



SCAN FOR MORE INFO

2026

3RD ANNUAL LONG BEACH ACCELERATOR
Investors & Founders
SUMMIT

HYATT REGENCY, LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA

AGENDA

11:00 A.M. - 11:45 A.M. **Registration**

11:45 A.M. - 1:30 P.M.

LBA Awards Luncheon

City of Long Beach Welcome

Tunua Thrash-Ntuk, Councilwoman, City of Long Beach

Opening Remarks

Vivian Shimoyama, CEO, Long Beach Accelerator

Julie Clowes, Assistant Deputy Director,

California Office of Small Business Advocate

Celebrating our LBA Honorees of 2026

2026 Visionary of the Year

Dr. Noel Hacegaba, CEO, Port of Long Beach

2026 Trailblazer of the Year

Carrie Marshall, CEO, Rebel Space Technologies

2026 Investor of the Year

Joshua Y. Lee, CEO, Gumshoe Ventures

2026 Founder of the Year

Ethan Glass, CEO, OCRA

1:30 P.M. - 2:00 P.M.

Break

2:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.

LA28 Olympic & Paralympic Economic Impact

Tom Modica, City Manager, City of Long Beach

Conversations with Visionary Investors

Moderator: **Sue Malone, CEO, Strategies For Small Business**

Panelist: **Joshua Y. Lee, CEO, Gumshoe Ventures**

Walter "Rock" McMillan, Sr. Advisor, Galapagos, LLC

Cecilia Sanchez, Sr. Associate, L'ATTITUDE Ventures

Amy Truong, Special Assistant, CMS/CMMI

Ethan Glass, CEO, OCRA

4:00 P.M. - 5:30 P.M.

Closing Reception

OCTOBER 1, 2026 • 11:00 A.M. - 5:30 P.M. • LONG BEACH, CA

LONG BEACH ACCELERATOR KICKS OFF TECH WEEK TO SHAPE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA'S BUSINESS FUTURE

Connecting investors, industry leaders, and entrepreneurs, the event advances LBA's long-term work to grow emerging technology companies and expand economic opportunity

Long Beach Accelerator hosted Long Beach Tech Week (Sept. 28 - Oct. 1), an annual event that draws innovation and investment leaders from key industries to help shape California's business future and expand economic impact. Tech Week connects emerging technology companies with the capital and industry expertise needed to bring new technologies to market, supporting business growth and job creation across the state.

"Long Beach and our region have the industries, innovation and talent to shape California's economic future and make a global impact," said Vivian Shimoyama, CEO of the Long Beach Accelerator. "By connecting emerging tech companies with the investment, expertise, and partnerships their businesses need, we're helping entrepreneurs and investors grow businesses whose impact will extend far beyond their industries to the jobs people hold, the communities they call home, and the technologies they use every day."

Long Beach Accelerator helps early-stage technology companies grow by engaging investors and experts, and working with public, private and educational partners to bring resources and investment to Southern California. With a focus on the region's critical verticals of logistics, transportation and supply chain; aerospace and space technology; energy and sustainability; entertainment/creative; healthcare technology. Through the LBA's AI adoption initiative, financial acumen business education, business advisory services, and a team of expert advisers, entrepreneurs get the boost to take their businesses to the next level of growth.

Long Beach Tech Week brings that year-round work into an annual forum where investors, industry leaders, and entrepreneurs can explore funding opportunities, get access to contracting opportunities, build business relationships, and engage in the economic growth opportunities with the LA28 Olympic and Paralympic games. Planning partners include The City of Long Beach; the Institute for Innovation and Entrepreneurship at California State University, Long Beach; and Sunstone Investment Group. Funding forums, entrepreneurial panels, and visionary thought leaders in conversation about solving the greatest problems with technology solutions provide opportunities to move toward investments and business partnerships beyond the event.

During Long Beach Tech Week, the LBA Investors & Founders Summit will recognize four leaders whose work spans global trade, space technology, venture investment and business growth.

Investing in their community, the LBA opened the new Long Beach Accelerator Tech Hub Center in downtown Long Beach at the Kickoff of Long Beach Tech Week 2026. The Center is supported by a grant from the U.S. Small Business Administration and the Honorable U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein. The Long Beach Accelerator Tech Hub Center is a place for thought leaders and key investors to engage with public and private partners, and emerging growth technology companies to support business growth that results in economic development and impact.

LBA AWARDS LUNCHEON

11:00 A.M. - 11:45 A.M.

11:45 A.M. - 1:30 P.M.

Registration

LBA Awards Luncheon

CITY OF LONG BEACH WELCOME



Tunua Thrash-Ntuk

Councilwoman, City of Long Beach

Tunua Thrash-Ntuk is a community development leader with more than 20 years of experience driving economic inclusion and billion-dollar public programs that build stronger, more prosperous communities. As President and CEO of The Center by Lendistry, she leads a national organization advancing small business growth, disaster recovery, and wealth-building strategies that strengthen local economies. She also serves on the Long Beach City Council, representing the Eighth District. Tunua earned a master's degree in city planning from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and a bachelor's degree in interdisciplinary studies from UC Berkeley.

OPENING REMARKS



Vivian Shimoyama

CEO, Long Beach Accelerator

Vivian Shimoyama is the CEO of the Long Beach Accelerator. She is dedicated to growing early stage tech companies, small businesses, and emerging tech ecosystems. Ms. Shimoyama built the Goldman Sachs *10,000 Small Businesses Initiative* for the SoCal region. Vivian is an expert in advancing small businesses and has advocated for businesses locally, in the state, nation, and represented women owned businesses at national and global forums. She is the Chair of the City of Long Beach Economic Development Commission and serves as an Honorary Co-Chair of the City of Long Beach LA 2028 Olympic & Paralympic Games Committee.



Julie Clowes

Assistant Deputy Director, California Office of Small Business Advocate

An accomplished executive with more than 28 years in the federal government and nonprofit sectors, Julie specializes in strategic planning, stakeholder engagement, and public communications. She has spent her career strengthening financial and contracting programs for small businesses, managed complex legal matters, and developed national policy and training programs that deliver measurable impact for diverse communities across the United States. Prior to joining CalOSBA, Julie spent nearly three decades with the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), where she served in multiple senior leadership roles.

CELEBRATING OUR LBA HONOREES OF 2026



VISIONARY OF THE YEAR

Dr. Noel Hacegaba, CEO, Port of Long Beach

Dr. Noel Hacegaba is the CEO of the Port of Long Beach, a world leader in supply chain innovation, customer service and environmental sustainability. He is responsible for advancing the Port's pioneering projects and programs and elevating its leadership position in the global trade arena. Each year, the Port processes nearly 10 million container units carrying \$300 billion in goods that power the local, regional and national economy by supporting nearly 3 million jobs. Dr. Hacegaba leads a team of 600 staff and manages an annual budget of \$834 million. He also oversees the delivery of a \$3.3 billion capital improvement program. In total, Dr. Hacegaba has more than 26 years of public and private sector leadership experience spanning a variety of industries, and he is an active volunteer member of the goods movement industry, serving in various top leadership roles, both locally and industry wide.

LBA AWARDS LUNCHEON

CELEBRATING OUR LBA HONOREES OF 2026



INVESTOR OF THE YEAR

Joshua Y. Lee, CEO, Gumshoe Ventures

Joshua Y. Lee is a multi-exited founder, serial entrepreneur, and Managing Partner at Gumshoe Ventures (a hands-on venture studio), as well as a Venture Partner at Sovereign's Capital. He backs and builds with faith-driven and high-potential founders scaling transformative tech companies across the U.S. and Southeast Asia. Joshua was the Founder and CEO of Ardius, a tax-tech startup that was acquired by Gusto after only 18 months, where he served as an executive scaling automated solutions. Grounded in over a decade at EY, advising high-growth enterprises, he is a co-founder of emerging ventures including Admisio, Pizaaz, and Staxiom. His investments span across SaaS, fintech, edtech, CPG, and consumer technology both directly and through partner funds like Hustle Fund, Luma Capital, and Venture Twelve.



TRAILBLAZER OF THE YEAR

Carrie Marshall, CEO, Rebel Space Technologies

Carrie Marshall is the CEO and Co-Founder of Rebel Space Technologies, delivering AI-powered spectrum intelligence for the next generation of satellite communications and electronic warfare. With more than 20 years of experience in space technology, cybersecurity, and RF communications, she has built a career driving innovation at the nexus of national security and emerging technologies. Prior to founding Rebel Space, Carrie held technical and leadership roles at SpaceX, Slingshot Aerospace, Rocket Lab, and the United States Air Force. Her career is defined by a commitment to operational excellence, the strategic application of artificial intelligence, and the development of trusted autonomous systems.



FOUNDER OF THE YEAR

Ethan Glass, CEO, OCRA

Ethan Glass, LBA 2026 Founder of The Year, has evolved OCRA from an event parking operator into a technology platform. Under his leadership, OCRA has raised \$10M from strategic investors – including Trestle Partners, MCR, and Parker Technology – while scaling quickly and staying true to his vision. Under his leadership, Ocra has raised \$10M from strategic investors – including Trestle Partners, MCR, and Parker Technology – while scaling quickly and staying true to its vision.

LA28 OLYMPIC & PARALYMPIC ECONOMIC IMPACT



Tom Modica, City Manager, City of Long Beach

Tom Modica has worked for the City of Long Beach since 2002. In 2019, Tom was appointed to City Manager. He has served as a national example for the COVID-19 response and recovery; recovered tourism to exceed pre-pandemic levels; secured the 2028 Olympics; transformed the City's coastal assets; modernized the Long Beach Airport resulting in "America's Coolest Airport"; revitalized the Queen Mary making her profitable for the first time in 40 years; oversaw the City's historic \$1 billion investment in infrastructure; led a reformation of the City's 109-year-old fractured hiring system; and facilitated a huge growth in housing and investment, becoming the region's most affordable City. Tom is focused on achieving the Mayor and City Council's top four priorities of Public Safety, Housing and Homelessness, Economic Development and Infrastructure through strategic planning, innovation, constant communication, and leadership and support of the City's amazing 6,500-person workforce.



MISTRESS OF CEREMONIES

Karen Caplan, Business Owner,

Karen Caplan Executive Coaching & Consulting

Karen B. Caplan is a seasoned executive, board advisor, and leadership coach with more than 30 years of experience building, scaling, and advising organizations. A former CEO of a nationally and internationally recognized consumer packaged goods company, Karen brings deep operational expertise, governance experience, and a people-centered leadership approach. She is known for her ability to listen deeply, identify patterns quickly, and help leaders make clear, confident decisions in complex environments. Karen is especially effective in advisory roles that require strategic insight, independent thinking, and real-world business judgment.

CONVERSATIONS WITH VISIONARY INVESTORS

2:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.
4:00 P.M. - 5:30 P.M.

**Visionary Investors Share Their Insight
Closing Reception**

MODERATOR



Sue Malone, CEO, Strategies For Small Business

Sue Malone is a small business advocate for all 50 states and founder of Strategies For Small Business. Her sole mission for the last five years has been to help people obtain access to capital to start or expand their businesses. She is #1 in the Nation (by number of loans) for the SBA Community Express (non-veterans) and Patriot Express (veterans and their spouses) Loan Programs. Sue is a serial entrepreneur, investor, and one of the LBA's most highly sought-after mentors. Sue holds an MBA from St. Mary's College.

PANELIST



Joshua Y. Lee, CEO, Gumshore Ventures

A multi-exited founder backing high-potential companies across the US and Southeast Asia. Previously founded Ardius, a tax-tech startup acquired by Gusto, and is a Venture Partner at Sovereign's Capital. Joshua has been honored with the 2026 LBA Investor of the Year Award.



Walter "Rock" McMillan, Senior PM/Acquisition Advisor, Galapagos LLC

Walter "Rock" McMillan IV is a national security innovation and space acquisition leader with more than 20 years of experience connecting emerging technology, government missions, and private-sector investment. He previously founded and led SpaceWERX, the U.S. Space Force's innovation arm, growing it from a \$40 million pilot effort into a \$450 million portfolio supporting commercial and dual-use technologies. Today, Walter advises Department of Defense organizations, startups, and investors on acquisition strategy, technology transition, SBIR/STTR, and navigating the defense innovation ecosystem. A retired U.S. Air Force and Space Force Lieutenant Colonel, Walter has held leadership roles spanning space systems acquisition, commercial technology integration, congressional affairs, and portfolio strategy.



Amy Truong, Special Assistant Front Office, CMS/CMMI

Amy Truong is a healthcare strategy and policy leader at the intersection of healthcare delivery, emerging technology, entrepreneurship, and federal health policy. She serves as a Special Assistant in the Front Office of the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (CMMI) at the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). Amy brings over two decades of experience across the healthcare ecosystem. She founded and has scaled an interdisciplinary healthcare company. Today, she brings that private-sector and clinical perspective to federal healthcare innovation, with a particular interest in how emerging technologies, entrepreneurs, and private capital can translate into scalable improvements in healthcare delivery, outcomes, and policy.



Ethan Glass, CEO, OCRA

Ethan Glass, LBA 2026 Founder of The Year, has evolved OCRA from an event parking operator into a technology platform. Under his leadership, OCRA has raised \$10M from strategic investors – including Trestle Partners, MCR, and Parker Technology – while scaling quickly and staying true to his vision. Under his leadership, Ocra has raised \$10M from strategic investors – including Trestle Partners, MCR, and Parker Technology – while scaling quickly and staying true to its vision.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

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Senior Director State Advocacy & Global Engagement, The Boeing Company

SPECIAL THANK YOU TO LONG BEACH TECH WEEK PLANNING COMMITTEE

Vivian Shimoyama, Summit Chair

LBA Team: Erin Sosa, Peter Herrera, Alma Castro, Sharlene Endo, Katy Blas

Sunstone Team: John Keisler, Jayro Sandoval, Jennifer Huang, & Julie Ta

Institute for Innovation and Entrepreneurship -CSULB lead by Dr. Wade Martin

Dr. Ingrid Martin, Monique Palmera and our student volunteers

We appreciate the support from:

CTC Conferences and Events team of Michelle Manire and Talisha Brantley

To Contact us:

info@LBAccelerator.org

www.LBAccelerator.org | www.LongBeachTechWeek.com

2026

3RD ANNUAL LONG BEACH TECH WEEK

LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA

KICK OFF RECEPTION

Monday, September 28th
4:30 P.M. - 7:00 P.M.

LONG BEACH ACCELERATOR TECH HUB

Opening of new Long Beach Accelerator Tech Hub.

IIE-CSU DEMO DAY

Wednesday, September 30th
9:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.

LONG BEACH HYATT REGENCY

Future of innovations at CSU Demo Day.
Connect with next generation of innovation stakeholders.

LBA 2ND ANNUAL SUMMIT

Thursday, October 1st
11:00 A.M. - 5:30 P.M.

LONG BEACH HYATT REGENCY

A day of insight and connections with trailblazing tech entrepreneurs, investors, civic and business leaders, and emerging tech champions.



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CITY OF
LONG BEACH

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