Kanwal Rekhi

3.28.18

An Entrepreneurial Journey

Entrepreneurs are the change agents in society and the main source of job and wealth creation. In last 40 years, almost all the new jobs in U.S. were created by entrepreneurial companies. Yet, the entrepreneurial journey is a very personal and lonely journey that tests people to the limit. Entrepreneurs are seen as undisciplined and oddballs until they succeed. However, only 2% of the population succeeds as entrepreneurs.

Kanwal came to the United States from India for graduate studies, advanced through the engineering ranks in a number of technology companies, and then co-founded Excelan in Silicon Valley to commercialize ethernet and TCP/IP – standards which became the basis of the Internet. He took Excelan public in 1987, becoming the first Indo-American Founder & CEO to list a venture-backed company on the NASDAQ. Excelan later merged with Novell and the company grew into the second largest software vendor in the world and returned 100X to Kanwal’s venture investors.

Kanwal co-founded and built TiE into the largest global network of Indian entrepreneurs and co-founded Inventus, where he applies his full energy and time building Inventus into a leading early stage venture franchise.

Managing Director, Inventus

SPEA A225 (O’Neill Center)
4:00pm - 5:00pm

Presented by: the Institute for Development Strategies & the Arts and Humanities Council as part of India Remixed: A Global Arts and Humanities Festival