



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Civil Rights Legend and Tech Pioneer to be Honored at Atlanta Startup Awards

ATLANTA, GA – JUNE 22, 2022 - Startup Atlanta today announced that civil rights legend and social entrepreneur **Andrew J. Young**, and tech pioneer **Ben Chestnut**, will be presented with its highest honor, the **Lifetime Achievement Award**. The honorees will be officially recognized at the **Atlanta Startup Awards** on **October 12, 2022**, at Atlantic Yards in Midtown Atlanta.

"Startup Atlanta is excited to honor former Ambassador Young and Mailchimp CEO Ben Chestnut," said **Jennifer Singh**, Co-Founder of Understory and Board Chair at Startup Atlanta. "Their success and commitment to the Atlanta startup community is definitely a model for our local ecosystem."

Young, who co-founded fintech startup [Greenwood](#) in 2020, is widely recognized as a pioneer in and champion of Civil and Human rights and has long served in elected office and as a groundbreaking ambassador and adviser to presidents. He also works tirelessly on economic development, educational opportunities, world hunger, and poverty issues through the [Andrew J. Young Foundation](#).

Chestnut is an Atlanta-based tech entrepreneur and co-founder of [Mailchimp](#), an all-in-one email marketing platform. Founded in 2001, the company employs more than 1,200 people and serves millions of global users. Mailchimp is now part of software company [Intuit](#) following a **\$12 Billion** acquisition (the largest of its kind for a private company) in 2021.

"The success of Andrew Young and Ben Chestnut reflects the spirit embodied in our event theme, **Ready, Set, Rise**," said Board Member and Awards Co-Chair, **Tony Cooper**. "They are both exemplars of Atlanta optimism and Startup Atlanta is proud to honor them."

The Atlanta Startup Awards is the premier awards event for local early-stage and growth-stage businesses and entrepreneurs. The annual event brings together the startup community to celebrate its best and honor its startup trailblazers.

For more on the Atlanta Startup Awards, visit atlantastartupawards.com or contact info@startupatlanta.com about available sponsorship opportunities.



About Startup Atlanta

Startup Atlanta is a community non-profit with a mission to connect, promote, and expand Atlanta's vibrant startup ecosystem to bolster the creation of jobs, companies and wealth. Startup Atlanta achieves this by producing and publishing the annual Startup Atlanta Ecosystem Guide, a community resource featuring a comprehensive list of entrepreneur support organizations in the greater Atlanta region. Startup Atlanta also leads with strategic programming and partnerships: facilitating the quarterly Community Partners Lunch and the annual Atlanta Startup Awards.

For more information, visit www.startupatlanta.com.

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