

The Missouri Arts Council supports the arts that strengthen the cultural, educational, and economic vitality of every corner of our state.

ENGAGING PEOPLE IN MEANINGFUL ARTS EXPERIENCES

GROWING MISSOURI'S ECONOMY USING THE ARTS

We put the power of the arts in service to our veterans and active military in Art Ease: A Regional Convening on Arts and the Military in Kansas City. Speakers and performers from six states shared their stories and successes, and taught how to support service members and veterans with the arts.

We participated in the Department of Economic Development's ongoing Best in Midwest initiative to transform the department into the top economic development agency in the Midwest. We are focusing on helping the arts create jobs and support workers' ability to innovate and create.

We developed a cultural equity initiative that addresses barriers to inclusion, diversity, equity, and access to the arts in Missouri. This will result in a policy statement to guide our hiring, guidelines, and programs. We helped advance key education strategies, including revision of Missouri's Fine Arts Standards, working with statewide partners: Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, Arts Education Collaborative, Arts Integrated Education Coaches in Schools, Missouri Alliance for Arts Education.

STRENGTHENING MISSOURI EDUCATION

THROUGH THE ARTS

We honored arts heroes of our state with the Missouri Arts Awards: Jeff Sandquist, Rolla (Arts Education); Ragtag Film Society, Columbia (Arts Organization); The Delmar Loop, University City/St. Louis (Creative Community); Solomon L. Thurman, St. Louis (Individual Artist); Sharon G. Kosek, St. Joseph (Leadership in the Arts); Cathy and Tom Sakiyama, Chesterfield (Philanthropy).

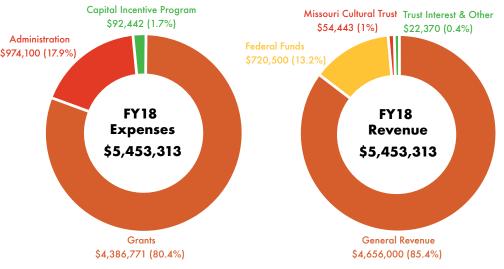
We engaged 4,000 Missouri students in the national Poetry Out Loud

recitation contest by the Poetry Foundation and National Endowment for the Arts.

ON THE COVER **EXCEPTIONAL FESTIVALS** Every November, Downtown New Haven Inc. sets the city's Missouri River shore ablaze with Firefest –

music, art booths, artist demos, and live flames from fire dancing to cannon blasts.

Fire art by Flux Infernos Fire and Light Performance Art Group Photos courtesy of Washington Missourian



A division of the Department of Economic Development, the Missouri Arts Council is funded through the Missouri General Assembly, Missouri Cultural Trust, and National Endowment for the Arts.



downtownnewhavenmo.com/firefest.html

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of poetry, art, and prose, plus reading series, youth programs, and community writing workshops.

Detail of front cover of Issue 100, summer 2018 | Alforgotten Teleby Kirsty Mitchell

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Streetcar riders in Kansas City never know when they'll encounter local musicians during Art in the Loop's May-September program of performances and visual arts throughout downtown.

Members of The Naughty Pines with an audience including KC Mayor Sly James

Enrique Chi

riverstyx.org

artintheloop.com

maplesrep.com

THEATRE FOR EVERYONE People in north Missouri enjoy a bounty of professional performances – musicals, dramas, comedies, cabaret concerts, children's shows and more – thanks to Maples Repertory Theatre in Macon.

Leading Ladies, 2017 season

EXP

Art-making workshops, art exhibits, theatrical shows, orchestral performances and more-the Willow Springs Arts Council engages people of Missouri's southern Ozarks in the arts.

