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**Arts and Education Council names Jessireé Jenkins grants and programs coordinator**



**ST. LOUIS – Jan. 20, 2020** – The Arts and Education Council has named Jessireé Jenkins grants and programs coordinator. In this role, she will work with Director of Grants and Program Cynthia P. Davis to manage the grants and programs of the Arts and Education Council.

“We’re thrilled to welcome Jessireé to the Arts and Education Council,” said Cynthia A. Prost, Arts and Education Council president and CEO. “Her diverse knowledge and skillset will strengthen our grants and programs opportunities. She is poised to accomplish significant grant and community engagement in 2020 as we launch the Arts and Healing Initiative and expand the Diversifying the Arts program.”

Jenkins spent 10 years with the St. Louis Public Library system in a significant community outreach and engagement role, is Board Chair for A Call to Conscience, an interactive theater for social change, and a graduate of the LaunchCode 2019 CoderGirl program. She has a vast amount of experience in community engagement, advocacy, event planning and program management with an emphasis on education, social responsibility, diversity and inclusion.

Jenkins holds an undergraduate degree in Public Policy Administration from the University of Missouri- St. Louis.

For more information about the Arts and Education Council and to see a full staff list, visit [KeepArtHappening.org](http://KeepArtHappening.org).

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**About the Arts and Education Council: *Keep Art Happening*.** – The Arts and Education Council ensures the 16-county, bi-state region is rich with arts and cultural experiences for all through programs and services that support more than 70 organizations each year, including: operating grants; arts incubation at the Centene Center for the Arts; the Arts and Healing Initiative; PNC Program Grants; the Creative Impact Fund, with lead support from Bayer Fund; Creative Impact Fund for Diversifying the Arts; the Maritz Arts and Education Fund for Teachers; Bayer Fund Rural Community Arts Program grants; the Art Education Fund, underwritten by Wells Fargo Advisors; the Catalyst Innovation Lab; the Katherine Dunham Fellowship; 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:** Jessireé Jenkins. Photo by ProPhotoSTL.

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