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Contact: Andie Murphy
Marketing Manager, Arts and Education Council
314.289.4008 or Andie-M@KeepArtHappening.org

**Anita Hansen, Terry Harris, Ed.D. and Anthony Omosule to join event co-chairs
Jeffrey Carter, M.D. and Margaret McDonald to co-host the 2022 St. Louis Arts Awards**

ST. LOUIS, December 2, 2021 – The Arts and Education Council announced today that **Anita Hansen, Terry Harris, Ed.D. and Anthony Omosule** will join event co-chairs **Jeffrey Carter, M.D. and Margaret McDonald** to co-host the 2022 St. Louis Arts Awards. Performer and educator **Keith Tyrone Williams** will emcee the fundraiser. Dr. Carter, McDonald and Williams are all Arts and Education Council board members. Hansen and Omosule are Young Friends of the Arts board members and Harris serves on the Arts and Education Council's Advisory Panel for the Arts and Healing Initiative. Now in its 31st year, the event honors individuals and organizations who have made significant contributions to the St. Louis region's arts community.

"These individuals represent the next generation of arts advocates, supporters and leaders who are so important to the future of our St. Louis arts community. As we celebrate our 31st year of the St. Louis Arts Awards, it's fitting that Anita, Terry and Anthony will be on stage championing the arts," said Cynthia A. Prost, Arts and Education Council president and CEO.

Anita Hansen is the relationship team administrator who is responsible for leading, developing and coaching the Commercial Support team at Regions Bank in the St. Louis area, where she started her career in 2002 in retail banking. Hansen graduated from Lindenwood University in 2005, where she received her Bachelor of Arts in international business. Daughter to an immigrant mother from Mexico and an immigrant father from Sweden, Hansen is the first of her family to be born in the United States. Having a diverse cultural background has allowed her to have a strong appreciation for diversity and inclusion which she promotes within Regions Bank. She is a member of Regions' Diversity and Inclusion committee in St. Louis and serves as the chair for the Diverse Talent Management subcommittee. Hansen volunteers with a variety of local organizations including the Arts and Education Council's Young Friends of the Arts board since 2017.

Terry Harris, Ed.D., executive director of student services in the Rockwood School District, is one of the region's most innovative educators working to build equity and well-being among students and the African American community. To help address health disparities, Harris co-founded The Collective STL, a nonprofit dedicated to bringing free yoga and wellness programs to African American communities in St. Louis. He has also created child-centered spaces for yoga through a Yoga for the Youth program. Harris also serves on the Arts and Education Council's advisory panel providing critical guidance and support in the implementation of the Arts and Healing Initiative. A graduate of Lafayette High School, Harris holds degrees from Missouri State, Lindenwood and Maryville University where he earned a doctorate in education - educational administration.

Anthony Omosule is a management consultant with broad experience working in the healthcare industry. Presently, he leads client engagements as a manager of health care consulting at Cognizant. Omosule was born in Nigeria and has a Master of Business Administration from Washington University in St. Louis and Master of Science in health informatics from the University of Missouri Columbia. He is the secretary of the Arts and Education Council's Young Friends of the Arts board and a board member at the Kreative Kids Learning Center in Alton, Illinois.

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 a great place to live, work and play. The 2022 honorees are: **Mark Bernstein**, Lifetime Achievement in the Arts; **The Black Rep**, Excellence in the Arts; **Anita Jackson**, Excellence in the Arts;

Classic 107.3, Arts Collaborator; **PaintedBlack STL**, Arts Innovator; and **Rosalind Rogers**, Lincoln Middle School in East St. Louis, Art Educator of the Year.

Tickets for the 2022 St. Louis Arts Awards on January 24, 2022, are on sale now. If ongoing circumstances related to the COVID-19 pandemic prevent the Arts and Education Council from hosting the event in January, the event will take place on Monday, May 24, 2022. The Arts and Education Council is committed to honoring these outstanding honorees and their accomplishments and celebrating with the St. Louis arts community in person. If the event is postponed, tickets purchased for the January date will be honored at the May date.

For more information about the honorees, sponsorship opportunities and tickets, visit KeepArtHappening.org/2022ArtsAwards.

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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 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 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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PHOTOS:

- Anita Hansen. Photo provided.
- Terry Harris, Ed.D. Photo provided.
- Anthony Omosule. Photo provided.

Arts and Education Council • 3547 Olive Street • St. Louis, MO 63103-1014

p 314.289.4000 • f 314.289.4019 • www.KeepArtHappening.org