

ARTSKC

regional arts council

{INSIGHT}

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION

ArtsKC Events

ArtsKC Awards Luncheon

Celebrate our local leaders in the arts! **Friday, January 30, 11am to 1pm**

See below for event details, sponsors, and our 2015 lineup. [More information.](#)

Arts Legislative Day at the Missouri State Capitol

Advocate for the Arts by Joining ArtsKC in Jefferson City this **February! Wednesday, February 11, 2015, 7:30am to 6:30pm**

Registration includes round trip transportation to Jefferson City, snacks, beverages, lunch and a special toast on the way home. [More information.](#)



Artist INC, ArtsKC Fund & Now Showing events.

ArtsKC In Review

We recently released our [FY13 + 14 Annual Report](#) and are excited to celebrate some of many things YOU have helped us accomplish. As our Board Chair, Becky Blades shares in her comments, **“This is a special time in the life of Kansas City.** Our rich arts history is the colorful springboard for a new generation of creators. Their energy, ideas, and daring are defying expectations. At ArtsKC, we can’t help but feel a sense of resolve and obligation to make the most of these community riches. That’s why ArtsKC’s renewed mission is clear and exciting: to unleash the power of the arts.”

We are thrilled to share we made 168 grants totaling \$600,558 in funding. Our partnership work on Artist INC helped provide 575 hours of career coaching for individual artists. Because of ArtsKC Advocacy, elected officials heard from you over 800 times and action alerts kept 4,597 Kansas City area residents looped in. But these are just a few highlights. **Your support transformed ArtsKC and the Kansas City arts community** in more ways than we can possibly share here. Please check out the full, infographic-style report at [ArtsKC.org/AnnualReport](#). And join us in celebrating the amazing accomplishments of YOU, our partners, supporters, and friends.



Letter from the CEO: Speaking for the Arts

As we prepare to start the New Year I want to thank all of you for the time, talent, and treasure you have shared with ArtsKC this past year. It has been a remarkable year for us at ArtsKC. **While we have many accomplishments to be proud of and celebrate, our move to the Crossroads is a highlight for us.** The space has greatly increased our capacity to connect with the community and bring more visibility to the arts. A reflection of that increased capacity was kicking off the election year by hosting the first City Council Candidate Forum of the season for candidates running in the City of Kansas City, MO.

Arts advocacy is one of ArtsKC’s organizational priorities. We work to make certain that the arts sector is seen as a viable solution to community challenges and a means for economic development in the five county region. **Our political leaders will listen to us, but only if we come to them unified and in multitudes.** I am convinced of this and ask you to join the ArtsKC’s advocacy efforts. Please plan to join us on February 11 for the Missouri Citizens for the Arts “Citizen’s Day at the Legislature” in Jefferson City. To learn more about the day’s event including traveling to Jefferson City, via Charter bus, [click here](#). To learn more about ArtsKC’s advocacy program and become a part of our advocacy efforts please visit our [Arts Advocacy](#) webpage.

[Follow Harlan on Twitter.](#)

Corporate Partner: Spencer Fane



Q + A with Nate Orr, Partner

Why arts?

Several years ago, when Spencer Fane overhauled its charitable giving strategy, it made arts and innovation its core focus. Over that time, our emphasis has been on grassroots and incubator arts organizations, recognizing that they fuel Kansas City's ability to rebrand itself as America's Creative Crossroads.

The arts are about more than just providing an invaluable cultural experience. As one of the city's oldest businesses, Spencer Fane takes seriously the continued health and growth of the business community. And we recognize that the arts are not only a formidable contributor to the region's local economy, but that they also contribute to the region's ability to attract and retain top talent. Kansas City's sky-rocketing reputation as one of the country's top arts communities helps buoy the entire private sector.

Why ArtsKC?

By partnering with ArtsKC, we have been able to give our employees yet another opportunity to participate in hands-on arts events. Whether that has come in the form of staffing Spencer Fane's #timetogive table in the lobby of our building, engaging in other social media campaigns, or attending some of the wonderful ceremonies surrounding ArtsKC's new home, we have seen the value to our employees in this partnership.



Host your next board meeting, cocktail reception, rehearsal dinner, or performance showcase at ArtsKC! Located in the heart of the Crossroads Art and Design District, our rental space offers great access to restaurants, galleries, world-class performance venues, and local shopping.

Our staff will take care of every detail of your event, starting with your walk-through tour and initial planning meeting.

For more information, contact Lydia Zacharias at Zacharias@ArtsKC.org or 816.994.9223.



Staff Picks: [Kathryn Walker](#), Finance Director

Through the winter season, I have been listening to the wonderful holiday music, but as the year winds down and we sing *Auld Lang Syne*, a poem written by one of my favorite authors, Robert Burns, I am now ready to turn toward some new, exciting events coming up in our wonderful city.

- Before the end of the year, I hope to be able to go see the final sequel of "The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies." I loved the book and enjoyed the other movies so this will be a fun treat!
- The [Kansas City Jazz Orchestra](#) will be presenting "As Time Goes By" at the Helzberg Hall at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts on February 27, 2015. This concert will present some of "the best music written for motion pictures over the past nine decades."
- [Billy Joel](#) is coming to the Sprint Center on May 1, 2015. I have always enjoyed his music!

The events I've listed are just a few that will be in Kansas City in the next few months. I wish I could list more—there is so much to enjoy. Please take time to seek out and enjoy your favorite arts venues—the ones that lift you up, tug at your heart, and help you see beauty in all things ART.

Photo by Tom Styrkowicz, [53Tom.com](#).

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