



KeepArtHappening.org

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Arts and Education Council welcomes four new board members

ST. LOUIS – Jan. 31, 2019 – The Arts and Education Council announced today that four members of the St. Louis community have been elected to the organization’s board of directors. Curtis Cassel, Deanna Hohman, David Weiss and Keith Tyrone Williams were each elected to a three-year term beginning Jan. 1.

“On behalf of the Arts and Education Council, I’m pleased to welcome these four individuals to the board of directors. Their leadership, expertise and passion for the arts in our community will be valuable as we work to keep art happening across the St. Louis region,” said Board Chair Brendan Johnson.

Curtis Cassel is owner/partner at TR,i Architects, where his school designs have won national and international awards. His support of the Saint Louis Visionary Awards honoring women in the arts was instrumental in the organization’s relaunch in 2015.

Deanna Hohman is a director in the St. Louis Risk Assurance practice at PricewaterhouseCoopers. Hohman enjoys supporting the local arts community by attending theatre, live music and art exhibitions with her family.

David Weiss is counsel at Sandberg Phoenix & Von Gontard P.C., where he offers clients experience in a variety of legal matters central to business and nonprofit organizations. Weiss studied theatre at Webster University and recently made a generous planned gift to the Arts and Education Council to establish a public art fund that will allow more St. Louisans to experience art in their community.

Keith Tyrone Williams teaches dance, acting and musical theatre at the Grand Center Arts Academy. He trained under the legendary dancer, choreographer and social activist Katherine Dunham at the Performing Arts Training Center (PATC) in his hometown of East St. Louis in the 1970s before a successful career on Broadway. Williams was recognized as Art Educator of the Year by the Arts and Education Council at the 2018 St. Louis Arts Awards.

For more information about the Arts and Education Council and a complete list of the board of directors, visit KeepArtHappening.org.

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About the Arts and Education Council: *Keep Art Happening*. – The Arts and Education Council builds appreciation, participation and support for the arts and arts education throughout the St. Louis region, shaping a more vibrant arts community for all. The Arts and Education Council ensures the 16-county, bi-state region is rich with arts and cultural experiences through programs and services that support more than 70 organizations each year, including: operating grants;

arts incubation at the Centene Center for the Arts; PNC Program Grants; the Monsanto Creative Impact Fund; the Maritz Arts and Education Fund for Teachers; Monsanto Rural Community Arts and Education grants; the Art Education Fund, underwritten by Wells Fargo Advisors; the Catalyst Innovation Lab; the Katherine Dunham Fellowship; Catalyst Conversations; the stARTup Creative Competition; Leadership Roundtables; Arts Marketers; the St. Louis Suburban Music Educators Association; the Keep Art Happening Scholarship; and the St. Louis Arts Awards.

The Arts and Education Council is entirely funded by individual donors, corporations and foundations in the St. Louis region. Since its inception in 1963 as the region's only privately-supported united arts fund, the Arts and Education Council has raised and distributed more than \$100 million in private funding for the arts – a significant contribution that directly impacts the quality of life in our region. The Arts and Education Council meets all 20 Better Business Bureau Charity Standards and has earned the Wise Giving Seal of Approval, a three-star rating from Charity Navigator and a Guidestar Exchange Silver Participant rating.

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