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JOSH LINKNER

Josh Linkner – who started his career as a jazz guitarist – personifies innovation, entrepreneurship, and breakthrough disruption. He has been the founder and CEO of five tech companies, which sold for a combined value of over \$200 million.

Josh is a New York Times Bestselling author, and an internationally recognized expert on innovation and applied creativity. His first book, *Disciplined Dreaming: A Proven System to Drive Breakthrough Creativity* (2011), became one of the most definitive works on the topic of innovation, and has since been published in 13 languages. His other two books, *The Road to Reinvention: How to Drive Disruption and Accelerate Transformation* (2014), and *Hacking Innovation: The New Growth Model from the Sinister World of Hackers* (2017), have both received critical acclaim and have pushed the boundaries of business leaders worldwide.

Josh is also the Founding Partner of Detroit Venture Partners, investing in and/or mentoring over 100 startups. Today he serves as Chairman and co-founder of Platypus Labs, an innovation research, enablement and consulting firm.

Josh has twice been named the EY Entrepreneur Of The Year and is a President Barack Obama Champion of Change award recipient. He is a regular columnist for Forbes, The Detroit Free Press, and Inc. His work on innovation has been featured in The Wall Street Journal, Harvard Business Review, CNN, and The New York Times.

He is the father of four, a passionate Detroiter, and yes, he still plays a mean jazz guitar.