



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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One of World's Bestselling Toy Inventors to Keynote Small Business Event

Former NASA Engineer and Super Soaker Inventor Dr. Lonnie Johnson at VISION 2017

WHAT: [VISION 2017](#) is St. Louis' annual conference for women, minorities, immigrants and anyone interested in starting or growing a business in science, IT or manufacturing. Attendees can satisfy their entrepreneurial curiosities at this one-day symposium that will include interactive sessions in a multi-track format. Super Soaker water gun inventor, former NASA engineer and president and founder of Johnson Research & Development Co. Inc., Dr. Lonnie Johnson, will share his inspirational story and current focus on developing revolutionary energy technology.

WHO: Organized by BioSTL, Black Entrepreneur Weekend, CET, ITEN, St. Louis Community College, St. Louis Economic Development Partnership, St. Louis Makes, and St. Louis Mosaic Project.

WHEN: **Thursday, October 19, 2017**
8 a.m. – 6 p.m. (Johnson keynote at 11:30 a.m.)

WHERE: St. Louis Community College – Florissant Valley
Physical Education Building
3400 Pershall Road
St. Louis, MO 63135

WHY: The goal of VISION 2017 is to build a wholly-inclusive, diverse innovation community that can take advantage of the numerous small business and entrepreneurial opportunities in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). Attendees do not have to be a rocket scientist, coding expert or master craftsman to attend this symposium, merely have a curiosity in learning more about what business opportunities are available to them.

For more information or to register, visit www.visionstlouis.com

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