



2025 Women's Apex 20

20 Portfolio Companies We Are Proud to Spotlight



We are pleased to announce our **2025 Women's Apex 20**.

This selection of ventures from AV's portfolio of over 400 investments in women-led startups features 20 of the names we're excited to spotlight. These companies were selected for their variety, innovative impact, performance, and upside.

As one of the most active venture capital firms globally, Alumni Ventures routinely co-invests alongside brand-name lead investors as we strive to be the industry's "co-investor of choice." Please explore our list of amazing women-founded and -led portfolio companies.



Ankita Gupta
CEO

- Helps organizations mitigate cyber threats by providing a platform for real-time API inventory management
- Named as Representative Vendor in 2024 Gartner Market Guide for API Protection
- Co-investor: Accel



Shuying Luo
Co-Founder & CTO

- Leverages AI to create and enhance innovative gaming experiences in collaboration with gaming studios
- Focused on creating 'digital humans' — AI-driven agents designed to embody fundamental human qualities
- Co-investors: Andreessen Horowitz, First Spark Ventures



Jay Graber
CEO



Rose Wang
COO

- A decentralized social media platform that gives users control, fosters creativity, and stays independent from corporate influence
- As of February 2025, had over 31M registered users
- Co-investors: Bain Capital Ventures, Blockchain Capital, True Ventures



Deanna Harshbarger
CEO



Kate Rosenbluth
Founder & President

- Created the first Medicare-approved wearable device for non-invasive, personalized hand tremor relief
- Raised \$50M oversubscribed growth round to propel its commercialization trajectory
- Co-investors: Vertex Growth Fund, Nexus NeuroTech Ventures, Johnson & Johnson, GV



Carry1st



Lucy Hoffman
Co-Founder & COO

- A full-stack publisher of social games and interactive content, catering to Africa's fast-growing mobile and gaming market
- Named in Fast Company's 2024 list of Most Innovative Companies
- Co-investors: Andreessen Horowitz, BITKRAFT



Cheri Ackerman
CEO

- Examines the microbial world with unmatched experimental depth to discover breakthrough microbe-based products
- Launched Phase 1 clinical trials for its breakthrough topical, microbiome-based therapeutic solution for eczema
- Co-investor: 8VC, Allston Venture Fund, Safari Ventures



Connie Hsiung
Co-CEO & CFO



Sylvia Kwan
Co-CEO & CIO



Sallie Krawcheck
Co-Founder

- Financial company built by women for women, providing tailored tools and services to help them build wealth at every stage of life
- Reached a new milestone in 2024 with \$2B in client assets under management
- Co-investors: Morningstar, PayPal Ventures, Salesforce Ventures

futurefamily



Claire Tomkins
CEO

- Leading financing platform exclusively for fertility, offering plans for IVF and egg freezing, with on-demand medical support through Concierge Care
- Launched Future Family Rx — an innovative online fertility pharmacy platform — in 2024
- Co-investors: Acrew Capital, Munich Re Ventures, Aspect Ventures



Apeksha Kumavat
Co-Founder & Chief Engineer

- Develops autonomous vehicles for middle-mile transportation and short-haul logistics
- In 2021, launched the world's first fully driverless commercial transportation service with Walmart
- Partnered with Isuzu Motors in 2024 on mass production of SAE Level 4 autonomous trucks
- Co-investors: Wittington Ventures, Innovation Endeavors, Trucks VC, Fuji America Corporation



Parastoo
Khoshakhlagh
CEO

- Integrating synthetic biology and AI to scale and unlock the next generation of cell therapy
- Its proprietary platform simplifies stem cell differentiation, improving efficiency, quality, and development speed
- Co-investors: Andreessen Horowitz, Cercano Management



Julia Cohen
Sebastien
CEO

- Empowers family caregivers worldwide by providing access to social care through employers and health plans, combining advanced technology with hands-on support
- Demonstrated significant benefits for employers, including a 38% reduction in turnover rates and 50% of employees avoiding leave, quitting, or reducing work hours
- Co-investors: Maveron, BBG Ventures, GingerBread Capital



Joanna McFarland
CEO & Co-Founder

- Provides safe, reliable youth transportation solutions using advanced technology, rigorous driver vetting, and real-time monitoring to simplify logistics for families, schools, and government agencies
- In 2024, saw a more than 300% increase in rides across its marketplace
- Co-investors: Greycroft, Upfront Ventures, FirstMarket Capital



Kirin Sinha
CEO & Founder

- Its AI algorithms analyze real-world inputs and user data to generate hyper-personalized AR content, delivering immersive experiences across various environments
- Proprietary Spatial Positioning System enables precise digital content placement across stadiums, festivals, theme parks, and resorts
- Co-investors: Lightspeed Venture Partners, Maveron, Lightshed



Gökçe Güve
CEO & Founder

- Helps brands monetize loyalty programs with an easy-to-integrate API, enabling direct brand rewards at partner retailers while strengthening customer relationships and insights
- Brands using Kalder include Godiva, LVMH-backed retailer MILE, and Heatio
- Co-investors: 8VC, Accel, Human Capital, Emergence Capital Partners



MADISONREED®



Amy Errett
CEO

- Revolutionizing beauty and hair care by blending digital convenience with traditional salon experiences
- While known for at-home hair dyes, the brand's expansion is most evident in the rapid growth of its Hair Color Bars, which have increased sevenfold since 2020
- Co-investors: Calibrate Ventures, Comcast Ventures, Maveron

 Nanopath



Alison Burklund
Co-CEO



Amogha Tadimety
Co-CEO

- Pioneering molecular diagnostics with a rapid, in-office platform that delivers precise, actionable insights, starting with women's health
- In 2024, received \$4M in NIH and NSF grants to advance its point-of-care diagnostic platform for pelvic and gynecologic infections
- Co-investors: Norwest Venture Partners, Medtech Convergence Fund

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Andrea Johnson
Co-Founder &
CEO

- An AI-powered e-reading platform for K-12 schools that distributes, supports, and tracks independent reading data along with one-to-one tutoring
- Partnered with various educational organizations and publishers, including Hachette, HarperCollins, Disney Books, and Apple
- Co-investors: Amplify Capital, Neotribe Ventures

 SPACEIUM



Ashi Dissanayake
CEO

- Spaceium is developing the first fully automated in-space refueling and repair stations to extend spacecraft longevity
- Its refueling stations — with multi-metric-ton fuel capacity — will support missions from Low Earth Orbit (VLEO) to Mars
- Co-investors: Y Combinator, Initialized Capital Management



Lilly Wollman
Co-Founder & CEO

- Synteny is the developer of a biotech platform using AI to decode immune repertoires for disease discovery and healthspan improvement
- Helps its clients (pharmaceutical companies, research institutions, healthcare providers) accelerate their research and development processes
- Co-investors: Black Opal Ventures, In-Q-Tel, Obvious Ventures



Sassie Duggleby
CEO

- Focuses on hypersonic technology to revolutionize global travel with faster, more efficient transportation
- Successfully ignited its VDR2 engine, marking the first successful test of a Rocket-Based Combined Cycle engine transitioning from Mach 0 to Mach 6
- Co-investors: Airbus Ventures, Boost VC, Draper Associates

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