

State of Small Business Symposium

2026

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Amber Ravenscroft
President & Founder
Bridging Innovation Institute

Amber Ravenscroft is a nationally recognized expert in entrepreneurship ecosystem building and entrepreneurship-led economic development. As the President & Founder of the Bridging Innovation Institute, she leads a nonprofit dedicated to revitalizing local economies by fostering innovation-driven environments. Under her leadership, Bridging Innovation serves as the backbone organization for the West Virginia Entrepreneurship Ecosystem, which Ravenscroft directs to align statewide resources, policy, and community impact.

Raised in rural Appalachia, Ravenscroft's work is rooted in the belief that sustainable economic growth requires trust-based systems that bridge education, workforce, and entrepreneurship. She serves as the Co-Chair of National Entrepreneurship Week, driving a unified national campaign to democratize entrepreneurial opportunity across the United States.

With over a decade of experience, Ravenscroft has spearheaded large-scale initiatives impacting over 50,000 stakeholders across multiple states. Her expertise in scaling collective impact models has made her a sought-after partner for organizations like NACCE, the Consortium for Entrepreneurship Education, and various state Departments of Education and Economic Development.

She holds a Master's in Education Entrepreneurship from the University of Pennsylvania and a High Performance Leadership certification from the University of Chicago Booth School of Business. She remains committed to reimagining local prosperity through the lens of entrepreneurship and innovation.