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For Immediate Release

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Knoxville Entrepreneur Center Announces Startup Day

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. –Knoxville Entrepreneur Center (KEC), in partnership with Tech 20/20 and Launch Tennessee (LaunchTN), announces Startup Day, a local celebration of entrepreneurial startups and culture.

The event is on November 21st at 3:00 pm and will be held at The Standard on Jackson Avenue in Downtown Knoxville. The celebration is open to everyone.

Michael Strickland, CEO of Bandit Lites will serve as the Key Note, followed by 5-minute rapid-fire pitches by the CEO's of 16 new Startups. In between the pitches will be breaks with local musicians sharing their talents. The program concludes with a time of networking, great food and a mini concert by the Coveralls, a local band.

"Knoxville Entrepreneur Center has been a very busy place since it opened early this year," said Rhonda Rice, Chairman of KEC Board. "We have had over 30 companies participate in three directed entrepreneurial programs and countless others have come through the center mentoring and key support services. Startup Day is our chance to share this activity with the community."

John Morris, CEO of Tech 20/20 said, "Startup Day is a different kind of event. In the past we have had pitch competitions and venture forums but this a grand party to celebrate the role of entrepreneurship both in our heritage and our future."

"We are proud to support KEC and Startup Day," said Charlie Brock, President of Launch Tennessee. "This event will take place during Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW), a global celebration of entrepreneurship, so we salute all the entrepreneurs who are making Tennessee a top destination for startups."

For registration and details for Startup Day, visit www.startupday2013.com

About Knoxville Entrepreneur Center (KEC) provides access to a regionally recognized company development program, an involved network of dedicated capital sources, successful local mentors, and world class training. It is located at 17 Market Square in Downtown Knoxville, TN. www.knoxec.com

About Tech 20/20 is a Venture Development Organization headquartered in Oak Ridge, TN with a focus on equipping entrepreneurs, connecting to capital and leveraging regional assets. www.tech2020.org

About Launch Tennessee (LaunchTN) is a public-private partnership focused on supporting the development of high-growth companies in the State of Tennessee with the ultimate goal of fostering job creation and economic growth. www.launchtn.org

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