

DERRICK BRAZIEL

MORTAR

Co-Founded with Allen Woods

2017 Black Male Achievement Fellow



BIG BOLD IDEA

Create thriving, economically diverse communities by enabling under-represented, minority entrepreneurs to access the tools and resources needed to start and scale their own businesses.

ORGANIZATION OVERVIEW

Founded in May of 2014, MORTAR Cincinnati exists to build communities through entrepreneurship. MORTAR offers a 12-week business accelerator class, access to micro-loans through our Iron Chest Fund, as well as a revolving pop-up shop named Brick OTR. MORTAR works to ensure that all entrepreneurs and small businesses, regardless of socioeconomic status, gender, race, or background, have an opportunity to participate in the rejuvenation of their community. As a result, MORTAR provides access to programming designed to lower barriers for under-represented entrepreneurs to compete and succeed in our 52 neighborhoods.

PERSONAL BIO

Derrick Braziel is a creative entrepreneur who is committed to the idea that all it takes to change the world is, "a dollar and a dream." He serves as a co-founder and Managing Director of MORTAR, an organization dedicated to enabling under-represented entrepreneurs to start and grow businesses. His work has led to recognition from the Indianapolis Star, YES! Magazine, Next City, Politico and NBC Nightly News. He has been named to Forbes' 30 under 30 list for Social Entrepreneurs and "One to Watch" by Cincinnati Magazine. He's a member of the Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber's C-Change Class 11 as well as a BALLE (Business Alliance for Local Living Economies) Fellow. He is the proud of son of two first-generation college graduates, and he earned a bachelor's degree in political science from Wittenberg University.

Issue area

Poverty Alleviation Economic Development

Organization/Fellow Location

Cincinnati, United States

Impact Location

North America

United States

Organization Structure

Nonprofit

[VISIT WEBSITE](#)

