

Applications for 10th Startup Connection Now Open!

*10th Anniversary to Top \$1 Million Dollars of Cash & In-kind Prize Money
Granted to Startups Since Event's Inception*

ST. LOUIS – Startup Connection '18, the St. Louis region's largest event celebrating innovation and entrepreneurship celebrates its 10th Anniversary on **November 7, 2018!**

Startups can apply for a spot in the Venture Showcase starting July 10th. Interested companies should apply at www.startupconnection.org/venture-showcase.html through August 31, 2018.

Thanks to generous sponsors offering cash and in-kind prizes to St. Louis startups, this year's Startup Connection will top more than \$1 million dollars' worth of prize money since the event's inception, and the number of startups competing and showcasing their innovations has doubled.

This year's evening event will return to The Globe Building at 710 N. Tucker, near the T-REX technology incubator. Highlights include the opportunity to meet more than 60 top St. Louis startups and to find assistance to grow your own business in the Resource Fair with 50+ support organizations. Last year's event attracted more than 1,200 entrepreneurs, investors, business people, scientists and students that support the St. Louis innovation scene.

Startup Connection started as a way to connect talent that was coming into the market during the Recession in 2008 with tech startups. Those early efforts by Jim Brasunas with ITEN and Vicki Gonzalez with Nidus Partners grew from gatherings of sometimes fewer than 100 people to more than 1,300 in recent years. By 2011, Startup Connection added bioscience startups into the mix with entrepreneurial tech companies.

"It's amazing to consider the growth of both the event and St. Louis' entrepreneurship community over the last decade," said Startup Connection Managing Director Phyllis Ellison, director of entrepreneur services and institutional and corporate partnerships at the [Cortex Innovation Community](#). "We're grateful for the community support over the decade to be able to put the entire breadth of high-growth entrepreneurship on display, under one roof, for one energy-packed night. There is only one event that shines the spotlight on the entire startup community for an evening – Startup Connection."

WHEN: Wednesday, November 7, 2018

4:30 – 9 p.m.

**WHERE: The Globe Building
710 N. Tucker Blvd.**



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[Express Scripts](#) is joined by [The Globe Building](#) as the hosting facility and by [Washington University](#) returning as the Resource Fair sponsor.

About Startup Connection:

Startup Connection showcases some of the top early-stage startup ventures in St. Louis across a variety of industry sectors including: advanced manufacturing, biotech, consumer products, education, FinTech, and tech.

Startup Connection '18 is organized by [Arch Grants](#), [BioSTL](#), [Cortex Innovation Community](#), [Enterprise Bank & Trust](#), [GlobalHack](#), [ITEN](#), and the [St. Louis Regional Chamber](#). Started in 2008 as an effort to connect IT startups with corporate talent, Startup Connection has grown to be a collaboration of the St. Louis entrepreneur support organizations, civic entities and investment community to celebrate the region's early stage startups.

For more information visit startupconnection.org.

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