



Alabama
Entrepreneurship
Institute

AUGUST 2025



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DRAPER AMERICA TOUR

MEET THE DRAPERS
USA
TUSCALOOSA

THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO BE ON MEET THE DRAPERS AND WIN AN INVESTMENT OF \$1 MILLION DOLLARS.

APPLY: WWW.MEETTHEDRAPERS.COM/USA
DEADLINE: AUGUST 31ST

Halogen

We are thrilled to share that *Meet the Drapers*, the largest startup pitch show on television, is partnering with the Alabama Entrepreneurship Institute to film an episode in Tuscaloosa, Alabama on September 24, 2025. They also are running an Alabama pitch competition on September 23, at The EDGE and with a total of **\$500,000 prize pool**.

Founders will pitch **Tim Draper** (legendary VC behind Tesla, SpaceX, Coinbase), **Jesse Draper** (founding partner of Halogen Ventures), and guest judges during a live taping of *Meet the Drapers*, broadcast globally across TV and digital platforms. Competitors will get

a rare opportunity to share their story on the world's biggest startup stage and compete for up to \$1M in investment.

Meet the Drapers is looking for early-stage startups (Pre-Seed to Series A) from any sector — from AI to Healthtech, sustainability to consumer — led by inspiring founders with bold visions. The show is open to **Alabama-based startups**, and selected companies will be invited to participate in a state-wide pitch competition in Tuscaloosa on Sept. 23 and to film their pitch live on September 24, 2025.

The **application deadline is August 31, 2025**. Upon applying, you'll be asked to submit a short pitch video or deck and fill out a quick form.

This is more than a pitch — it's your chance to go global. Don't miss it.

EVENT DETAILS:

- Pitch Competition Date: September 23
- Episode Filming Date: September 24
- Location: Tuscaloosa, AL
- Website: meetthedrapers.com/usa
- **Application Deadline: August 31, 2025**

APPLY TO COMPETE!

RSVP TO ATTEND THE COMPETITION ON SEPT. 23RD

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The EDGE and EDGE Lab

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The Alabama Entrepreneurship Institute is housed at The EDGE, Tuscaloosa's home for startups. The EDGE is a partnership between The University of Alabama, the West Alabama Chamber of Commerce, and the City of Tuscaloosa. Resources from all three groups come together to help grow a vibrant ecosystem that supports entrepreneurship, business growth, and personal enterprise. The Alabama Entrepreneurship Institute is a campus-wide initiative powering the programs that are offered at The EDGE.
