



The **Year of Innovation** is spotlighting the legacy and future of innovation in Kansas City, celebrating creative thinkers and their integral contributions to Kansas City, the nation and the world.

The **Innovation Team** is a bi-state collaboration of organizations that have come together to celebrate, support and encourage innovation in the Kansas City region to ensure our region's economic sustainability.

Did you know...?

- Kansas City was ranked among the **top 12 cities in the world** to watch for innovation by *FastCompany* magazine, sharing the spotlight with Beijing, Barcelona, Moscow and Abu Dubai.
- In 2009, Kansas City is hosting **more innovation-related conferences and events than ever before**, including the National Business Incubation Association's 23rd International Conference on Business Incubation, the State Science and Technology Institute's (SSTI) 13th Annual National Conference, and the North America Works International Conference.
- **More than 15 Kansas City-area organizations** have come together to bring regional and national awareness to the innovation taking place in KC.
- "In recessions and extremely uncertain economic times, entrepreneurs and innovators will be essential to the success of the economy. **When the traditional ways of doing business are no longer viable, innovation is essential.**"

-Bob Marcusse, president & CEO, Kansas City Area Development Council

The Innovation Team includes representation from: *the Kansas City Area Development Council; the Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce; The Kauffman Foundation; Hallmark Cards; KCPT; the Greater Kansas City World Trade Center; KC Small Business magazine; The Bloch School at UMKC; KCSOURCELINK; the KU Center for Technology Commercialization; KTEC Pipeline; InvestMidwest Capital Forum; Enterprise Center of Johnson County; Kansas Women's Business Center; FastTrac™ National Headquarters/Entrepreneurial Education Foundation; and the Arts Incubator of Kansas City.*