

# FORTIER

PUBLIC RELATIONS

“Amidst the deafening noise of polarized politics, economic uncertainty, and rising social challenges, *Launchpad Republic* offers a signal of optimism and hope. Wolk and Landry remind us that limited government, protection of property rights, and a rebellious spirit are critical drivers of America’s dynamism. A must-read for policymakers and citizens alike!”

—Vikram Mansharamani, lecturer, Harvard University & author of *Think for Yourself: Restoring Common Sense*

April 2022

Dear Journalist:

The spirit of entrepreneurship has been embedded into American culture and its economy since colonial times. To this day, something is unique about the USA—so different from consensus-based Europe and authoritarian China—that’s made the country a fertile ground for people starting business ventures. Economists, policy experts, and government leaders have sought to recreate this recipe for dynamism, but few have appreciated what it really takes for an entrepreneurial economy to sustain itself for centuries.

In **LAUNCHPAD REPUBLIC: America’s Entrepreneurial Edge and Why It Matters (Wiley; Aug. 2, 2022)**, Howard Wolk and John Landry explore the institutional, political, and legal factors that have shaped our economy. They offer an in-depth look at how these have operated throughout history and can be improved going forward. They focus on the tension between creation and destruction that arises from the right to compete and the right to private property. Entrepreneurs seek to create thriving companies, but in doing so they almost inevitably threaten existing systems with a new alternative. As Wolk and Landry note in the preface, **“This balancing act between rewarding builders and enabling challengers, often the same people, has been at the heart of the American entrepreneurial economy. It has been our internal combustion engine of progress.”**

Taking us from the economic foundation of the federal Constitution to the initiatives of the Civil War, from the rise of big business through internet startups, Wolk and Landry trace the trajectory that’s brought us to the present day. They address current concerns about the ever-increasing inequality of wealth, offering strategies to improve the system without abandoning the balancing act that has proved remarkably resilient. **LAUNCHPAD REPUBLIC** explains how, by understanding the roots of entrepreneurial dynamism, we can address deep-seated problems like inequality and climate change.

I hope you enjoy this early copy of **LAUNCHPAD REPUBLIC**. I’ll be in touch to follow up soon, but please don’t hesitate to contact me with any questions, or to set up an interview with the authors.

Sincerely,



Nick Davies

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**Howard Wolk** is an experienced entrepreneur, company builder and investor. He is co-president of the Cross Country Group, a privately-held firm consisting of start-ups and mature companies. He is a former senior fellow at the Harvard Kennedy School's Mossavar-Rahmani Center for Business and Government, where he developed and led a study group on entrepreneurship and society. Howard lives in Boston and London with his wife and two daughters.

**John Landry** is a business historian and writer, and a former editor at *Harvard Business Review*. He earned a PhD. in economic history from Brown University, and he lives in Providence, R.I. with his wife and two sons.