In This Issue:

Your Donation at Work in the Region

Access: Synergy Services
ArtsKC Fund Grant Recipient

Synergy Services embodies the ArtsKC Fund’s goal of providing access to the arts by funding programs that are bringing the arts to diverse and underserved communities. Their mission is to strengthen the individual, family, and community through crisis intervention, shelter, counseling, advocacy, and education.

How has the ArtsKC Fund impacted your organization? It is most inspiring to watch students progress through the program’s orchestras — helping students to achieve and perform at an incredibly high level of artistry. Setting high expectations and goals for these students and subsequently watching (and listening) to their inspired performances is incredibly rewarding.

Youth Symphony KC

Excellence: Lyn Elliot
ArtsKC Fund Grant Recipient

Lyn Elliot makes short films across a range of modes — narrative, essay, and animation. Her films are often about a small, unexamined corner of everyday life, with a comedic bent.

How did your ArtsKC Fund grant impact your career? I became involved with ArtsKC in 2012, when I took the Artist INC course and was awarded an Inspiration Grant for my short film, A Good Match. The ArtsKC Fund grant helped me to afford professional post-production elements, such as color correction, and sound mixing. The high post-production quality helped her film land a spot in a very competitive film festival, LunaFest, which accepts eight entries out of 900 submissions, that are then screened at 150 venues in the U.S. and Canada.

LynElliot.com

Table Reservations Going Fast!

Visit ArtsKC.org/ArtsKCawards or contact Andrea Robinson at 816.994.9232

Featured Artists

Mark Southerland & Linda Lighton

Event Chairs

Niki Lee Donawa & Merrily Jackson

Honorary Chairs

Dr. Loretta Britton & Mr. W. Russell Welsh

12th Annual ArtsKC Awards Luncheon

Friday, January 30th, 2015 | 11am-1pm | Starlight Theatre’s Enclosed Stage

Featured Performers

The Stonelion Puppet Theatre | Ensemble Ibérica

David Basse | Kansas City Friends of Alvin Ailey

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The mission of ArtsKC is to "Unleash the Power of the Arts."
ARTSKC awards
Take Shape Under 2015 Chairpersons
In early October, we were pleased to announce this year’s ARTSKC Awards would be spearheaded by Honorary Chairpersons, Dr. Loretta M. Britton, retired VP and Medical Director of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas City, and Mr. W. Russell Welsh, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer for Polsinelli, and Event Chairpersons, Niki Lee Donawa, Chief Community Relations Officer and Merrily Jackson, Director of Marketing, both for Truman Medical Centers. Ms. Donawa has been a member of the ARTSKC Board of Directors for two years and both are joining the ARTSKC Awards Committee for the first time for the 2015 event.

This event will feature the work of local visual artists, Mark Sotherland and Linda Lightner, and performances by: Stone Lion Puppet Theatre, Ensemble Ibérica, David Baise, and Kansas City Friends of Alvin Ailey. The event honors businesses and individuals for their exemplary leadership in the arts.

Prior to her 18 years of corporate experience with BCBSKC, Mr. W. Russell Welsh is a collector of fine art with special interests in the artistic contributions made by people of color.

Mr. Welsh is both personally committed to fostering the arts in Kansas City and in his role as Chairman of Polsinelli. He has driven the development of an impressive modern art collection at the firm in Kansas City and nationally across Polsinelli offices, and has worked to reinvigorate the Kansas City Starlight Theatre. Mr. Welsh is a member of the Now Showing Artists Advisory Board.

The Foundation mirrors his enthusiasm for the arts by supporting the ARTSKC Fund each year at a leadership level. “We give to the ARTSKC Fund Catalyst category to help the small and mid-sized arts agencies gain their footing in the community,” shares David Miles, President, The H & R Block Foundation. “The Foundation investment is maximized by relying on ARTSKC’s knowledge of the arts community and expertise in reaching the most deserving arts organizations,” adds Mr. Miles.

ARTSKC is honored to have their continued support and hopes to reach additional deserving arts programs during this campaign. For more information, visit www.blockfoundation.org.

For more information and to purchase your corporate table, please visit ArtsKC.org/ArtsKCEvents.

Artist INC Fellows Around Town
Artist INC graduates around the region are sharing their unique talents, working to reinvigorate our community through the arts.

On October 16, Artist INC Fellow, Scott Easterday introduced artists to the resources available at the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art’s Spencer Art Reference Library, alongside their staff. The event connected artists to resources for managing and marketing an artistic career as well as resources for creative inspiration. Easterday is a Library Assistant at the Spencer Art Reference Library and seasoned musician. Across town, four Artist INC Fellows have been selected as part of a group of 17 artists to participate in the Art in the Loop program facilitated by the Downtown Council of KCMO. The artists will lead 11 projects at various places and times throughout the downtown loop as part of creative placemaking efforts. The work completed by Art in the Loop artists will help make downtown KCMO an even better place to live and do business.

In November, Artist INC Fellow, Whitney Manney shared her story at the ArtsKC Inspiration Breakfast where 450 supporters heard how her ArtsKC Inspiration Grant made possible the next leg in her journey creating a real label and how Artist INC was the planning she needed to kick her vision for wearable art into high gear. Whitney Manney, Photo credit: Kyle Rivas

For more information, visit ArtsKC.org/ArtsKCAdvocacy.

Book your spring First Friday reception today!
Treat your employees, clients, and special guests to a First Friday reception with food, drinks, a private art exhibition, and entertainment. Availability is limited. Please contact Faulconer@ArtsKC.org to reserve your First Friday today. ArtsKC.org/FirstFriday

“IT has been a pleasure to meet and work with the different artists, learning their stories and what inspires them to create the exceptional pieces of art we have displayed... I would definitely recommend the program to other businesses in Kansas City,” shared Jo Rydman, PHR, Now Showing Coordinator and Office Manager for EPR Properties.

EPR Properties is a fabulous supporter of ARTSKC and has been a member of the Now Showing program for close to three years. During that time, their employees and guests have enjoyed the artwork of nearly a dozen local artists. The rotating art pieces provide something for all employees to enjoy during the year and a few staff members have even purchased pieces for their own private collections (100% of the proceeds from all work sold goes to the artist).

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