



ANGEL CAPITAL ASSOCIATION

For Immediate Release

Angel Capital Association Honors Inspiring Individuals for Invaluable Contributions to the Angel Community

Notable Boston-Area Angels Hambleton Lord and Christopher Mirabile Receive Hans Severiens Award for Individual Impact in Advancing the Field of Angel Investing.

Portland, OR (May 6, 2021) – Highlighting the special relationship that angels and entrepreneurs build to innovate, create jobs, and drive the economy, the Angel Capital Association (ACA) honored two outstanding contributors to the world of angel investing at ACA 2021 – The Summit of Angel Investing today.

The **Hans Severiens Award** recognizes personal impact on the advancement of angel investing globally, and this year's award honors two leading Boston-area angels who together have changed the face of angel investing:

- Hambleton Lord, Chairman of the Board of the Launchpad Venture Group, and manager of a personal portfolio with more than 50 early-stage investments
- Christopher Mirabile, Senior Managing Director of the Launchpad Venture Group, and an active angel investor in more than 65 start-up companies

The 2021 honorees, Hambleton Lord and Christopher Mirabile, have been invaluable contributors to the angel and ACA communities. Ham and Christopher met in the busy Boston angel investing community where they both started and operated angel networks. As friends, they quickly sensed the potential for partnership, and in 2010 joined forces and merged their groups to build what is now a nationally-recognized angel network, Launchpad Venture Group. Keenly aware of the need to build, support and professionalize angel investing, they devoted their partnership energies over the last decade to writing books and articles about angel investing, as well as speaking, developing courses and teaching. In 2018, they granted the Angel Capital Association a no-fee license to their entire library of training materials to help found ACA University. During their partnership, they also used their software industry experience to build a portfolio management tool, Seraf, which has grown to become a highly-regarded product.

"As one of the old timers in angel investing, I have fond memories of the early days just prior to the formation of the Angel Capital Association," said Hambleton Lord. "The initial two meetings of this fledgling group were held at the MIT and Stanford Faculty Clubs in 2002. I was a newcomer to angel group leadership at the time, and I distinctly remember my initial conversations with Hans Severiens, Marianne Hudson, Bill Payne, Bob Goff, Sue Preston and many others. Their insight and knowledge of running angel groups was extremely helpful to me as I was just beginning to get Launchpad Venture Group off the ground. For many years, I was a regular attendee at ACA meetings all over the country. I looked forward to reconnecting once or twice a year with such a collegial group. It was ACA's mission of bringing best practices to the angel investing community that inspired me to work with Christopher Mirabile in developing content and training materials for angel investors all over the world. It's gratifying to realize that our content is regularly read and applied by thousands of angel investors. After all I

learned from individuals like Hans, it's a good feeling to pay it forward to the next generation of investors."

"I was initially drawn to angel investing because of my fascination with emerging technology, but, to my surprise, what I found was a community of some of the smartest, most far-sighted and most giving people I had ever had the pleasure of associating with," said Christopher Mirabile. "Working in this community, particularly through my public policy committee and Chair roles at the ACA, I came to appreciate the incredibly important role angels play in our economy in terms of job creation, national competitiveness, and social mobility. Ham Lord and I eventually came to see it as our mission to help professionalize angel investing to the best of our ability by sharing our learnings through book writing, blogging, course development and teaching. It has been the defining pleasure of my professional life to give back to this community. I look forward to the coming decades with excitement."

"Ham and Christopher are not only two of the smartest and most thoughtful angel investors I've ever met, but they have literally moved the 'knowledge needle' for hundreds of thousands of investors and entrepreneurs across North America and the world," said Marianne Hudson, ACA's founder and executive director emeritus. "They have created high quality education courses and articles to help investors make better decisions and entrepreneurs to understand the investment process to attract the capital they need. Through Seraf, they also created powerful tools for investors to manage their investments, particularly helping investors to learn the factors that lead to greater success."

About Launchpad Venture Group

Launchpad Venture Group is a nationally-recognized leader among angel networks in providing human and financial capital to help entrepreneurs build successful companies. Our members represent a cohesive network of talented professionals who are active angel investors committed to our culture of learning, service-orientation, mutual responsibility and respect. We develop and deploy best-in-class processes and strive for diversity across our membership and our investment portfolio. Please visit launchpadventuregroup.com for more information.

About the Angel Capital Association (ACA)

The Angel Capital Association (ACA) is the professional association of global angel investors to offer education, best practices, data, public policy advocacy, and significant benefits and resources to its membership of more than 14,000 accredited investors, who invest individually or through its 250+ angel groups, accredited platforms, and family offices. Visit angelcapitalassociation.org or at @ACAAngelCapital

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