google, John Deere, and Scotts Miracle-Gro. We have completed 4 years.

**Startup Bootcamp**, focused on providing participants with the frameworks for understanding, validating and developing viable business concepts. It concludes with a public pitch competition. This year included a partnership with Maquoketa High School to grow participation and time for innovation.

**Wednesdays are Possible**, a monthly community conversation to interview local founders and learn about their journeys toward business success. Founders have included Maquoketa Brewing's Mark Lyon, and David Blake of nationally acclaimed pet products company Blue-9.

**Summer Science Camp**, we know that success begins early, so we launched a 3 week series of science camps for elementary and middle school students. Two years of camp enrollment filled up quickly.



## What participants and visitors are saying:

“I reflect on my experience at Innovate 120 frequently. I believe that the storytelling skills I developed in UX120 has set me apart from my peers.”

**First year student, Rice University**

“I used multiple experiences from UX120 in my behavioral interviews with companies and I actually received my first summer internship offer today! I know I could’ve never landed such an opportunity without the experience at Innovate 120, and for that, I’m so grateful.”

**First year student, University of Wisconsin-Madison**

“After seeing the impact Innovate 120 has on our students each year I leave ever more grateful for our partnership. We look forward to more opportunities to work together to positively impact our students.”

**Local Superintendent of Schools**

“The experience at Innovate 120 has changed my son’s life. Thank you.”

**Parent**



Event kitchen and cafe



Technology lounge





## **About Innovate 120:**

Founded by Maquoketa native Robert Abbott in 2021, Innovate 120 is a coworking hub, business event and innovation center in a newly renovated historic bank in the heart of Maquoketa's Main Street district. The innovation mindset for success is inherent to rural communities: curiosity, creativity, risk-taking and collaboration. This 10,000 square foot center and its programming is designed to build on that mindset and drive engagement, learning and growth. It's focus is individual and collective success, measured by the energy, entrepreneurship and business growth it aims to bring to downtown Maquoketa. It will be a catalyst where the community can imagine and build their futures.

We feel that the time for growth in rural America is now. In the wake of the pandemic, so much about how we work, learn, build and connect has been disrupted. Across our Country, there is increased receptiveness to question established approaches and to consider new ideas. With geographic location now less of a determinant, the seeds for new ideas can take root anywhere, especially rural places like Jackson County, Iowa.

# Please join us in building future success stories.

[www.innovate120.org/founders](http://www.innovate120.org/founders)

## **What's next:** Your partnership!

**Donate online:** <http://www.innovate120.org/donate>.

**Mail a check:** Innovate 120 Founder's Campaign, 120 S. Main Street, Maquoketa, IA 52060. Please include your return address.

**Call us at 614-886-4140:** We can take credit card and address details over the phone.

We will provide a formal letters documenting your tax-deductible donation. Thank you!

**INNO  
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