

Tarbuton & Startup18 Backgrounder 2016-2017

Tarbuton is a 501c3 that was founded in 2006 to engage San Diego's Jewish community by encouraging grassroots and lay led Jewish and Israeli cultural programs for youth and adults that educate, build community and strengthen Jewish identity. Flagship programs include adult clubs Cafe v'Ivrit, and Film and Literature groups, the annual Hagiga Ivrit festival that promotes celebration of Hebrew and Israel in San Diego and Startup18 programs that support grassroots Jewish community program development.

Startup18 programs include a **Jewish Engagement Lab** that meets monthly supporting project founders, **Idea Roundtables** that generate program ideas in small groups bringing in new voices to help define and shape new programs, a **Community Hackathon** in which community members work together on program ideas to increase Jewish engagement and seed funds are allocated to impactful program ideas and a **Jewish Educator Award** offered in collaboration with the [Harold Greenspoon](#) Foundation for educators whose work has impact across multiple Jewish institutions and who offer independent cohorts.

Testimonials From Startup18 Project Founders

1. “I gained a better understanding of the local Jewish landscape”
2. “I connected to an amazing group of Jewish innovators”
3. “I felt empowered and excited about the possibility of collaborating with project founders to pilot and test out some incredible ideas”
4. “Startup18 has made me realize that there are other people like me that see a problem or need in our community and make a choice every morning to work on creative solutions”
5. “They have helped to introduce me to more of the Jewish community in San Diego”
6. “Brainstorming ideas with like-minded passionate individuals really helped me to see the creativity and opportunities”
7. “Valuable resource, with ongoing encouragement and willingness to work one-on-one”
8. “Have gained a lot of ideas for my own ... use in my ... program”
9. “Startup18 provides community connections to assist people just like me reach their goals”
10. “A hub of creativity in the San Diego Jewish world. Start Up 18 has become a magnet for the Jewish social entrepreneurial community”
11. “Without events like The Idea Slam and Jewish Engagement Lab workshops that Start Up18 hosts we would all be alone in a sea of “not sure hows”
12. “Providing a forum for start-up entrepreneurs to share information with each other means we don't have to reinvent the wheel on our own!”