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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BakerRipley Announces Judges for IgniteHTX! Pitch Competition

HOUSTON – BakerRipley is thrilled to announce the distinguished panel of judges for the final round of the annual IgniteHTX! Business Pitch Competition. This event, a cornerstone of BakerRipley's entrepreneurial support initiatives, invites innovative minds from Harris, Fort Bend, Brazoria, and Montgomery Counties to present their business ideas and compete for cash prizes and invaluable in-kind rewards.

Laura Jaramillo Executive Director, LISC Houston

As the Executive Director of Local Initiatives Support Corp. (LISC) Houston, Laura Jaramillo is committed to fostering equitable and inclusive growth. With nearly two decades at Wells Fargo and extensive board service, Laura brings a wealth of experience in community relations, small business lending, and philanthropic initiatives. Her dedication to community empowerment makes her an invaluable judge for IgniteHTX!

Warren Broadnax CEO/Co-Founder, She's Happy Hair; Co-Founder, Happy Me Tee; CEO & Executive Director, She's Happy Foundation; CEO, Warren B. Inspires

Warren Broadnax is a serial entrepreneur and a leading figure in the beauty industry with She's Happy Hair, a company known for its quality products and exceptional customer service. His entrepreneurial journey from selling hair out of car trunks to securing deals with Walmart exemplifies resilience and innovation. Warren's expertise will inspire and guide our competitors toward achieving their business dreams. Warren serves on the BakerRipley Board of Directors.

Jean-Paul "JP" Ramirez Client and Community Relations Director, PNC Bank

JP Ramirez's transformative educational journey and commitment to community engagement highlight the power of education and determination. As a first-generation college graduate, JP brings a unique perspective on leveraging education for professional success. His role at PNC Bank and dedication to diverse communities make him an excellent judge for evaluating the potential of our competitors' business ideas.

Erika Jones Vice President | Community Development Officer

Erika Jones is a passionate advocate for community engagement and outreach. As the Vice President | Community Development Officer at Frost Bank, she plans and



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implements strategies aimed at supporting low-to-moderate- income individuals and families. Erika partners with various community organizations to host financial literacy education and small business seminars, striving to make a tangible difference in the lives of Houstonians.

Arcy Muñoz

Vice President of Philanthropy and Community Impact, Wells Fargo

Arcy Muñoz is a seasoned professional in community engagement and philanthropy. With a robust background at Houston First Corporation and active participation in numerous community organizations, Arcy's insights into strategic investment and community relations will be crucial in assessing the social impact and sustainability of the pitches presented.

Brittney Tribble

Co-owner, Tribble Ventures

As co-owner of Tribble Ventures, which includes Max Bowl and Mist Property Management, Brittney Tribble has demonstrated strong leadership and business acumen. Her experience in managing successful ventures in the Greater Houston area will provide valuable insights to aspiring entrepreneurs participating in IgniteHTX!

About IgniteHTX!

Hosted by BakerRipley, the annual IgniteHTX! Business Pitch Competition is designed to support and elevate entrepreneurs from Harris, Fort Bend, Brazoria, and Montgomery Counties. This competition provides a platform for innovative thinkers to present their products and services and compete for significant prizes. [Applications](#) are now open and close on June 12.

BakerRipley is dedicated to supporting our entrepreneurs beyond the competition by providing exclusive workshops and coaching sessions. These resources are tailored to help participants refine their pitching skills and business acumen, ensuring they have the knowledge and confidence needed to succeed. Applications for IgniteHTX! can be found on the [BakerRipley website](#), along with more information about the program.

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About BakerRipley

BakerRipley brings resources, education, and connection to more than half a million people throughout Texas each year. For more than a century, BakerRipley has offered innovative solutions to uplift and empower underserved communities as they pursue opportunities that create new and better lives for themselves and their families. BakerRipley is a United Way Agency partner. www.bakerripley.org #BakerRipley



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