

Date April 23rd, 2019

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Pioneers '19 Day 2 Celebrates Austria

Vienna – Our flagship event is known primarily as an international gathering - but it's also an annual meeting point for the best startups, investors and innovators in the Austrian ecosystem. The number of participating startups from Austria grew from 18% in 2016 to 34% in 2018. To further act on this trend, we'll focus on everything Austria has to offer this year. Pioneers '19 guests will hear from some of the country's most successful founders and ecosystem builders.

Friday, the 10th of May, the second day of Pioneers '19, is all about Austria. Featuring in this year's program: the Pioneers Stammtisch, an all-new networking format inspired by local tradition that invites experts and guests to exchange their knowledge in themed sessions.

Networking is the essence of all Pioneer's events, which is why this year's Match & Meet Area will be relocated to the Hofburg's second-largest hall with the decor reminiscent of the typical Viennese coffee house.

The morning of May 10th will feature some of the local scene's finest minds on the Arena Stage. First up is the *Building the Austrian Startup Ecosystem* panel discussion, featuring **Johann 'Hansi' Hansmann (Austrian Angel Investor Association)**, **Selma Prodanovic (1MillionStartups)**, **Oliver Holle (SpeedInvest)** and **Michael Altrichter (startup300)**. Then comes our *Founders Stories* panel, where **Florian Gschwandtner**, **Katharina Klausberger**, **Frank Westermann** and **Travis Pittman**, the founders of local success stories **Runtastic**, **Shpock**, **mySugr** and **TourRadar** respectively, will share their insights.

Professor Dkfm. Thomas Schäfer-Elmayer of the **Elmayer Dance School** (Tanzschule Elmayer) will also initiate a quadrille dance session in the 'Zeremoniensaal', the Hall of Ceremonies, and hold a business etiquette workshop for selected participants. He is among Austria's leading experts in this field, having written nine books on good behaviour and giving about 100 seminars on business etiquette each year. "It's not without reason that there are guidelines for behaviour, manners that facilitate social life many times over. Some have developed over hundreds of years. Some are constantly adapted to modern life. There exist new uncertainties in the age of digital communication, for which there seems to be no suitable one solution", says Thomas Schäfer-Elmayer, owner of the famous Elmayer dance school. "At Pioneers '19, I look forward to answering questions concerning international etiquette, professional behaviour and modern manners in the course of my Etiquette Workshop."

As for the 550 seed and Series A startups joining us from all around the world, a good share naturally hails from our home country. This includes a few who have made our selection to take part in the pitching competition. One of them, **doro**, is from Graz, while the other six Austrian startups are

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based in Vienna. These are **HYDROGRID, ChiveOS, MetGIS, contextflow, Xencio** and **COZYO**. Who knows, maybe - as in 2018 - an Austrian startup will take home the Pioneer of the Year Award once again this year!

About Pioneers

At Pioneers, we inspire, empower and create. Our purpose is to foster growth and innovation with a focus on deep tech. Since 2009, our diverse team has built an ecosystem, creating collaboration opportunities for tech innovators. We bring together startups, corporate executives, public sector innovators, and investors through digital solutions, consultancy services, events and investments to create a prosperous future.

Find out more about our various offerings and network under <https://pioneers.io/#/> or follow us on social media.

