

**For Immediate Release**

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**TechShop fuels innovation in San Jose with grand opening of advanced DIY workspace**

SAN JOSE, Calif. - TechShop, the first membership-based, do-it-yourself workshop and fabrication studio, will host a Grand Opening event on Saturday, September 24, 2011 from 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. at its new location in Downtown San Jose at 300 S. 2nd Street. Councilmember Sam Liccardo (District 3) will make remarks and welcome this innovative business to the 10<sup>th</sup> largest city in the country.

"I am delighted to welcome TechShop to Downtown San Jose," said Mayor Chuck Reed. "TechShop will serve as a great resource for our many local innovators looking to incubate new technologies, create art or just have fun."

"We announced that we were looking to open TechShop in San Jose almost exactly one year ago. Today the opportunity to engage, enable and empower people in the innovation capital of the world is a reality," said TechShop Founder Jim Newton. "TechShop San Jose is providing a broad array of machines and tools, instruction, and a supportive environment to hobbyists, entrepreneurs, artists and others who want to make things but lack the tools, space or skills."

TechShop will be providing in depth tours that showcase its collection of advanced machines, tools, and technologies that enable members to make almost anything they can imagine. Festivities will include displays of a variety of creations ranging from a JetPack to handmade craft items, all made at TechShop. Key partners including Autodesk, Bazaar Bizarre, MakerSHED, EepyBird and more will be represented in activities and demonstrations. Local food trucks from the San Jose based Moveable Meals will be outside with gourmet foods and delicacies.

**Grand Opening Schedule**

10 a.m. - 6 p.m. TechShop Tours and Demos

11 a.m. Food Trucks Open for Lunch

12 p.m. Ribbon Cutting and Keynote Talk

3 p.m. Performance by EepyBird: The Extreme Diet Coke & Mentos Experiments

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### **TechShop Membership and Grand Opening Offers**

The TechShop membership model is similar to a fitness club: Monthly dues provide access to tools and high-end machinery instead of exercise equipment. TechShop is designed for everyone, regardless of skill level.

TechShop provides members with access to a wide variety of advanced machinery, tools and design software including: Epilog laser cutters, lathes, Tormach CNC milling machine, Lincoln welding stations, a 3D Systems ProJet-3000 3D printer, sheet metal working equipment, tubing and metal bending machines, drill presses and band saws, industrial sewing machines, hand tools, woodworking equipment including a 4' x 8' ShopBot CNC router, plastics equipment, electronics design and fabrication facilities, 2D and 3D design software including applications from Autodesk and Adobe, and more. You do not have to be a TechShop member to take any of the more than 75 classes that are offered at TechShop.

### **Membership and Class Specials**

In celebration of the San Jose location, there will be several opportunities to purchase memberships and classes at greatly discounted rates. There will be offers online as well as new promotions that will only be available in-person at the San José location the day of the Grand Opening.

### **ABOUT TECHSHOP, INC.**

Founded in October 2006, TechShop, Inc. is the first membership based, do-it-yourself (DIY) workshop and fabrication studio, providing access to a vibrant community of highly creative people and more than \$1 million worth of high-quality machines, tools, and software. With plans to expand nationally, TechShop is based in Menlo Park, CA., with current locations in San Francisco, San Jose and Raleigh, NC, and soon to open in Detroit. TechShop offers workshop space and hands on training for people of all skill levels to get them started using TechShop's tools and equipment.

For information and course listings, visit <http://www.techshop.ws>, email [info@techshop.ws](mailto:info@techshop.ws) or call (800) 640-1975. You can follow TechShop on Twitter at "TechShopInc". TechShop is also on Facebook as "TechShop Incorporated".

### **ABOUT THE CITY OF SAN JOSE'S OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

The San Jose Sister City Program is managed by the City of San Jose's Office of Economic Development (OED). Part of the San Jose Office of the City Manager, OED catalyzes job and revenue growth, assists business success, connects employers with trained workers, and enhances cultural amenities. For more information, please visit, [www.sjeconomy.com](http://www.sjeconomy.com).

### **ABOUT THE CITY OF SAN JOSE**

From its founding in 1777 as California's first city, San Jose has been a leader, driven by its spirit of innovation. Today, San Jose stands as the largest city in Northern California and the Capital of Silicon Valley—the world's leading center of innovation. The city, the 10<sup>th</sup> largest in the U.S., is committed to remaining a top-ranked place to do business, to work and to live. For more information, visit [www.sanjoseca.gov](http://www.sanjoseca.gov).

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