Alumni Highlights
April-June 2021

tsai center for innovative thinking

Ventures hit major funding milestones:

Tsai CITY Accelerator alum team **Snackpass** (founded by **Jamie Marshall YC '20** and **Kevin Tan YC '17**) announced a $70 million Series B funding round in June, as they hit 500,000 users for their social food ordering app. **NCX** (founded by **Max Nova YC '12** and **Zack Parisa YSE '09**), which was supported by Tsai CITY's predecessor, the Yale Entrepreneurial Institute (YEI), recently raised $20 million from investors led by Salesforce CEO Marc Benioff — read more in the Wall Street Journal. Meanwhile, **RippleMatch**, which was founded by **Eric Ho YC '16** and **Andrew Myers YC '17** and connects early-career candidates with employers, announced a $23.5 million fundraising round in April.

Images via TechCrunch, via Forbes/RippleMatch

Building ecosystems for innovation:

Image via Cambium Carbon

A number of alums are building exciting partnerships and ecosystems. Former Accelerator/Summer Fellowship team **Brio** (co-founded by **Daisy Rosales SOM '20**) was recently featured in an Acumen Academy article and launched a partnership focused on storytelling and healing in Ecuador, while former Accelerator/Summer Fellowship team **Cambium Carbon** (co-founded by **Ben Christensen YSE '20** and **Marisa Repka YSE '20**) announced partner cities and early investments in urban tree planting this spring. Other alumni are expanding access to entrepreneurship, like former Tsai CITY innovation advisor **Gabby Cazeau (SOM '20)**, who was recently promoted to principal at Harlem Capital and interviewed by Insider.

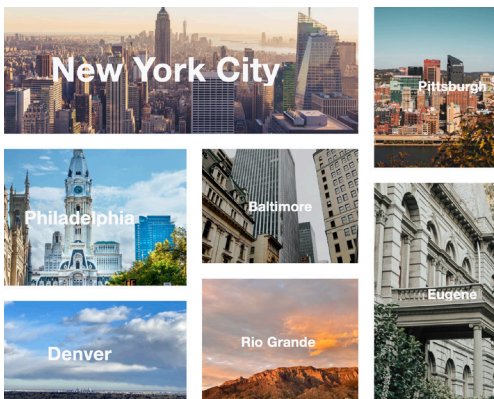## Reflecting on impact, at Yale and beyond:

Several Tsai CITY alumni recently reflected on the impact of Yale's innovation ecosystem: watch a video featuring DreamKit founder Marina Marmolejo (YSPH '19), and a video in which **Upright** co-founder **Betty Tang (SOM '22)** and **ThermaBand** co-founder **Markea Dickinson (SOM '20)** reflect on their journeys. Some of Tsai CITY's newest alumni were also recently recognized for their achievements while at Yale. This year's Yale College prize recipients included **Camille Pham** (who did research with Tsai CITY and was part of alumni venture Havenly Treats), **Mia Nkechi Jackson** (who has participated in programs like Startup Yale with her app, Zoula), and **Henry Jacob** (co-founder of spring 2021 Accelerator team Publish and Prosper).

These teams have connected not just with Tsai CITY, but with Yale's broader ecosystem for entrepreneurship and innovation. Learn more about this ecosystem: entrepreneurship.yale.edu

To learn more about Tsai CITY:
city.yale.edu
city.support@yale.edu