

# 2015 ROPP TRIPLETT BUSINESS PLAN COMPETITION

## Sponsorship Fact Sheet

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### • Competition Details:

Bluffton Center for Entrepreneurs seek sponsors for a business plan contest held January, 2015, and continuing through March 2015.

The BCE Ropp Triplett Business Plan Contest teaches local entrepreneurs how to develop a business plan to help make their ideas a reality.

A free initial session, "Launching Your Business Right" introduces them to the contest and the importance of creating a formal business plan.

Registered participants attend a series of seven classes from January through March. The sessions are taught by Kathy Keller of the Small Business Development Center of Lima.

The participants present their completed business plans to peers before making final presentations to a panel of judges in March.

**FIRST PLACE PRIZE** is \$4,000 in start-up costs

**SECOND PLACE** is \$1,500 in start-up costs

**THIRD PLACE** is \$500 in start-up costs

BCE seeks sponsors to help fund this year's competition.

All publicity including the BCE website and social media, news stories, presentations and print materials identify all BCE sponsors for the event.

### • Competition Goals:

- Spur local entrepreneurs to put their ideas into action

- Teach participants to write a business plan that will help start a new business or improve an existing one

- Give financial support to three new and emerging businesses

- Create a connection to our community for all participants and prospective entrepreneurs

- Encourage new jobs and development in northwest Ohio

### • BCE Mission Statement

The Bluffton Center for Entrepreneurs is a not-for-profit business support center offering professional assistance to entrepreneurs and small business in Allen, Hancock, Hardin and Putnam counties.

BCE clients receive customized mentoring, make more connections with the business community, and gain valuable resources, including affordable office space, access to Bluffton University interns and work groups and promotion as BCE clients.

### • For further information contact:

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