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JEFFREY CARTER, M.D., AND MARGARET MCDONALD TO CO-CHAIR ARTS AND EDUCATION COUNCIL'S ST. LOUIS ARTS AWARDS

Keith Tyrone Williams to emcee the Jan. 24 event

ST. LOUIS, September 21, 2021 – The Arts and Education Council announced today that anesthesiologist **Jeffrey Carter, M.D.,** and HOK Senior Principal **Margaret McDonald** will co-chair the St. Louis Arts Awards on Jan. 24, 2022. Performer and educator **Keith Tyrone Williams** will emcee the fundraiser. Dr. Carter, McDonald and Williams are members of the Arts and Education Council's board of directors. Now in its 31st year, the St. Louis Arts Awards honors individuals and organizations who have made significant contributions to the St. Louis region's arts community.

"At the Arts and Education Council, we're grateful we have a passionate and talented board of directors. Jeffrey, Margaret and Keith already do so much to keep art happening and we're thrilled that they will lead the 2022 St. Louis Arts Awards furthering the impact we can make in our community through the arts in the years to come," said Cynthia A. Prost, Arts and Education Council president and CEO.

Margaret McDonald is part of the leadership team for HOK's St. Louis studio as Senior Principal. In addition, she serves as a co-chair of the firmwide Marketing Board. McDonald serves on the board of directors for the Arts and Education Council and Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis. She is a member of International Women's Forum, Urban Land Institute, FOCUS STL and CREW-St. Louis.

Jeffrey Carter, M.D., is an anesthesiologist in practice for 25 years. He is currently a Partner with Ballas Anesthesia, Inc., at Missouri Baptist Medical Center. A leader who is committed to promoting patient safety and high-quality medical care, Dr. Carter serves on the Missouri Board of Healing Arts, Missouri's medical licensing and regulatory board. He has been recognized yearly since 2007 by his peers for clinical excellence with "The Best Doctors Award". Dr. Carter proudly supports the St. Louis arts community as a Vice-Chairman on the Arts and Education Council's board of directors and is a member of the Arts and Healing advisory panel.

Keith Tyrone Williams, a proud native of East St. Louis, is an Arts and Education Council board member and was honored with an Art Educator of the Year Award at the 2018 St. Louis Arts Awards. He is chair of musical theatre at the Grand Center Arts Academy, a St. Louis public charter middle and high school founded in 2010 and located in the heart of the Grand Center Arts District. He has performed, directed and choreographed throughout the United States and extensively in Europe. He has received numerous awards for his artistic work and contributions to the arts.

Since 1992, the Arts and Education Council has recognized more than 180 honorees at the St. Louis Arts Awards. The 2021 honorees were: **Amy Kaiser**, Lifetime Achievement in the Arts; **Kirven and Antonio Douthit-Boyd**, Excellence in the Arts; **Brian Owens**, Excellence in the Arts; **Lynne and Jim Turley**, Excellence in Philanthropy; **Antionette Carroll**, Arts

Innovator; **"Such Sweet Thunder"** presented by St. Louis Shakespeare Festival, Nine PBS, Jazz St. Louis and The Big Muddy Dance Company, Arts Collaboration; **John Nickel**, 30th Anniversary Chairperson's Award; **and James McKay Jr.**, Jennings School District, Art Educator of the Year.

The 2022 St. Louis Arts Awards will take place on January 24, 2022, at the Royal Sonesta Chase Park Plaza Hotel. Tickets for the 31st annual celebration will be on sale this fall. Learn more about the event at KeepArtHappening.org/ArtsAwards. The Arts and Education Council is carefully monitoring the impacts of COVID-19 on our community. If an alternate event date becomes necessary, all sponsors and ticket holders will be immediately notified.

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About the St. Louis Arts Awards - Since 1992, the Arts and Education Council's St. Louis Arts Awards has honored more than 190 artists, educators, philanthropists, corporate citizens and arts organizations that make the St. Louis region so vibrant. It is an elegant evening of cocktails and dinner, an awards presentation and awe-inspiring performances – all packed into just four hours. Proceeds benefit the Arts and Education Council, which offers programs and services that support more than 70 arts and arts education organizations impacting 1.6 million people throughout the 16-county, bi-state region. KeepArtHappening.org/ArtsAwards.

About Jeffrey Carter, M.D. – A graduate of Yale University School of Medicine, Dr. Jeffrey Carter is an anesthesiologist in practice for 25 years. He is currently a Partner with Ballas Anesthesia, Inc., at Missouri Baptist Medical Center. A leader who is committed to promoting patient safety and high-quality medical care, Dr. Carter serves on the Missouri Board of Healing Arts, Missouri's medical licensing and regulatory board. Additionally, he is a member of the board of directors and executive committee of the Federation of State Medical Boards of the USA, which supports the nation's state medical boards through research, education and development of best practices in medical regulation. Dr. Carter is a respected and caring physician who has been recognized yearly since 2007 by his peers for clinical excellence with "The Best Doctors Award".

Dr. Carter proudly supports the St. Louis arts community because of the rich diversity of art forms in our community. Passionate for the work of the Arts and Education Council, he serves as a Vice-Chairman on the Arts and Education Council's board of directors and is a member of the Arts and Healing advisory panel. He is a past member of the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra Community Outreach Advisory Board and past member of the Kingsbury Ensemble board of directors. A lifelong Missourian, he also enjoys travel, hiking, cycling and exploring the many unique neighborhoods in St. Louis.

About Margaret McDonald – As Senior Principal, Margaret McDonald is part of the leadership team for HOK's St. Louis studio. In addition, McDonald serves as a co-chair of the firmwide Marketing Board. For more than 25 years, she has shaped the St. Louis community, including dozens of its places of business and culture, through design. Her collaborative style, coupled with her leadership skills, opened doors for her to work with many prominent clients, including Spire, Stryker, Centene, Microsoft, Boeing, Missouri Foundation for Health, NISA, AB Mauri, Wexford and Ameren. Today, McDonald continues to work with great passion and interest to develop the St. Louis region and beyond.

McDonald enthusiastically serves her hometown of St. Louis through countless volunteer hours on several nonprofit boards and committees. Currently, she serves on the board of directors for the Arts and Education Council and Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis. She is a member of International Women's Forum, Urban Land Institute, FOCUS STL and CREW-St. Louis. In 2019, she was recognized by the St. Louis Business Journal as one of its Most Influential Business Women. McDonald received a BFA in Art History from the University of Colorado Boulder and a BFA in Interior Architecture from The School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

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About Keith Tyrone Williams – Keith Tyrone Williams is an Arts and Education Council board member and was honored with an Art Educator of the Year Award at the 2018 St. Louis Arts Awards. He is chair of musical theatre at the Grand Center Arts Academy, a St. Louis public charter middle and high school founded in 2010 and located in the heart of the Grand Center Arts District. Williams is a proud native of East St. Louis, Illinois. He has performed, directed, and choreographed throughout the United States and extensively in Europe. As Artistic Director, he directed, choreographed, and produced "The Ties That Bind", a riveting theatrical work performed by his company, Innervison Dance Theatre. He also co-starred in "The Full Monty" at STAGES St. Louis for which he won the prestigious Kevin Kline Award. His choreography for "Sarafina", a musical about South African apartheid, received rave reviews and garnered another Kevin Kline Award for best choreography. Williams is also a distinguished recipient of the NAACP Award for his contributions to the cultural arts and Arts-In-Education.

Other notable awards include the Eminent Educator Award/Phi Delta Kappa, African American Heritage Award/Links Inc., 2019 Marquis Inaugural Award and recognition as a 2014 St. Louis Regional Arts Commission Fellow. His Broadway, national, and international credits include "Once on This Island", "Legs Diamond", "Five Guys Named Moe" (LA Ovation and NAACP nomination), The Music of Andrew Lloyd Webber (British Royal Command Performance), "Bubbling Brown Sugar", "Starlight Express", "On the Town", and the Katherine Dunham Gala at Carnegie Hall. Williams is very proud to be among the few people certified by Katherine Dunham to teach the world-renowned Dunham Technique. Williams holds a bachelor's degree in theatre/dance (Southern Illinois University Edwardsville), a master's degree in theatre/directing (Lindenwood University) and a Master of Fine Arts in directing.

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: general operating grants, arts incubation at the Centene Center for the Arts, PNC Program Grants, the Creative Impact Fund, the Arts and Education Fund for Teachers, Bayer Fund Rural Community Arts Program grants, Arts and Healing Initiative, the Art Education Fund, 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.

Connect with us – **Website**: KeepArtHappening.org **Phone**: 314.289.4000. **Facebook**: ArtsandEducation **Twitter**: @ArtEdSTL **Instagram**: Arts Education Council