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# Venture Hive Unveils Next Startup Class: Half are From Latin America

by **Emily Stewart**+ on November 25, 2013





Look out Miami. Venture Hive has unveiled the 10 startups selected to form part of its latest acceleration class.

Launched in January 2013, Venture Hive Miami was brought to life by a million-dollar grant from Miami-Dade County and an additional US\$460,000 from Miami DDA. It encompasses an accelerator and incubator and is currently the home of 21 companies, including Do You Remember, GetMyRX and HASH.

Venture Hive completed its first acceleration program this year, and a few months ago, it launched its second call for projects. Given Miami's cultural and geographic proximity to Latin America, the organization represents a valuable opportunity for Latin American entrepreneurs – and by the looks of its latest class, half of which is from the region, startups took advantage.

Thus far, the organization has proven to be quite the success. It reports having yielded an investment leverage of over 12:1 and creating 40 new jobs since January. "Miami-Dade County is proud to support Venture Hive and its mission of attracting forward-thinking entrepreneurs to our community and giving them the tools they need to succeed here," remarked Miami Mayor Carlos Gimenez in the selection announcement. "My top priority as Mayor is job-creation – diverse job-creation – and Venture Hive supports that goal by positioning Miami-Dade County as a hotbed for dynamic start-up businesses that support new jobs."

The selected startups will receive US\$25,000 in equity-free funding and take part in Venture Hiver's 13-week acceleration process. The program is designed by Susan Amat, who previously co-founded and headed The Launch Pad at the University of Miami.

More than 150 startups from 23 countries submitted applications to participate in Venture Hive's second acceleration program. Ten companies were chosen by an independent panel composed of five early-stage investment professionals and two industry-specific experts.

#### Meet the startups:

- APREFIS (Romania). Aprefis helps companies increase margins by 10-15% through big-data pricing algorithms.
- CHANCE (India). A mobile application that gives fans and followers short video interactions with their influencers.
- THE FAN MACHINE (Argentina). A social marketing platform and SaaS that helps brands and agencies expand their audiences.
- MICARGA (Colombia). MiCarga focuses on applied technology for logistics solutions.
- mSO (mSTORE OPERATIONS) (Spain). A business app to manage in-store processes.
- PICK-EAT (Argentina). An online food delivery service and the team behind Foodpad.
- PREDICTVIA (Venezuela). A predictive analytics platform that users artificial intelligence techniques to determine consumer actions.

- PROPERATI (Argentina). A real estate marketplace that uses a performance-based model for realtors.
- WALETEROS (USA). A Miami-based virtual check cashier for unbanked and underbanked consumers to check deposits, bill payments, money transfers, ATM withdrawals and merchant payments.
- ZAZOM (Miami, USA). Zazom provides renters a new way to find spaces.

### And there is more!



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Venture Hive: Five Things to Wall Street **Know About** LatAm Tech



Meets Crowdfunding Roots, with Startup Stock Exchange



Latin American Accelerator Network Help create an US\$1.25 Million



MercadoLibre's Daniel Rabinovich: "We want to mxHero Land ecosystem of successful companies around us"



## **About Emily Stewart**

Originally from the United States. Degree in Comparative Literature & Society from Columbia University. Background in marketing and communications, including copywriting, translation, editing and content creation. Localization experience.

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#### The Fan Machine

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