

That's the five-year partnership created to drive economic growth in the city and county; it has 16 partner organizations working on growth strategies.

"Innovation and Entrepreneurship' is the first of the goals under the MemphisED plan, and over the years, we have achieved much," said [Bill Evans](#), chairman of the Memphis Shelby Growth Alliance and CEO of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. "The contributors to the application are all members of the Growth Alliance team."

The Memphis accelerator will provide mentoring, education and training, and strategic and technical support, and will help identify sources of capital. State funding of \$250,000 for the program will be matched by local funding of at least \$250,000.

Evans said Growth Alliance will support the accelerator with funding, help identify start-up businesses that can benefit from the program, publicize the initial accelerator programs targeting technology and medical device start-up companies, and provide technical expertise and guidance.

"The Entrepreneurial Accelerator plan is a testament to the collaboration and close working relationships that have been the heart of MemphisED," said Reid Dulberger, administrator of MemphisED. "It's crucial for a region to build on its existing strengths, as entrepreneurs are most likely to build on their region's existing skills and assets."

– *Andy Meek*

inferno Recognized with Davey Awards

inferno has received a Best in Show Award from the 2011 Davey Awards for its work for the Recording Academy.

In addition to the top honor, inferno also received one Gold Award and five Silver Awards, which represent seven clients in a broad array of categories.

The award levels, categories, clients and entries include: Best in Show, Print Collateral: The Recording Academy, Your Voice Amplified Brochure; Gold Award, Print Campaign: Valley View Agri, Ad Campaign.

The Silver Awards include Websites: University of Memphis, Be a Memphis Tiger Website; Websites: Self Tucker Architects, Self Tucker Website; Print Collateral: The Exchange Club Family Center, Annual Report; Print Collateral: [Cartus Corp.](#), Leading the Way Brochure; Promotional Item: inferno, Thought Bubble Blog Giveaway.

The Davey Awards is a creative awards program focused on honoring creative work from small firms worldwide.

– *Taylor Shoptaw*

Paragon Branches to Serve as Food Donation Centers

Four branches of [Paragon National Bank](#) will serve as donation centers for the [Fourth Annual Mid-South Food Bank](#) Student Food Drive.

3. [Great American Stea Hiring More than 30](#) by Andy Meek on Jan 31 @ 1
4. [2008 Model Predicts Airline Mergers](#) by Bill
5. [Annexation Returns! Schools Discussion](#) by