

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**MID-AMERICA GNU/LINUX NETWORKS CONFERENCE, A COMMUNITY-DRIVEN
OPEN SOURCE EDUCATION EVENT, ANNOUNCED:
SPEAKERS AND SPONSORS WELCOMED**

ST. LOUIS – In an effort to bring Open Source education back to America's Heartland, a group of volunteers have teamed up to host the Mid-America GNU/Linux Networkers Conference on May 6-7, 2011. These dedicated volunteers have attended, spoken at and sponsored other similar events in far flung parts of the country, from California and Washington to Florida and Ohio.

Russ Woodman, one of the trustees of the foundation that hosts the event, as well as conference spokesperson, says, “St. Louis, Missouri was chosen because it has a centralized location with an international airport which accommodates flights from almost anywhere in the United States and many other parts of the world. Also, it's a very cosmopolitan city with attractions, great local entertainment, accessible public transportation, professional sports, a proud history and much more to recommend it. Our conference, too, of course.”

The conference venue is the St. Louis Union Station Marriott hotel. Situated just west of downtown, this beautiful and historic building hosts restaurants, shops, a public transit stop and a wide array of amenities for conference goers, exhibitors, sponsors and speakers alike. Ballrooms and break-out rooms for educational presentations are plentiful and the exhibit area will be in the hotel's central promenade, which should generate excellent foot traffic. The event coordinators are also planning on having nighttime social events, a live music concert to close the show, community inspired BOF events, a hallway track for interpersonal networking and more.

The trustees and organizers have now opened the search for sponsors, speakers and volunteers. If interested, please visit the event home page at <http://magnetcon.info>. Information about the conference as well as speaker and sponsor application forms can be found there. A general FAQ area and Forum are also provided to promote community interest and involvement.

“We're hoping to have a well-attended and exciting event in our first year,” Woodman adds, “And we appreciate every individual and organization who comes on board and does their part to make MAGNet Con the success we dream it will be.”