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Startup Connection 2017: Inspiring Innovators Building the Next Generation of Jobs for St. Louis

ST. LOUIS – The St. Louis’ Innovation Community held its annual celebration, Startup Connection on Wednesday, November 15, 2017, at the Globe Building downtown. More than 60 top new startups in St. Louis were on display to an audience of more than 1,100 people.

[Startup Connection](#) gives St. Louis’ top startups the chance to present their companies to a packed house of entrepreneurs, investors, and other members of the innovation community. In addition to the Startup Showcase, the annual event also serves as a resource fair for entrepreneurs to connect with startup support organizations.

“We’re excited to have the opportunity to share these great startups with the community,” said Phyllis Ellison, managing director of Startup Connection ’17. “The entrepreneurs of St. Louis inspire us with their creativity and drive. You can’t help but leave the event with a renewed sense of energy and excitement about what is being built here in the region.”

An impressive list of companies competed in this year’s [Venture Showcase](#). The evening closed with awards topping \$50,000 in cash prizes and services from some top St. Louis businesses that chose their favorite startup:

Agrela Ecosystems:	\$2,000 of accounting services from BDO
CheckTheQ:	\$5,000 cash prize from Boeing
Heartwork Videos:	\$2,000 cash prize from BioSTL and \$2,500 cash prize from Lewis Rice
Janus Choice:	\$2,000 of legal services from CreatiVenture Law and \$2,000 of legal services from Polsinelli
LIFEbinder:	\$2,000 office space from CIC (Cambridge Innovation Center)
SafeTrek:	\$1,250 cash prize from Monsanto and \$7,000 in consulting and planning services from Slalom
SensrTrx:	\$2,000 of accounting services from Rubin Brown and \$6,000 of digital cloud storage from Datotel
Smash Toast:	\$4,000 of accounting services from Anders CPA + Advisors and \$2,000 in legal services from Husch Blackwell
Sparo:	\$2,000 in shipping services from UPS
VaxNewMo:	\$1,250 cash prize from Thompson Coburn
Viosera:	\$2,000 cash prize from BioSTL



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Additionally, the St. Charles County Demo Day People’s Choice Award of \$5,000 was awarded to **Obodo**.

Startup Connection is held each November to celebrate the St. Louis entrepreneurship community and highlight the top startups entering the market that year. Learn more at www.startupconnection.org

Sponsors make it all possible: Express Scripts | Washington University in St. Louis | Boeing | Active Capital | Anders CPA + Advisors | BioSTL | Chase | Globe Building | Lewis Rice | Saint Louis University | St. Louis Regional Chamber | St. Louis Economic Development Partnership | BDO | CIC – St. Louis | CreatiVenture Law LLC | Datotel | Husch Blackwell | Monsanto | Polsinelli | RubinBrown | Slalom | TechShop | Thompson Coburn | UPS | Brazen | Brown Smith Wallace | Capital Innovators | Harness Dickey | Lewis & Clark Ventures | Lion Forge | Millipore Sigma | Segue Partners | {THANK YOU}

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BDO Prize Winner Agrela Ecosystems



BioSTL with award winners Viosera and Heartwork Videos