ArtsKC Events

ArtsKC First Fridays
Friday October 2, 6 - 9pm
ArtsKC Office
Join sponsor KCP&L to see featured artist Rachelle Gardner-Roe. Guests will also get a sneak peek of a new documentary by Tim de Paepe. Live music will be performed by the Fountain City Saxophone Quartet.

ArtsKC 360° Lunch
Thursday October 8, 12 - 1pm
ArtsKC Office
REGISTER NOW!
Join us for a complimentary lunch & learn about ArtsKC’s mission, work, & vision. Network with fellow arts enthusiasts, visit the Crossroads Arts District, & learn more about how you or your business can support the arts! For more information, contact Heather Beffa at Beffa@ArtsKC.org or 816-221-1777.

ArtsKC Inspiration Breakfast
Thursday October 22, 7:30 - 9am
Starlight Theatre Stage
The 6th annual Inspiration Breakfast is an opportunity to learn how ArtsKC’s mission and programs unleash the power of the arts for the benefit of the Kansas City region. Hear from individuals impacted by ArtsKC’s programming. To learn more, visit ArtsKC.org/InspirationBreakfast or

ArtsKC's Inspiration Grant Panel was a Labor of Love: a Guest Blog from Erika Noguera, Director of Success Stories at Ingeñuity

As a first time participant on the ArtsKC Inspiration Grant panel, I was incredibly honored to be a member of this group. Between the online system, organization, and transparency of the process, each step made it possible for me to be thoughtful about the impact of each proposal.

Our group included a great mix of people from differing approaches to the world of arts. This made for an engaging and enlightening discussion with varied perspectives. I believe this was essential to ensuring the final funding decisions were inclusive and diverse. One thing we all clearly shared was a reverence and respect for every single proposal put forth. As artists, and art appreciators, it was not lost on anyone in the group the amount of care, intellect, hard work, and heart each person put forth in submitting a proposal.

As our panel worked through proposals, we found common themes emerge: several submissions focused
on sustainability and the environment; more specifically a few concerned with water conservation. There were more than a few residency proposals from local artists with plans to learn from, and share their talents around the world. Some proposals focused on a single artist with a specific project, but others were quite large in scope. They ranged from working with local advocacy groups, to engaging a crew of local artists in the production of live shows, to even business development and providing a platform to publish the work of local poets. **One thing was clear as we discussed the work, Kansas City is rich with creativity and talent.**

While our task was not simple, we were blessed with an unprecedented amount of funds to award. Each proposal was worthy in many ways. Ultimately, we had to make some hard choices and I believe we reached consensus rather quickly. Through the process there were several enlightening conversations about purpose and intention. As a group representing ArtsKC, we considered what metrics should be used to measure each proposal’s merit. ArtsKC is wise, I believe, in not being too prescriptive about this. Ultimately, there was one guiding rule: that the projects resonate with a sense of community and purpose, clearly demonstrating the potential for growth of the artist. With that in mind, we made recommendations to artists that we felt had some room to grow, and encouraged them to apply again. For those who were funded, I think I speak for the entire panel when I say we were honored to serve and can’t wait to see the fruits of the artists’ labor!

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**ArtsKC Encounter Arrowhead Art Collection**  
**Wednesday November 11, 5 - 8pm Arrowhead Stadium**  
Join the Young Nonprofit Professionals Network for the next ArtsKC Encounter! Meet select artists chosen for this collection, and enjoy hors d’oeuvres and cocktails while touring the exhibit. Cost is $40 for Non-Members, $20 for ArtsKC Encounter Members. Free tickets available for those who qualify, see the [Encounter Benefits page](#) for details.

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**Happening Now: 6th Annual Inspiration Breakfast Will Welcome 600 Arts Supporters**

On Thursday October 22nd, ArtsKC will take the stage at [Starlight Theatre](#) to present the 6th Annual Inspiration Breakfast. This year’s theme is Elevate and will feature textile artist [Debbie Barrett-Jones](#) whose work has been featured at Children’s Mercy Hospital and Truman Medical Center. Her unique story tells how she uses textiles and fiber arts as healing. Guests will leave inspired by the amazing work that art can do in our community.

Join Honorary Chair Bobby Epsten, Event Chairs Brad Douglas and Arzie Umali, and Presenting Sponsor [Spencer Fane](#) for this fundraiser to support and promote the arts in Kansas City. To learn how you can become a sponsor or table captain visit our [website](#) or contact Godfrey Riddle at [Riddle@ArtsKC.org](mailto:Riddle@ArtsKC.org).
Q + A: Our Partner, Spencer Fane

Spencer Fane has made a name for itself with the business leaders of Kansas City by providing “an unconventional approach to legal services geared toward the protection and advancement of business and personal interests.” With all of their success, Spencer Fane works hard to share that success with the community they love. ArtsKC talked with Nate Orr, Partner at Spencer Fane, about their commitment to the arts in Kansas City.

Why does Spencer Fane support the arts in KC?
We believe that the arts are an integral part of what makes Kansas City great. Through our Charitable Giving Program, we have made a commitment to support three non-profit arts organizations, providing significant support over the course of three years. We currently support the Kansas City Art Institute, the Kansas City Repertory Theatre, and ArtsKC. As a supporter of ArtsKC, we are thrilled to be the presenting sponsor for this year’s Inspiration Breakfast. Our goal as a sponsor is to introduce arts supporters, new and old, to the work that ArtsKC is doing in our region.

How can other organizations in Kansas City benefit from Spencer Fane’s giving program?
We are currently accepting applications for one new recipient of our Charitable Giving Program. Each year we select one non-profit arts organization to receive a $50,000 donation over the course of three years. We are looking for an organization with a strong focus on the arts in Kansas City and a need for the funds, allowing us to have a significant, positive impact on their cause. To learn more about becoming a recipient of the Spencer Fane Charitable Giving Program in Kansas City, or to apply, download the application here. Applications are due November 6, 2015.

ArtsKC Supported: KC Composers
Present the “Debussy Project”
October 4th

Composers Zane Winter, Scott Steele, Ben Stevenson, and Cooper Ottum wanted to collaborate on a project that would celebrate the diversity of composers within one large work. Presented in tandem with Claude Debussy’s "Sonata for Flute, Viola, and Harp," this curated experience will feature movements from each composer before, between, and after the original movements from 1915. This project was not meant to be your traditional, classical music experience. How could four composers create one unifying piece separately? Through the central theme of Debussy’s sonata, of course. One of the composers, Zane Winter, reflected, “part of this piece is trying to allow diverse
aesthetics to co-exist. It’s an effort that reflects a larger yearning for peaceful co-existence of many viewpoints in contemporary culture.”

To make their dream a reality, the composers teamed up with arts supporters in the Kansas City area like Rick and Elizabeth Gooden, Prairie Logic, the Municipal Arts Commission, and the ArtsKC Fund. They provided funding, venues, and a supportive ear to the project. Through an Inspiration Grant, the group now known as FuseBox New Music Collective was able to hire Jessica Nance (Asst. Principal Viola with the Kansas City Symphony), Tabitha Steiner (Harpist with the Chamber Music Society of Kansas City), and Christina Webster (Visiting Asst. Professor of Flute at Kansas State University) to perform this new work. “We wanted to bring in the best performers and compensate them for their work and skill,” Zane observed. “We want to bring classical music back to what it really is and do it well.”

When asked why they applied for an Inspiration Grant, Zane noted “We want to make Kansas City a place where new music not only happens, but thrives. The ArtsKC Fund helps us take a step in that direction. The application process was straightforward and easy to deal with, which freed us up to focus on the project.”

To see “The Debussy Project” at Prairie Logic on October 4th, visit www.FuseBoxNewMusic.org or follow them on facebook and twitter. This event is free and open to the public. To learn how you can support artists like Zane and FuseBox New Music, visit ArtsKC.org/ArtsKCFund.

Staff Picks: Janell Rinne, Marketing & Communications Coordinator

I adore fall. It may be cliché, but I anxiously wait for sweater weather, boot season, and all things pumpkin. My love for autumn (October in particular) goes far beyond clothes and food. The crisp weather reminds me that I had better get out while I can to enjoy all that Kansas City has to offer before the snow and ice set in.

This weekend I can’t wait to see Kristin Chenoweth perform with the Kansas City Symphony at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts. Her sold out show is a benefit concert for Kansas City Young Audiences, an arts education organization that is very near and dear to my heart.

On October 10th I’ll be heading to the Folly Theater to see Ailey II. One of the most popular companies in the nation, this will be my first time to see them live and experience “Revelations” choreographed by Alvin Ailey himself.

On days that it’s just too cold to venture outside, I’ll be grabbing a seat at Crow’s Coffee to catch up on some reading and sip something delicious. I’m excited to finish The Martian by Andy Weir before seeing the movie.

Whether it’s inside or out, take time to celebrate fall. Who knows, maybe we’ll bump into each other.