MEDIA CONTACT: Kelly Richard, Red Sage Communications

Phone: 256-738-7387

Email: krichard@redsageonline.com



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 1, 2024

Dream, Pitch, Win: Launch Tank Competition Now Accepting Applications

HUNTSVILLE, AL – Entrepreneurs in North Alabama have a chance to turn their business dreams into reality as Launch, in collaboration with Singing River Trail, officially opens applications for the third annual Launch Tank competition.

Scheduled to take place at the Space Camp Operations Center at the US Space & Rocket Center in Huntsville, AL, on April 29, 2024, the Singing River Trail Launch Tank is a unique opportunity for regional entrepreneurs to showcase their business ideas in a Shark Tank-style event. The competition aims to connect aspiring and existing entrepreneurs with valuable resources and provide up to \$25,000 in non-dilutive funding for the winners.

Lisa Mays, Launch Tank Co-Chair, said, "The Singing River Trail Launch Tank exemplifies the strength of regional collaboration. Through this event, we're not just supporting entrepreneurs; we're empowering them to help shape the future of North Alabama."

"North Alabama isn't just a place on the map. It's a shared vision," said Michelle Epling, Launch Tank Co-Chair. "The collective support offered through the Launch Tank competition is a differentiator in driving our community's growth and innovation."

The competition is open to individuals residing within the eight counties encompassed by the Singing River Trail footprint, including Jackson, Marshall, Madison, Limestone, Morgan, Lawrence, Lauderdale, and Colbert Counties.

"We are thrilled for the third Launch Tank competition. Like our previous finalists, this is your opportunity to contribute to something greater and create a positive impact in our community," said John Kvach, Executive Director of the Singing River Trail. "Our vision goes beyond the competition. We want to connect as many entrepreneurs to the Singing River Trail as possible, making North Alabama a better place to live, work, and play."

Applications for the Launch Tank 2024 competition are live now and will be accepted until March 31, 2024. Finalists will be announced on April 12, 2024, leading up to the live pitching event at the Space Camp Operations Center at the US Space & Rocket Center on April 29, 2024.

To apply and learn more about the competition, visit launch2035.org.

About Launch: Launch is a 501(c)(3) non-profit working to strengthen the North Alabama region through entrepreneurship, land use, and workforce initiatives. Created in 2014, the non-profit is united by the belief that our region's prosperity depends on North Alabama counties working and planning together, committed to fostering regional economic growth and an enviable quality of life for all our residents.

About Singing River Trail: Established in 2018, <u>Singing River Trail</u> is a 200+ mile greenway system that strengthens regional bonds and creates new health and wellness, educational, economic, tourism, and entrepreneurial opportunities for the people and communities in the Tennessee Valley region.