UpStart

SILICON VALLEY AND KANSAS CITY STARTUP STORIES

Entrepreneurs bring ideas to life.

Hunt for answers.

Learn something new.

Explore more.

The coolest stuff is happening here ...

—Darcy Howe, Kansas City investor

The Startup Ecosystem

Vibrant and diverse ecosystems allow talent, information, and resources to flow to entrepreneurs.

Who are the **key players** involved in building a thriving startup ecosystem?

In the exhibit ...

1. Can you name two startup cities or regions and what they're known for?

2. What do you think is the main ingredient in making an ecosystem successful?

3. What role could you play in your local ecosystem?

Explore more

What would you do first if you wanted to build a brand new startup ecosystem?

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Intentionally built community creates more opportunities to get lucky.
—Adam Arredondo, CEO, Kansas City Startup Foundation

People have been willing to lose everything because they truly believed that what they were doing would change the world.
—Peggy Burke, Founder, 1185 Design

Startup Ecosystems: Silicon Valley and Kansas City

For nearly a century, Silicon Valley has spawned new firms that have forever changed how we work, live, and play, and Kansas City's rich history of entrepreneurship extends back over a hundred years.

Are Silicon Valley and Kansas City **similar or different** in how they support new startup ventures?

In the exhibit ...

1. Who's your favorite entrepreneur? Why?

2. What do you think are the most difficult challenges for the Silicon Valley and Kansas City ecosystems?

Explore more

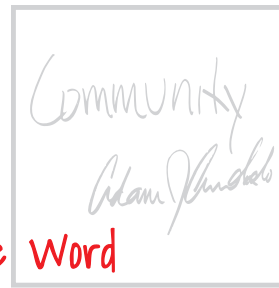If you were a venture capitalist in 1976, would you have funded Apple?

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I think I've taken a part of every program the city has had to offer at one time or another.
—Toby Rush, Cofounder, ZOLOZ

Make sure you ask for help from everybody around you because that's what the Valley's all about.
—Tony Fadell, Cofounder, Nest

One Word

Business and community leaders boil down hard lessons learned into just one word of advice for new entrepreneurs.

What's your one word?

In the exhibit ...

1. What's your favorite word of advice? Why?

2. What word surprised you the most? Why?

3. What words would you pick to represent your ideal team?

Explore more

What's the valuable advice behind cold calling, failure, or storytelling?

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*Tend to what those **relationships** could do for you in the long term. And don't just care about what you can get from them, but what you can give to them.*
—Joni Cobb, Founding President and CEO, Pipeline

*The most important thing to invest in is improving yourself and that starts with honest **self-critique**.*
—Scott Cook, Cofounder, Intuit

Entrepreneur's Journey

Although entrepreneurs often face similar tasks and challenges on the journey to building a company, each story unfolds in its own unique way.

What is it like to turn an **idea into a company?**

1. Is there a quote that resonates with you? Why?

2. If you were an entrepreneur, what do you think would be the most difficult part of the journey?

Explore more

Too often the media perpetuates stereotypes about "tech-bro" founders. What's real and what's not?

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Startups are hard, and it's just really important to stick with it. You're gonna hear a lot of no's.
—Davyeon Ross, Cofounder, ShotTracker

Do we look at those résumés and say, "Forget that young man or young woman? You know, they were a failure." No, we say, "Wow, that's interesting. They've got some experience under their belt."
—Ann Winblad, Silicon Valley investor

We need you!

This traveling exhibit is a prototype. Help us improve it by sharing your feedback on the iPads for the exhibit or online at computerhistory.org/upstart-feedback.

CHM Computer
History
Museum

CHM decodes technology for individuals, communities, and humanity. It shares insights gleaned from research, events, and an incomparable collection of computing artifacts and oral histories to convene, inform, and inspire people to build a better world. The Exponential Center at CHM captures the legacy and advances the future of entrepreneurship and innovation in Silicon Valley and around the world.

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