

Alumni Highlights

July-September 2022

tsai center for
innovative
thinking

Investment in Environmental Innovation

Former Accelerator and Summer Fellowship team [Cambium Carbon](#) (co-founded by [Ben Christensen YSE '20](#) and [Marisa Repka YSE '20](#)), along with partners, [received a \\$277K grant](#) from the City of Philadelphia's Operations Transformation Fund to purchase sawmill equipment and provide critical support in developing their job training program and operation staffing.

\$277K
grant awarded



top: Zoe Geller (YSE '17) (left), who founded Fire Ox Foods and her business partner Jason Yang (YC '09). bottom: Four of the five vegan frozen food dishes offered by New Haven-based Fire Ox Foods. Photos courtesy of The Hour.



Ventures Expanding for Impact

Our alumni entrepreneurs are working to solve some of today's most pressing environmental, health, and social issues. Tsai CITY mentors, and former summer fellowship participants, [Zoe Geller \(YSE '17, SOM '17\)](#) and [Jason Yang \(YC '09\)](#), co-founders of [Fire Ox](#), a New Haven plant-based frozen foods company whose focus is on saving water and reducing CO2 emissions is [expanding its distribution footprint](#) into the Mid-Atlantic region. Meanwhile, [Craniometrix](#) (founded by [Nikhil Patel YC '20](#)), a HIPAA-compliant app that can help identify Alzheimer's disease, is moving toward a [bigger vision to create a one-stop, direct-to-consumer telemedicine platform](#) that provides ongoing support to patients and their caregivers.

Impactful Insights

[Victor Hunt \(YC '18\)](#), a Summer Fellowship participant and co-founder of [Astorian](#), an online marketplace for building owners and contractors to submit projects and bids, offers insight on 'being patient with results and impatient with actions' in this [blog post](#). [Lacie Thorne \(SOM '23\)](#), CEO and founder of [Phigitals](#), a proprietary API plugin that extends a brand's existing e-commerce platform into a resale marketplace, was recently quoted in a [Forbes article](#) giving her expertise on NFTs for real-world applications.



Victor Hunt (YC '18) co-founder of Astorian. Photo courtesy of South Park Commons.

To learn more about Tsai CITY visit: city.yale.edu

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