

Madison Gas and Electric

Wisconsin Union

Experiences for a lifetime

StartingBlock Madison

## James Smagala Revolutionary Informatics smagala@gmail.com

### The Syzygy of Software and DNA Sequencing

DNA sequencing has become a cornerstone of modern molecular biology, genetics, and disease surveillance. Over the last four decades, every major advance in sequencing technology has been followed by a corresponding leap forward in software. We are working to enable the next revolution in sequencing software - scaling and collaboration.

#### **Miriam Sweeney**

ScrubMoney

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## What Good Acting and Good Software Have in Common

When it comes to method acting, mobile app onboarding, and portraying a villain on stage, both software and the performing arts benefit in the extreme from the cultivation of one simple characteristic.

# Erin Magennis WorkAround & Spree

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# The Pursuit of Good Health: A Journey of Discovering the Root Cause and Sharing it with Others

A Journey of Discovering The Root Cause and Sharing it With Others is an examination of Erin Magennis' journey from health, to illness, to shared wellness through entrepreneurial endeavors that serve the greater collective. Join along her story over the past decade exploring what good health has meant personally and visions of what a healthier world can look like.

# Kyle Jansson

UWM Prototyping Center & RoddyMedical

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# To Mask and Back: A Positive from Failing to Launch A Reusable N95 Mask During A Pandemic

A group of tech-minded strangers united with a common goal to help clinicians by attempting to create a reusable N95 mask in a few weeks. All during a frightening pandemic where PPE was never more needed and yet unavailable. With disregard to seeking credit and funding and barriers, when nobody said "that can't be done," the team collaborated to create PPE in a timeline that is unheard of, going from idea to production in a matter of weeks. Although the mask outcome didn't achieve the initial impossible goal, everyone learned incredible valuable lessons which has led to blossoming developments.

# Nick O'Brien

WorkAround & You Are Here, LLC

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## **Unfound to WorkAround**

This presentation will tell the story of how an entrepreneur's experience of moving to Milwaukee and not being able to find other entrepreneurs led to the creation of a startup designed to help individuals find likeminded people to work around and unique places to work from.



www.ForwardFest.org

August 12<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup>

The Forward Festival is Wisconsin's largest technology and entrepreneurship festival, attracting more than 5,000 attendees and serving as host for more than 40 events over 8 days every August.

Now in its 12th year, it's the state's flagship celebration of innovation and entrepreneurship for business folks, nerds, social impact innovators, foodies, hackers, entrepreneurs, creatives, problem-solvers, community supporters and more from across the Midwest.

Thank you for attending!