The mission of ArtsKC is to unleash the power of the arts. It’s undeniable that the arts ignite positive outcomes for our communities. Outcomes including: fostering curiosity and critical thinking in our students; promoting hope and healing in our underserved populations; and driving economic growth and job creation for our city. The ripple effect of the arts is what makes our communities vibrant.

As Heidi Van, curator of The Fishtank Theater and ArtsKC Fund Grant Recipient noted: “Art is vital to our community as a way to process and understand our relationship to the world around us.” Right now, you can support ArtsKC Fund grant recipients like Heidi who bring art into our lives and ignite these positive outcomes in our communities. Make a contribution to the 2017 ArtsKC Fund Campaign, and we’ll turn your gift into grants that directly benefit local arts organizations, artists and arts programs.

ArtsKC Fund grants support organizations of every size, including the Kansas Academy of Theatrical Arts, which has a mission “to promote positive citizenship through involvement in the arts.” Individual artists also receive grants that make all the difference in fueling their creativity.

The ArtsKC Fund Campaign runs until June 30. Honorary Campaign Chairmen Mayor Sly James and Mayor Carl Gerlach are lending their support, backed by the support of Kansas City and Overland Park.

We hope you will join them and help ArtsKC ignite the arts for the benefit of our region. Together, we can make a measurable difference in the quality of our creative community.

IGNITE THE ARTS
Let’s Kindle Creativity Together

LAUNCHING SPRING 2017

VISIT THE ARTSKC WEBSITE
www.artskc.org/campaignsupport
to make your donation using our secure online system. We suggest making a monthly or quarterly recurring donation, so your contribution is sustainable and easy.

MAIL YOUR DONATION
Mail a check or cash donation to:
ArtsKC
Attn: ArtsKC Fund
106 Southwest Boulevard
Kansas City, MO 64108
Please include a note with your full name, phone number and email address so we can properly record your donation and thank you.

CALL ARTSKC
Contact Lydia Allen, ArtsKC Fund Manager, at (816) 994-9223 or Allen@ArtsKC.org if you would like to make a pledge of support.

THE MISSION OF ARTSKC IS TO UNLEASH THE POWER OF THE ARTS.
**Q:** Why did you decide to make a donation and become an Encounter member?

**A:** Supporting the arts is fundamental to creating a thriving and diverse community. Let’s face it, in Kansas City, we are incredibly spoiled with the Nelson-Atkins, the Kemper, the Kauffman, and the hubbub that is First Fridays. World-class art and arts institutions are easily accessible wherever you look. However, a thriving arts community is not simply a given. People in Kansas City have time and time again decided that it was a priority for the community. For the arts to continue to flourish, we must continue to support it. Having grown up and greatly benefited from the arts and cultural organizations in Kansas City, it’s my responsibility to support those organizations and the new ones to come well into the future. Donating to ArtsKC is one of the small ways I can do that. What’s more, the ArtsKC Encounter Program provides an opportunity to see all the ways in which I am supporting the arts community. Encounter events bring you face-to-face with the beneficiaries of ArtsKC grants and make you appreciate how integral arts funding is to so many parts of our community. Not to mention that you get to have fun with your friends and fellow art lovers in the process.

**Q:** What is your favorite memory from a past Encounter event?

**A:** I absolutely loved getting the chance to tour Synergy Services’ Youth Resiliency Center. We experienced an art therapy class, one of the many services offered to unattached youth at the center. It was a therapeutic way to spend a Friday and an illuminating experience. The Encounter events help donors like myself see firsthand that supporting ArtsKC means supporting community services that take many forms — institutions, artists, schools, shelters, and much more.

**Q:** What Encounter event of the 2016/17 season are you most excited for?

**A:** I’m excited for Folk Songs and Stories on May 18, I’m a big fan of Folk Alliance International’s work, and I cannot wait to hear the musicians perform. Their original work has never been to The Writers Place, so I’m also looking forward to learning more about what they do in the community.

**Q:** Does Kansas City need a great cultural arts community? Why? Why?

**A:** So much of Kansas City’s success is based upon the strength of its arts community. A thriving arts community means that Kansas City is filled with creative, passionate, and innovative thinkers that contribute through the arts and by being a community member, student, parent, baseball fan, and much more. These people apply their innovative thinking to everything that they do, making Kansas City a city of forward thinkers and risk-takers. That’s more, the arts give us the rare opportunity to step back and take a moment to truly understand the human experience. Through theater, visual arts, dance, and music, we can better empathize with one another, look beyond our superficial differences and see one another’s humanity.

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