



KeepArtHappening.org

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EDWARD JONES CONTRIBUTES \$1 MILLION TO ARTS AND EDUCATION COUNCIL FOR THIRD CONSECUTIVE YEAR

ST. LOUIS, Sept. 5, 2019 – Financial-services firm Edward Jones and its associates have contributed more than \$1 million to the Arts and Education Council for the third consecutive year. The donations will support the Arts and Education Council's programs and services that benefit more than 70 arts organizations and connect 1.6 million adults and children in the bi-state region with the arts each year.

About 2,400 Edward Jones associates donated more than \$655,000 during the firm's annual two-week campaign at the firm's headquarters. The campaign, the largest in St. Louis, was led by Edward Jones associates including partner chair Patty Carter and associate co-chairs Nathan Hoffman and Mike Woerner. Edward Jones then made a corporate gift of \$355,000, bringing the total campaign giving to more than \$1 million.

"At Edward Jones, we make a difference in the lives of our clients and each other. We work to strengthen families and futures, and thereby the communities where we are privileged to serve. A gift to the Arts and Education Council is just one of the many ways we demonstrate that commitment," said Edward Jones Managing Partner Penny Pennington. "I share the firm's passion for this wonderful organization. The arts help us observe and experience life and people with all of our senses, enriching us in unexpected ways. Art brings us joy and provokes new thoughts and ideas in ways few other endeavors can provide."

In a further sign of support for the arts in our region, Pennington and her husband, Mike Fidler, will co-chair the Arts and Education Council's 2020 St. Louis Arts Awards on Jan. 27.

"This support will have an enormous impact in our region," said Cynthia A. Prost, Arts and Education Council president and CEO. "St. Louis's arts and culture industry plays a major role in our quality of life and provides significant economic impact for our region. We are grateful for Penny's leadership, the partners' and associates' incredible generosity, and the firm's remarkable commitment to keep art happening."

Edward Jones branch teams across the St. Louis region currently are raising additional funds for the Arts and Education Council with a second campaign.

Edward Jones has supported the Arts and Education Council since 1978, contributing \$12 million to keep art happening in our region. The firm is one of dozens of companies and organizations across the bi-state area to host giving campaigns for the Arts and Education Council. Edward Jones's campaign is the largest.

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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About Edward Jones

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