



KC BizFest 2012

Fast Facts

What is (Kansas City) KC BizFest?

KC BizFest 2012 offers high school juniors and seniors in the Greater Kansas City Metropolitan area an opportunity to learn a variety of life skills and business techniques. The majority of KC BizFest participants come from the emerging Latino Community. During a four-day intensive training period, KC BizFest focuses on helping students **(a)** turn hobbies and skills into profit-making ventures; **(b)** establish entrepreneurial and leadership goals; **(c)** create plans for business and life; **and (d)** become effective leaders and team players. Additionally, students learn the art of networking in business environments; identifying investment opportunities; implementing money management skills; and making public presentations. By attending KC BizFest, students gain entrepreneurial experience, economic literacy, improved skills in math, reading, writing and verbal communication and they gain workforce readiness. During the event, students have access to adult mentors, who help them create business plans.

Who is the presenter of Kansas City – KC BizFest 2012?

The Greater Kansas City Hispanic Collaborative is the primary presenter in partnership with the Greater Kansas City Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and its partners: more than 15 funding supporters including corporations, small businesses, colleges and universities. .

How are student participants selected?

Students are selected based on their responses to the application. In addition, students are asked to secure letters of recommendation from teachers, counselors, employers, or community leaders.

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How many students are expected to participate in KC BizFest 2012?

Approximately 100 junior and senior high school students will be selected to participate in KC BizFest. Counselors, teachers and administrators at public and private high schools in the Greater Kansas City Metropolitan area are urged to promote student applications. Participants from prior KC BizFests are not eligible but are encouraged to be mentors during the KC BizFest program.

When are applications due?

The applications are due by November 15th, 2011. Applications should be sent or delivered to the attention of: GKCHC – KC BizFest, 2001 Grand Blvd., Suite 700, Kansas City, MO 64108. Please call 816-472-6767 for more information.

Is there additional information prior to the full program?

Students who are selected to participate in KC BizFest will be notified about one week prior to the start of the February 9th, 2012, opening day. **Students and parents are expected to attend a 9:00-11:00 a.m. orientation session on Saturday, January 28th, 2012,** at Shawnee Mission School District's Indian Creek Technology Center, 4401 W. 103rd Street, Overland Park, KS 66207. Students are urged to ask their parents or guardians to attend the orientation.

How long is KC BizFest?

The KC BizFest training program is four (4) days in length. The training portion of the program will start at 8:00 am and end at 5:00 pm each day—Feb. 8, 9, 10 -- with the exception of the final day, Saturday, Feb. 11. This day will close with a 4:00 pm with a graduation ceremony. Parents are invited to the graduation ceremony. *(Please note that students may need to stay beyond 5:00 pm on to work on their business plans.)*

What will the students gain from the experience?

KC BizFest students will gain entrepreneurial experience, economic literacy, improved skills in math, reading, writing and verbal communication and workforce readiness. The availability of mentors also will assist students in future career planning. By participating in KC BizFest, each student becomes part of a KC BizFest Alumni group. Students also are invited to join Latinos of Tomorrow (LOTs) where benefits include broad-based competitive access to future internships, trainings and fellowships in educational aspirations.

What will the winners gain from the experience?

The top three winners at KC BizFest will receive scholarship dollars applicable to a college/university of their choice. The fourth, fifth and sixth place winners will receive checks to be used to further their educational endeavors.

Which local companies and organizations have invested in KC BizFest?

Sponsors over the past five years have included the Sprint Foundation; KCP&L; State Farm Insurance; Bank of America; Kauffman Foundation; University of Missouri-Kansas City; Shawnee Mission School District; Kansas City Kansas Public Schools; Kansas City Kansas Community College; Olathe School District; Burns & McDonnell; QC Holdings; General Motors; Cable-Dahmer Chevrolet; DuPont; H&R Block; UMB Bank; McDonald's; Walton Construction; Commerce Bank, COMBAT of Jackson County; PPG

Industries; National Bank of Kansas City; Enterprise Rent-a-Car; and Global Control Systems, Inc. to name only a few. Many food industries provide meals and snacks.

Why invest?

During the entire event, the Greater Kansas City Hispanic Collaborative displays posters of contributors and sponsors. Moderators recognize major sponsorship corporations, small businesses and foundations from the stage. Additionally, the Collaborative mentions sponsors in press releases; and reminds students of companies/foundations/organizations that have invested time and dollars to help them prepare for the future. The time to invest in Kansas City's young people is now.

Whom do we contact to learn more about KC BizFest?

If you have specific questions, please contact The Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Greater Kansas City at (816) 472-6767.