

## 2017 Winners Announced | 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Flatley Challenge | Tech Startup Competition

January 12, 2018 – The John Flatley Company is pleased to acknowledge the winners of the [2017 Flatley Challenge](#). Both companies will be awarded a \$10,000 prize as well as up to 5,000 SF of office and/or lab space at the Nashua Technology Park (NTP) @ Gateway Hills, right off Exit 1 in Nashua, NH.

Taking 1<sup>st</sup> place in the HiTech category is [Vybe Software](#), creators of DevKit, an iOS application that enables K-12 students to create their own, fully functional mobile applications and games right from an iPad or iPhone, while learning code. With DevKit, students can design, program, test and upload their own apps/games directly to the Apple and Google Play stores.

*"We're thrilled to have been selected as the Flatley Challenge HiTech winner for 2017," said Mitch Marchand, CEO & Lead Developer of Vybe Software. "This recognition is truly indicative of the validity and importance of our mission at Vybe and we're beyond excited for what 2018 has in store. The energy of the NTP ecosystem and the generous \$10,000 prize will be sure to catalyze our growth as we head into the new year. To recognize the future for Vybe in the same innovative light that we do is a true testament to the vision of the Flatley Company, and we look forward to capitalizing on this opportunity."*

Taking 1<sup>st</sup> place in the BioTech category is [D&P Bioinnovations](#), a regenerative medicine company focused on repairing damaged organs with engineered biomaterials and stem cells. The company is currently developing an implantable, bioresorbable medical device that regenerates a damaged portion of the esophagus for patients suffering from severe GERD and Esophageal Cancer.

*"D&P Bioinnovations is both honored and excited to win the 2017 BioTech Flatley Challenge award," said Derek Dashti, Founder, CEO and Inventor of D&P Bioinnovations. "We are now well positioned within the prominent New England regenerative medicine community at Nashua to progress our regenerative technology platform. Initially, a company situated on the west coast, we aim to accelerate our progress and vision through the lab and office space resources at NTP that is initiated from winning this prestigious award. Previously, being awarded finalists at M2D2 2016 and MassChallenge 2016, we have been well engaged with the New England Community and this award commits our physical presence in Nashua to accelerate our mission, which has always been to increase the quality of life and survival of the patients we aim to treat with our novel regenerative implant technology platform."*

In addition, the John Flatley Company is assisting Runner-Up, [EDACS](#) with free office space at our Manchester, NH location on Elm Street. EDACS (Education Access and Support) is a cloud-based application designed to help schools from kindergarten through college manage learning accommodations and increase retention for special education students.

*"EDACS is thrilled to be named the runner-up in the 2017 Flatley Challenge -- and we are incredibly thrilled to be the newest tenants in the historic Atrium building in downtown Manchester. This beautiful space is an absolute game-changer for our fledgling company," said Stephanie Sisson, Co-Founder of EDACS. "We are humbled by the generosity and support of the Flatley Company, and so grateful to be part of your vision for bringing more startups and more innovation to New Hampshire. Your faith in our continued success further fuels our entrepreneurial spirit!"*

The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Flatley Challenge Awards Ceremony will be held at the Nashua Technology Park on Thursday, February 8, 2018 at 2:00 pm. Speakers include NH Governor Chris Sununu and Nashua Mayor Jim Donchess. Please visit our website for more information at [Gateway-Hills.com/events/](http://Gateway-Hills.com/events/).

For more information about the Annual Flatley Challenge, please visit our website, [Gateway-Hills.com/flatley-challenge/](http://Gateway-Hills.com/flatley-challenge/), like us on [Facebook](#) and follow us on [LinkedIn](#) and [Google+](#). For more information about Gateway Hills, please visit our website, [Gateway-Hills.com](http://Gateway-Hills.com), like us on [Facebook](#) and follow us on [Twitter](#) and [YouTube](#).