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Austin picked as top entrepreneurial center in U.S.

Austin Business Journal

Austin was picked as the nation's most progressive and proactive entrepreneurial center, according to an **article** from ***Entrepreneur.com***.

The publication identified 50 cities that best promote entrepreneurial pursuits. It touted Austin's innovative spirit, commerce and emerging technology culture. Among those efforts, the city's **Emerging Technology Program** attracts growing firms and supports established locals.

Austin is home to many successful start-up companies, as well as the growing **South-by-Southwest Interactive** conference, where social media giant Twitter first announced its micro-blog model. Also in the past year **Facebook Inc.**, **LegalZoom Inc.** and **Host Gator LLC** have announced offices in Austin, while other established companies have grabbed funding, new space and people.

This year alone has seen 31 relocations and expansions in the technology-related space, representing nearly 3,000 new jobs, according to the Austin Economic Growth and Redevelopment Services Office.

"Austin is a magnet for talent and a leader in innovation which makes it an ideal location to grow your business," Economic Growth Director Kevin Johns said.

Others on Entrepreneur.com's list (in order) include Brooklyn, N.Y.; Seattle; Nashville, Tenn. and Providence, R.I., among others.

Courtesy of JB Goodwin