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The Daily Startup: Goodwall Seeded for Social Network for Students

Goodwall SA [has raised](#) \$2.1 million to help students understand what they need beyond getting good grades and high test scores to get into a good college or university. Goodwall, which is a graduate of the **MassChallenge** accelerator in Boston, raised its seed funding from **F.A.E., Fongit, Verve Capital** and angel investors. Goodwall makes a social network where students 14 to 18 years old can create profiles and boast about their skills and achievements. The idea is to give them a space for details they wouldn't share on other social apps like Snapchat, Facebook or Instagram.



Art by Mike Lucas

ALSO IN TODAY'S VENTUREWIRE (subscription required):

Innovid Inc., an ad-tech startup, [has raised](#) \$27.5 million in Series E equity and debt funding. New investor **New Spring Capital** led the round, which included contributions from existing investors **Cisco Ventures, Genesis Partners, Sequoia Capital Israel** and **T-Venture**. Of the new funding, \$12.5 million is debt, provided by **Silicon Valley Bank** and **Triple Point Capital**.

DipJar Inc., a New York-based startup that developed a credit-card reader that swiftly collects tips and donations, said [it closed](#) a \$2.4 million seed round to expand nationally and continue developing software for customers. Prior investors **Bolt** and **Project 11** participated, joined by **Corazon Capital, Charge Ventures, Matthew Vettel of Great Hill Partners, Jamie Goldstein** and a number of other angel investors.

Vertex Ventures [has raised](#) \$151 million for a new fund, according to a regulatory filing. The Palo Alto, Calif., fund indicated in the filing that the amount committed was the full amount for Vertex VenturesUS Fund I L.P.

(VentureWire is a daily newsletter with comprehensive analysis of all the investments, deals and personnel moves involving startups and their venture backers. For a two-week trial, visit <http://on.wsj.com/DJPEVCNews>, scroll to the bottom and click "try for free.")

ELSEWHERE AROUND THE WEB:

Saudi Prince Alwaleed's Firm Leads \$247.7 Million Investment in Lyft. Saudi Arabia's Prince **Alwaleed bin Talal's** investment group **Kingdom Holding Co.** said on Thursday that it [is paying](#) \$104.9 million for 2.3% of ride-hailing service **Lyft Inc.**, The Wall Street Journal's Greg Bensinger reports. The investment is part of a larger investment by an unnamed group of \$247.7 million for 5.3% of the company.

Four Highly Valued Tech Startups Are Prepping 2016 IPOs. Four startups that are valued at \$1 billion or more [are preparing](#) for initial public offerings in 2015, the WSJ's Maureen Farrell and Telis Demos report. **Nutanix Inc., Okta Inc., Twilio Inc.** and **Coupa Software Inc.** are in various stages of preparing for IPOs, according to regulatory filings and people familiar with the matter. The companies are heading toward public offerings after a year that had a dearth of tech IPOs.

Write to Mike Billings at mike.billings@wsj.com. Follow him on Twitter at [@mbillings](https://twitter.com/mbillings)