



# Inventors Network Kentucky



*Helping Inventors & Entrepreneurs through Education, Engagement and Empowerment*





# Inventors Network Kentucky

*Helping Inventors & Entrepreneurs through  
Education, Engagement and Empowerment*

*- Inventors Council Central KY*

*- Inventors Council Louisville*

## Who We Are

The Inventors Network Kentucky is a 501c3 non-profit dedicated to providing educational resources and support to inventors, entrepreneurs and others involved in innovation and business throughout the state. The Inventors Network is more than just an inventor organization, it is a comprehensive group of programs designed to empower the inventor, entrepreneur or entre-inventor with the education, direction, skills and access to resources needed to help move them in a direction in line with productive and ultimately successful activities.

## Where We've Been

Since 1996, we have been the go-to organization for helping inventors and entrepreneurs, with referrals from private and governmental agencies across Kentucky. One of the ways we have accomplished this is by holding 2 very different types of meetings each month. Our 1st meeting is free and open to the public, and features speakers who are respective experts on various topics that cover the many different parts of the inventing & entrepreneur process, as well as a chance to network and learn about opportunities. Our 2nd meeting is very different - what we call our Workshop - is a brain-storming session where members meet under a joint confidentiality agreement, with each member having an opportunity to discuss and receive input on where they are, where they're stuck, and where to go from here. The addition of our workshop is a very helpful tool in both educating and galvanizing the members, and is very unique to our industry.

In 2004 we created the state's first annual convention for inventors. This meeting has now grown to the largest Inventor/Entrepreneur event of it's kind in the Midwest. Inventor-Con now draws nationally known speakers, as well as exhibitors and attendees from all over the country.

We have engaged with literally thousands of inventors and entrepreneurs in our meetings and workshops, and have had hundreds of inventors, entrepreneurs and companies attending our annual convention each year.

---

**Hundreds of Inventors & Entrepreneurs Engaging in Meetings & Workshops Annually**

**Hundreds More Attending Inventor-Con Each Year**

---

It is important to note that during our history, we developed these programs, promoted our organization, and facilitated all meetings and events with no outside funding of any kind.

Every year, inventors and entrepreneurs have consistently traveled to our meetings in Lexington from as far away as Paducah, Ashland, Bowling Green and elsewhere from all over Kentucky. And after years of seeing this type of pent up demand, and the many who were traveling far for our unique resources, education and support, we knew something more was needed. In order to continue our work and effectively reach out to provide our services to more of the struggling inventors and entrepreneurs across the state, we needed a new initiative.

# Where We're Going

2016 has been a pivotal year for our organization. We have reorganized under the name **Inventors Network Kentucky, Inc**, which includes not only the long-standing **Inventors Council in Central KY**, but also the new introduction of the **Inventors Council Louisville** on September 1st, part of our new initiative for Kentucky.

## Engagement

The launch and introduction of a presence in the Louisville area now means that the **2 largest metropolitan areas** in the state of Kentucky are now being served with:

- **Open Meetings** - Each with a unique speaker each month, plus opportunities for networking & education.
- **Workshops** - Where members get group input in a confidential, "brainstorming" format.
- **Classes** - Intense and subject-specific educational programs designed to prepare inventor/entrepreneurs.

### Open Meetings

In Lexington - 1st Tuesday of Each Month

In Louisville - 1st Thursday of Each Month



#### Our Open Meetings include

Speakers: Experts in Patent Law, Prototyping, Marketing, Sales, Finance, Licensing, and a number of other fields.

Education: Short segments that include videos with brief but valuable information on inventing & business.

Opportunities: A summary of other activities ongoing in the area throughout the month.

Networking: The availability to connect with other inventors & entrepreneurs.

### Workshops

In Lexington - 2nd Tuesday of Each Month

In Louisville - 2nd Thursday of Each Month



#### About Our Workshops for Inventors & Entrepreneurs

Confidentiality: Members work under a joint confidentiality agreement to ensure that the ideas discussed are not being publicly disclosed. This also provides a safe environment to openly get input on new ideas.

Group Input: This type format gives inventors & entrepreneurs input from a variety of others with differing skill sets, areas of expertise, and angles of approach that are fresh and new to each member.

Synergy: The "brainstorming" effect of this uniquely formatted workshop has historically shown to spawn ideas, areas of direction and opportunities for members that they may have never been able to find otherwise.

Social Value: There is an almost immeasurable social value attributed to these workshops that includes accountability, motivation and a catalyst to move forward with projects that would be otherwise stuck in place.

### Classes

As part of our new initiative for 2016, we have also launched an expanded educational series known as the **Empowered Inventing Series** - a structured, step-by-step process that tackles many of the historical stumbling blocks that plague independent inventors and entrepreneurs, and includes a focus on behavior change - a known root cause behind many failed inventions and businesses.

# Education: Empowered Inventing Series Classes

**Empowered Inventing** is a series of training classes designed to help current and would-be inventors, entrepreneurs and other innovators with the important issues they face when trying to go from just an idea to a launch to ultimately a successful invention, product or business.

## Current Classes Include:



Do you have an idea for an invention or business, and just don't know what to do or where to go? What are the right steps you should take (and what should you avoid) to give you the best chance of becoming successful? Which way should you go, and what should you do first? In "Getting Started" we teach you step by step about finding out where you are, where you want/need to be, and how to get there in the right way.



What is really valuable about your idea, and how can you protect it? How do you protect your invention, startup or business, and not end up spending all your resources up front? What is the right strategy for you? How do you weigh the risks vs the rewards in protecting your intellectual property, brand, or product? In "Protecting What's Valuable", we explore the real risks vs expense in taking the right strategy for protecting what's valuable to you with your idea, invention, startup or business.



TV Shopping Channels Sell Millions of Products Every Day. How do they do it? Ever wonder just how TV shopping channels are so successful at selling their products to customers? In this Lesson, we deconstruct successful TV selling pitches to uncover the secrets of how they sell their products so successfully, and how we can learn to replicate how they do this with our own invention, product or business. In inventing and business, nothing actually happens until someone sells something. Learn about the art of selling successfully from people who are actually doing it.



Is the idea for your invention "The One"? Is it going to be worth the time & money? How do you find out without spending a lot of either? How do you know if your idea is worth the time and money? Which idea should you work on first? How do you know if it's going to be that million-dollar idea, or possibly a dud? In "Do You Have the Next Million-Dollar Idea?", we learn how choosing the right idea at the right time may be more valuable than the idea itself.

# Empowered Inventing Series Classes

## Current Classes (Continued)



Every Inventor has to be able to answer this question: "Can you show me how it works?" But How Can You Build a Prototype - without a lot of money? For many inventors and entrepreneurs alike, you really need a good, functioning prototype built to be able to demonstrate your invention or product, in order to license or sell it effectively. But how can you accomplish that without spending too much money? In "Building a Prototype", we will learn about how to take this critical step in the inventing process, without costing you too many of your resources.



So You've Got a Great Idea, Invention, or Startup, but You Need to Be Able to Communicate it to Customers or Investors. How do you craft that "Perfect Pitch"? In order to win over customers, investors and other people who matter for the success of your invention or startup, you have to be able to effectively communicate what you already know about your product/startup. Your "pitch" can be one of the most important few minutes of invention or startup's life. In "Building the Perfect Pitch", we learn what it takes to get an audience interested, engaged and ultimately buying-in.



There are a lot of great places to buy products and services to help you move forward with your invention or business. But there are also a lot of bad ones and scam companies that offer low quality for high prices. So how do you know who to trust with your money? In "So Who Do You Trust?", we learn what to look for in finding quality products and services that truly help you progress with your invention, product or business, and how to spot scam companies and other bad players in the inventing industry.



Crowdfunding is a great way to "kickstart" your invention, product or startup with pre-orders and the cash to get started, but it can all go south in a hurry if you don't do it right. Are you thinking about launching a crowdfunding campaign to launch your idea, product or business? A lot of great startups have. A lot of others have also crashed and burned. So how do you know what to do to be successful and avoid potential disaster? In "Use Crowdfunding to Launch Your Idea", we will take you through step by step on how to launch your own Kickstarter or other crowdfunding campaign.

# Empowered Inventing Series Classes

## Current Classes (Continued)



How you establish money's relationship to your invention or business can play a big role in whether you are successful or not. And how you manage the money used for your invention can be more important than finding it. In "Money & Your Invention", we explore many of the ways to bootstrap, and get going with your invention, startup or business without selling out before you get started. We'll also look at funding sources, and why (or why not) they may be right for you. How you view the relationship between money and your invention can make all the difference.



Do you want to build a business around your idea, invention, or product? In "Turning Your Invention into a Startup", we walk you through the steps of how to be an "Entre-Inventor", and take your invention or business idea and build a startup company around it. This class will cover many important issues that inventors and entrepreneurs need to work out before spending too much time and money. Many inventors fail because they are not equipped with the right information before making crucial decisions.

We launched this series of classes in both Louisville and Lexington KY, and are now planning on future development and deployment of this valuable information as we expand to additional areas and levels.



## Future Class Development

In addition to our current modules, we are looking to expand our educational programs with a potential outreach to areas such as middle, high schools, and colleges, as well as postsecondary education venues and to groups in association with other programs. We are also in the planning stages, along with other agencies and organizations, of expanding our programs to other areas of the state, and are open to conducting classes in other locations and venues.

# Education: Video Work

In addition to the hands-on Empowered Inventing Series Classes, we are also introducing a video series available via a digital and web platform.

These short videos are designed to engage and educate as a compliment to our classes available.



On our [YouTube Channel](#), we host Meeting Recap Videos that give a brief overview of what's going on and what's next at each Inventors Council location.

## Future Development

Our Open Meetings, Workshops, Class Series and Videos are all part of an overall vision of expansion and outreach to an untapped population of innovators and entrepreneurial minded people across the state.

Statistics tell us that more than 25,000 inventors are conned each year by notorious invention scam companies. These invention scams, who continue to be prolific with TV and radio advertisements, cost inventors an estimated \$200 million each year. We believe that the most powerful weapon against the scam companies is in educating inventors on the right direction to go when spending time and money on their invention, product or startup. And we have a plan in place to do exactly that.

## Support

To facilitate our expansion goals and carry out our mission, we are actively seeking funding from outside sources, including opportunities for sponsors, partners, collaborators, and others who share our vision, both public and private. Your sponsorship or support may be tax-deductible, and will help the Inventors Network continue their work to help independent inventors and entrepreneurs across Kentucky.



## Inventors Network Kentucky

Mailing Address:  
4101 Tates Creek Centre Drive - Suite 150-143  
Lexington KY 40517

859-201-1311

[KYInventors.org](http://KYInventors.org)

[info@kyinventors.org](mailto:info@kyinventors.org)

