



KeepArtHappening.org

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Neuka Mitchell joins Arts and Education Council board of directors

ST. LOUIS, Aug. 29, 2019 – Neuka Bowie Mitchell, a Bayer executive and daughter of St. Louis-born soul singer Fontella Bass, has been elected to the Arts and Education Council's board of directors.

"I am pleased to welcome Neuka to the Arts and Education Council's board of directors. Her professional experience and deep appreciation for the arts will offer a unique perspective," said Brendan Johnson, Arts and Education Council board chair.

Mitchell is currently the Head of North America Credit and Customer Financing at Bayer Crop Science division. She is responsible for performing risk assessments and account management for over fifty thousand customer accounts with over \$11B in annual Gross Sales. Mitchell is also the president of ARISE, Bayer's business resource group for African descendants, in support of Bayer's diversity, equity and inclusion efforts.

Since joining Bayer in 1998, Mitchell has held various roles of increasing responsibilities within the finance organization including roles supporting Commercial, Manufacturing, Global Reporting, Global Shared Services, and Technology organizations. She earned her bachelor's degree in business from Fontbonne University.

Mitchell comes from a musical family. Her mother is the late legendary soul singer Fontella Bass, widely known for her 1965 hit "Rescue Me". Bass is the daughter of gospel singer Martha Bass, who sang with the Clara Ward Singers. Mitchell's father is the late great avant-garde jazz trumpeter, Lester Bowie and her uncle is the late R&B singer David Peaston, who won a Soul Train Music Award for Best R&B/Soul or Rap new Artist in 1990.

For more information about the Arts and Education Council, 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 support grants; arts incubation at the Centene Center for the Arts; PNC Program Grants; the Creative Impact Fund with lead support from the Bayer Fund; the Maritz Arts and Education Fund for Teachers; Bayer Fund 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 Gold Participant rating.

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Photo: Neuka Mitchell. Photo provided.

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