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Jack Dorsey, co-founder of Twitter, calls St. Louis his hometown. So did uber-VC John Doerr of Kleiner, Perkins, Caufield & Byers. Dorsey even launched his latest effort, credit card processing startup Square, with co-founder st. Louis and began using Square at a food festival there in September. But the startup scene is still a bit sleepy in St. Louis, with more activity taking place in the life sciences and agriculture arenas. There is also some hope pinned on the new runway at Lambert-St. Louis International Airport which could lead to the establishment of a Chinese trade center there. Keith Alper, CEO of Creative Producers Group, talks to us about what makes the St. Louis startup scene unique. What makes St. Louis a great place for startups? In its heyday, St. Louis was the fastest growing city west of the Mississippi—in the 1800s. St. Louis is trying to keep redefining itself from being in america's top 10 cities to now being in the top 20 to the lower 20 side. This is a manufacturing city. There are many universities, and some decent universities here. I don't know if many people would call it a great startup city, but there are a lot of great startups that have been very successful and established in St. Louis. Everything from 150 years ago Anheuser-Busch to what is now Boeing -McDonnell Douglas - and perhaps the fastest growing farmer company from the high-tech side is Express Scripts that is not even 15 years old and 30 or 40 plus billion dollars. Emerson Electric. Monsanto. There's just a lot of great DNA from the big companies that are here today that were founded here by entrepreneurs. You've heard of the Spirit of St. Louis. You know, 100 yards from my office is where they gave Lindbergh money to go do it and he named his plane the Spirit of St. Louis. So they always invest in innovation. The X Prize was established in St. Louis for flights. For the question of what makes St. Louis great for startups, first of all the cost of doing business in St. Louis is incredible. We may have one of the lowest housing costs in the country. His talent makes perfect sense here. We have a world-class university with the largest is Washington University, which is the top medical school in the US. It is one of three places in the world to sequence the human genome. St. Louis is really a biotechnology and ag city. That's where a lot of growth comes from. Is there a certain better startup there? We have a lot of life sciences businesses based here. We have a thing called Danforth Life Science which is one of the largest in the world doing research bio and plants here. There

is also a small but growing tech community. Jack Dorsey, co-founder of Twitter, is from St. Louis, he has just started a new company called Square and Square Square based in St. Louis and half in Silicon Valley. There's a new company called Aisle411 that has just closed a round of \$4 or \$5 million. So there are a number of tech companies and then there are groups through universities that focus on innovation and how to make the tech community better. Does St. Louis breed or attract entrepreneurs? First of all, down the road in Kansas City, which is on the other side of the state, we have one of the largest entrepreneurial advocates called the Kauffman Foundation. So states and cities do a lot of programs with Kauffman to support entrepreneurship not only in schools but also among entrepreneurs and big business. There are a number of programs, we have a group called RCGA (Regional Chamber and Growth Association), which is our kind of space that works to really attract new business and especially on what they claim is the Bio Belt to go get a job under biotechnology and attract startups, VC-managed companies that exist. Are there any sources of capital available in St. Louis? There are several groups of angels here. St. Louis is a very old conservative city. So it tends to support more life sciences and bio but most of the money that goes in for this is not from St. Louis. There may be funds that put money here – you've got maybe 10 real types of VC capital sources but the rest are from out of town and they're glad they're here because of the lower cost of living and doing business or they're glad they're close to Monsanto or things like that. Another source is just a start-up friend and a typical family source. There used to be a lot of community banks that did some of those things but with the financial crisis a lot of those banks were gone. But we've got mid-level angels and you don't have a lot of VC capital coming into the St. Louis market. Is St. Louis a billion dollars off the playing field? I would say that St. Louis has had some decent exits but you don't see billions of dollars coming out. I don't know who saw billions of dollars out today. There are a number of people in the medical area and medical devices who have made their way out. Maybe the only billions are the Express Scripts of the world and maybe some others. But I don't think there are many billion dollars coming out of St. Louis. For more of this series: Why You Should Start a Company in... Austin Why You Should Start a Company in... New York Why You Should Start a Company in... Los Angeles Why You Should Start a Company in... Chicago Why You Should Start a Company in... Boston Laura Rich is a freelance writer and co-founder of Recessionwire. [Photo by Joel] Gear-obsessed editors choose every product we We may earn a commission if you purchase from a link. How do we test the teeth. Harry Levins of the St. Louis Post Dispatch said the Debunking 9/11 Myths explained in clear English and step by step... why this is Very off-base. [...] Bad enough that 9/11 happened; worse that some of us insist on making it more disgusting. This content is created and managed by third parties, and is imported into this page to help users provide their email addresses. You may be able to find more information about this and similar content in piano.io ads – Continue Reading Below It's easy to find things to do in St. Louis without spending a lot of money. You can always see the best free attractions in the city for a day of fun. If you don't mind spending a few dollars, you'll have more options. Here's a top choice for things to do in St. Louis that cost less than \$10 per person. 01 of 09 Photograph: Missouri Botanical Garden Address 15193 Olive Boulevard, Faust Park Dr, Chesterfield, MO 63017-1805, USA Phone +1 314-577-0888 Hours: Tuesday to Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost: \$8 for adults, \$5 for children 3-12 Sophia M. Sachs Butterfly House in Faust Park is a relatively new attraction, open to the public at 199. Over the years, it's become a popular family-friendly destination. Its main feature is an 8,000-square-foot glass-domed conservatory filled with thousands of butterflies from around the world. The conservatory has up to 80 different species of butterflies and more than 100 varieties of topical plants. There is also an outdoor Butterfly Garden open in the warmer months and an Exhibition Hall with interactive displays of butterflies, caterpillars and other useful insects. 02 of 09 Photo by David O'Brien Hours: Daily from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost: \$12 for adults, \$5 for children All aboard for some fun at the Museum of Transportation. From giant locomotives and classic cars to historic planes and river tugs, the museum has it all when it comes to getting around. The museum boasts one of the largest collections of train locomotives in the world with more than 70 on display. There are also 200 classic vehicles, including rare gems such as Chrysler's only operational turbine car on public display and a historic 1901 car built by the St. Louis Motor Carriage Company. For young visitors, there is creation station, a special play area filled with toys and transportation-themed activities. 03 of 09 Photo by David O'Brien Hours: Daily from 11 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Cost: \$3 to \$7 per treat Enjoy St. Louis' favorite sweet treats at Ted Drewes. The historic frozen pudding stand has been serving concrete, shakes and sundaes to hungry customers for more than 80 years. All puddings are vanilla mixed with various sauces and toppings. Some popular combinations have been on the menu for decades, but new flavors are also added Years. Get Fox Treat (hot fudge, raspberry, and macadamia nuts) or Cardinal Sin (cherry tart and hot fudge) for a true St. Louis experience. 04 of 09 Photo by David O'Brien Hours: Hours: until Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., Sunday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.: \$1 per person (free on Mondays and Tuesdays through noon) The Jewel Box is one of St. Louis' Most Beautiful Forest Park attractions. The 50-foot-tall glass-walled greenhouse is filled with hundreds of plants and flowers. Selection changes according to the season. For example, poinsettias greet visitors in winter and Easter lilies in spring. The outdoor grounds are also filled with many flowers in bloom. Jewel Box is a great example of art deco design and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Continue to 5 of 9 below. 05 of 09 Photo by Heather Marie Osborn, courtesy Missouri Botanical Garden Hours: Daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Cost: \$6 for St. Louis City/County residents, children 12 and younger is free The Missouri Botanical Garden is a perfect spot for who enjoys the natural beauty of the outdoors. The city's green oasis has nearly 80 acres of plants and flowers in various settings. Highlights include a Traditional Japanese Garden, Tower Grove House and a giant Climatron filled with tropical plants. The Missouri Botanical Garden has been welcoming visitors for more than 150 years and is listed as a National Historic Landmark. 6 a.m. from 9 p.m.: Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. Cost: \$6 for adults, \$4 for children 12 and younger in the St. Louis area owes much history and growth to its location at the meeting of North America's two largest rivers. Missouri and Mississippi Rivers joined together in the north of the city. One of the best places to see this natural wonder is from confluence tower in nearby Hartford, Illinois. The tower has three observation decks at 50, 100 and 150 feet. The deck can be reached by stairs or elevator. The tower offers panoramic views of the river valley below. On a clear day, visitors can even see all the way to downtown St. Louis, nearly 20 miles to the south. 7am from 9am Hours: Wednesday to Saturday from 11am to 5pm Cost: \$10 for adults, children under 5 years old free See the work of the best photographers from around the world at the International Photography Hall of Fame and Museum. From Ansel Adams to Dorothea Lange, the museum features top photographers from the 19th and 20th centuries. The collection contains historical photographs that helped change the world, and the equipment used to capture those moments. The museum also organizes classes and lectures to help visitors learn how to become better photographers themselves. 08 from 09 Hours: Grounds are open daily from 08:00 AM to 30 minutes after sunset. The museum is open daily from 09:30 am to 04:30 pm (reduced hours in winter). Cost: Museum admission \$4 adults, children 12 years and under is a free Mastodon State Historic Site is a fun destination for amateur amateurs or anyone who wants to spend a little time outdoors. The 431-acre park contains mastodon bones and other animals that lived during the last ice age more than 10,000 years ago. There are hiking trails, a picnic area and a bird watching sanctuary. The Mastodon Museum has exhibits about native Americans and animals that called the area home centuries ago. The Mastodon State Historic Site is a short walk south of St. Louis, making it an easy choice for day or afternoon trips. Continue to 9 of 9 below. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., March-October: Monday to Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., March-October: Monday to Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost: \$6 for adults, \$4 for The King of Ragtime kids composing some of his most famous songs including The Entertainer while living in a modest brick house in St. Louis. Scott Joplin House is open to visitors who want to explore Joplin's life and contribute to many genres of music. The house was furnished as it would have been in 1902, and authentic piano players filled the rooms with Joplin's most popular songs. The site was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1976. 1976.

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