



UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

## **Rosen College of Hospitality Management**

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Rosen College Alumni's Company Ranked by Entrepreneur Magazine**

*Success of BlurtBox Gives Julien Meyer the Means to Give Back*

**Orlando, FL** (Nov 17, 2016) [BlurtBox.com](http://BlurtBox.com), a company that allows its customers to share feedback with businesses in real-time was voted by *Entrepreneur Magazine* as "One of America's Best Privately Owned Companies" for 2016. Owned by UCF Rosen College of Hospitality Management alumnus Julien Meyer, BlurtBox, was one of very few companies founded in Florida to make the list. This list is extremely competitive and was pooled from around 40,000 businesses. The list is featured both on [Entrepreneur.com](http://Entrepreneur.com) as well as the November print issue of *Entrepreneur Magazine*.

Since graduating from the Rosen College in 2014, Meyer's business success with BlurtBox has allowed him to be philanthropic towards his alma mater. In 2015, Meyer donated \$10,000 to the College for its first Entrepreneur Competition held in the spring of 2016. The winner of the competition received a \$5,000 prize to start their own business.

A CEO at age 24, Meyer's support of Rosen College was extended this year with the sponsorship of the Mentee of the Year scholarship. The recipient receives \$500 and is a Rosen student from the Peer Outreach Mentoring Program (POMP). Assistant Director of Student Services, Vanessa Cogswell, created the program in 2011 with 11 students and now POMP has almost 90 members. The culture of POMP is that of a support network with opportunities for both the mentee and peer mentor to grow and hone their leadership skills. The program has received a few awards and is nationally recognized. Meyer credits UCF and the Rosen College mentorship program with guiding its students to their goals.

"I've realized that after travelling to several universities around the globe that UCF with the Rosen College in Orlando, the tourism capital of the world, are exceptional places," said Meyer. "Coming from a family of immigrants, I have seen turbulent times, and I have also seen determination. UCF moves its students past the failures and helps them succeed."

While the student chosen as mentor of the year has received a scholarship for the past four years, this is the first year that a mentee will also be rewarded for their efforts, with Meyer donating the award. Meyer is a member of Rosen College's Hospitality Management Industry Advisory Board and a member of the Rollins College MBA program, Class of 2016, he was also a member of POMP in 2012 while studying at the College.

### **About the UCF Rosen College of Hospitality Management**

The UCF Rosen College of Hospitality Management located in Orlando, offers students an unrivaled opportunity to learn and work in the heart of hospitality. Ranked in the top five hospitality management programs worldwide, Rosen College has been an educational leader for over 30 years. Uniquely positioned in America's top tourism destination, we educate the next generation of industry leaders through internationally-recognized faculty, innovative academic programs, cutting-edge research and strong industry and community partnerships. To learn more, visit [hospitality.ucf.edu](http://hospitality.ucf.edu).

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