

For Immediate Release
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Ohio Prepares to Host International Venture Capital Conference

Registration now open for investors, entrepreneurs, and industry experts

COLUMBUS – Registration is now open for the National Association of Seed and Venture Funds (NASVF) conference being held in the City of Cleveland October 15-17. The Ohio Third Frontier is hosting the 2012 annual venture capital conference, where industry leaders will share their knowledge and discuss the best practices and tools for building and managing strategic investment programs and institutions.

“The conference is a great opportunity for Ohio to showcase all it has to offer investors and entrepreneurs alike,” said Christiane Schmenk, Director of the Ohio Department of Development and Chair of the Ohio Third Frontier Commission. “Ohio has a great entrepreneurial ecosystem and holding this international conference in Cleveland is a testament to the exciting opportunities available in our state.”

Attendees will receive the benefit of varying viewpoints, while learning new approaches and establishing new resources and relationships. Participants also will connect with national and international professionals along with specialized practitioners to discuss new methods of facilitating capital formation to promote global innovation. [Click here](#) to register for the event.

NASVF is a global nonprofit organization with 200 member organizations (22 from Ohio) and 800 individual members. The organization promotes investments in seed and early-stage companies by supporting entrepreneurship and job creation through the formation of innovation capital programs.

"NASVF has developed an exciting line-up of keynote speakers and industry leaders presenting the current trends in innovation capital for this year's 19th Annual Conference in Cleveland," said Richard Fox, Interim President and CEO for NASVF.

This year's conference speakers include:

Steve Case - One of America's best-known and most accomplished entrepreneurs and philanthropists, and co-founder of America Online (AOL) in 1985. View his [bio](#).

Katie Rae - Managing Director of TechStars Boston, the premier accelerator program in the world. Rae also runs her own fund, Project 11, a firm that invests in and advises very early-stage software and internet-enabled companies. View her [bio](#).

Chuck Templeton - Managing director of Impact Engine (TheImpactEngine.com), a venture accelerator focused on helping for-profit companies that address environmental and/or societal challenges increase their chances of success. View his [bio](#).

Sean Greene - Associate Administrator for Investment and Special Advisor for Innovation at the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). He also leads SBA's efforts focused on stimulating high-growth

entrepreneurship and has been one of the leaders in SBA's Startup America initiative. View his [bio](#).

*The **National Association of Seed and Venture Funds (NASVF)** is an international membership organization that advances the growth of seed and early-stage innovation capital through Advocacy, Communication, and Education. **NASVF** connects the people in the world of venture capital and regional economic development. **NASVF** collaborates with public and private funds, technology transfer professionals, entrepreneurs and innovators who are committed to building their local economies by investing in local entrepreneurs and commercializing technologies. www.nasvf.org*

***Ohio Third Frontier**, an unprecedented and bipartisan commitment to create new technology-based products, companies, industries, and jobs, has attracted more than \$7.3 billion in other investments to Ohio, and has a nearly 9:1 return on investment since its inception. The Ohio Third Frontier has also assisted in the creation and retention of more than 88,000 direct and indirect jobs for Ohioans. For more information, visit ohiothirdfrontier.com. For more information on Ohio's entrepreneurship activities, visit www.hivelocitymedia.com.*

*Working with our partners across business, state and local governments, academia, and the nonprofit sector, the **Ohio Department of Development** works to support business attraction and retention efforts by providing targeted investments that assist in job creation, as well as provides assistance and services to Ohio's communities and individuals. Engaged every day in marketing, innovating, investing, and collaborating, the **Ohio Department of Development** works to accelerate and support the teamwork that is necessary for success by providing financial, informational, and technical assistance to those making an investment in Ohio's future. www.development.ohio.gov.*

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