

MISSOURI ARTS ADVOCACY WEEK

FEBRUARY 5-9, 2024

MISSOURI CITIZENS FOR THE ARTS





ARTS ADVOCACY TRAINING
for Missouri Arts Advocacy Week

February 5th-9th, 2024

**MISSOURI
CITIZENS
FOR THE ARTS**



ABOUT MCA

- MCA is a non-partisan, state-wide, grass roots organization that advocates to secure stable financial support for the arts to benefit Missouri and its citizens.
- A 501(c)4 advocacy organization established in 1980 to:
 - secure a stable and growing base of public financial support for the arts and to insure access to the arts for all Missourians.
- Membership based organization that includes non-profit arts organizations, individuals, arts businesses and corporate sponsorships
- Governed by a Board of Directors
 - Legislative Consultant



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Leslie Forrester, President, Springfield
- Nichole Belford, Vice President, St. Louis
- Jim Barber, Secretary, Branson
- Wally Bloss, Treasurer, Joplin
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- Teresa Fankhauser, Northwest Vice President, St. Joseph



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Blake Bain, Sikeston
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- Steve Whitworth, Poplar Bluff
- Roger Williams, Lee's Summit
- Michael Gaines, Ex Officio, Missouri Alliance for Community Arts Agencies
- Patricia Konopka, Kansas City
- Barbara Mustoe, Jefferson City
- Kyna Iman, Ex Officio, Legislative Consultant



**ADVOCACY
WEEK
SPONSORS**

**Catalyst Consulting
Springfield Regional Arts Council
Missouri Association of Community
Arts Agencies
Missouri Alliance for Arts Education
Marie Nau Hunter
Evie Craig
Alison Schieber
Lindsey Rood-Clifford
Jay Hahn**

THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS



WHY SHOULD I GET INVOLVED?

- Everything you advocate for can be lost in the legislature by one vote.
- Create a more friendly environment
- Fight for and protect the arts industry in the state of Missouri

THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS



THE MISSOURI LEGISLATURE

- 163 House of Representative Members
 - As of 2024: 111 Republicans, 51 Democrats
 - It takes 82 votes to pass a bill in the House
- 34 Senate Members
 - As of 2024, 24 Republicans, 10 Democrats
 - It takes 18 votes to pass a bill in the Senate
- As of 2024, the House and Senate are Majority Republican and the Executive Office of Governor is Republican.

**HOW DO WE
SHAPE THIS
PROCESS?**



**THROUGH
ADVOCACY.**

THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS



ADVOCACY (OR LOBBYING) IS NOT A BAD WORD.

- It's your First Amendment right.
- Your Legislators want to hear from you.
- You have a right and duty to stand up for or against issues that affect you and the arts in Missouri.
- 501(c)(3)s can advocate.

THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS



HOW DO I EFFECTIVELY ADVOCATE?

- Be informed
- Be polite
- Reference the specific legislation by proper title (HB 761)
- Make it personal, talk about how this issue affects you
- Have a specific “ask” – Be a closer
- Follow up and remain in contact

MCA ADVOCACY AGENDA



The arts make Missouri a better place to live, learn, work, visit, and do business. Arts and cultural organizations are economic drivers that support good paying jobs, attract tourists, and grow the state's tax base. The arts cultivate young imaginations, foster healthy and vibrant communities, and preserve our cultural heritage. A robust creative sector is essential to Missouri's future, so additional state funding simply makes good sense.

MISSOURI ARTS COUNCIL

Missouri Citizens for the Arts (MCA) requests that the Governor and Legislature invest in the arts by allocating **\$20 million to the Missouri Arts Council Trust Fund**. This appropriation represents 60% of the Non-Resident Athletes and Entertainers Tax (A&E Tax), as required by statute (Section 143.183 RSMo). The A&E tax, which is paid by professional athletes and entertainers when they play or perform in Missouri, has been collected since 1994. But it has never been distributed as intended. Beginning in FY25, this earmarked revenue stream should not be used to cover other state expenses.

The Missouri Arts Council supports hundreds of quality arts programs throughout the state of Missouri. Additional funds are needed to sustain current programming, target underserved districts, and support new initiatives.

MCA ADVOCACY AGENDA



A&E TAX CULTURAL PARTNERS

MCA supports the current cultural partners distribution formula, which calls for the each of the partners - Missouri State Library Networking Fund, Missouri Humanities Council Trust Fund, Missouri Public Broadcasting Corporation Special Fund, and the Missouri Historic Preservation Revolving Fund - to receive 10% of the A&E tax, as required by the statute.

ARTS EDUCATION IN MISSOURI SCHOOLS

Missouri Citizens for the Arts and the Missouri Alliance for Arts Education believe that Missouri's PK-12 students deserve access to quality education in the fine arts - music, visual-arts, theatre, media arts, and dance. In addition to its intrinsic value, arts education stimulates compassion and empathy, develops problem-solving and critical thinking skills, and improves academic performance in other disciplines.

- MCA and the Missouri Alliance for Arts Education support fully funding the school foundation formula and transportation fund.
- MCA and the Missouri Alliance for Arts Education recommend that legislation supporting STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) be expanded to include the Arts (STEAM).

MCA ADVOCACY AGENDA



MISSOURI FINE ARTS ACADEMY

Missouri Citizens for the Arts is requesting \$1 million to support the 2025 Missouri Fine Arts Academy (MFM), a two-week summer residential program at Missouri State University for highly motivated high school students who study visual arts, theatre, dance, creative writing, and music. The funding will ensure that students of limited financial means can participate.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECTS

MCA supports state funding for capital improvement projects for arts and cultural facilities in Missouri.

THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS



DO YOUR HOMEWORK

- Voting constituents from home are most important to a legislator.
- Legislator Lookup: <https://www.senate.mo.gov/legislookup/default>
- Voter Lookup: www.sos.mo.gov/elections/VoterLookup
- MO House of Representatives website: www.house.mo.gov
- MO Senate website: www.senate.mo.gov
- Check your legislator's website, Facebook, Twitter...
 - What awards have they received?
 - What bills have they introduced?
 - What committees do they serve on?

THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS



YOU ARE THE EXPERT!

- Members and staff do not have time to understand every issue in detail
- You know what is happening with the arts in your district and check MCA Action Alerts
- They want to hear your input and experience
- If you don't know the answer to a question:
 - Say you don't know, but you can get the information back to them.
 - **Never make up an answer**

THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS



HOW DO I MAKE CONTACT?

- Send a TEXT or an EMAIL
- Make a PHONE CALL
- Write a LETTER
- Schedule a face-to-face MEETING
- Leave a business card and follow up
- Feb 5-9: schedule a Zoom or conference call
- Feb 7: Meet with your legislator at the capitol

THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS



MAINTAIN A RELATIONSHIP

- First, sign up with MCA to Adopt-A-Legislator
- Once you've made contact....
 - Stay in contact!
- Send thank you notes
- Give credit where credit is due

THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS



DO MY EFFORTS MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

- **YES!**
- We need your voice.
- We need your persistence.
- We need your advocacy.
- **The arts and culture in Missouri need you!**

AFTER THIS TRAINING



- Sign up to Adopt-A Legislator!
- Make plans to be in contact with your legislators
 - Scheduled meeting, Zoom or conference call, by calling, or emailing
- Review MCA's advocacy agenda and Arts Advocacy Toolkit
- Be ready with your three minute "elevator speech": exactly what you are asking legislators to support
- Post on social media about your Arts Advocacy Week efforts
- Like/share/comment on MCA's posts
- Stay in touch with your adopted legislator(s) after Arts Advocacy Week – our advocacy needs to be year round!

AFTER THIS TRAINING



- Adopt-A-Legislator sign up site
- MCA's Mo. Arts Advocacy Tool Kit

UPCOMING EVENTS



FEBRUARY 7

- Join us at the Capitol as we advocate in person!
- 10-11:30 am- MCA Briefing in Governor's Office Building
- 11:30 am- Regional lunches
- Meetings with legislators
- 2 pm- Missouri Arts Council Awards
- [Register here](#)

FEBRUARY 5-9

- Meet with legislators virtually or in district if unable to meet on Feb 7th.

RESOURCES



- Missouri Citizens for the Arts
 - www.mo4arts.org
 - advocates@mo4arts.org
- Kyna Iman
 - MCA's Government Affairs Consultant
 - kynaiman@earthlink.net
- Americans for the Arts
 - www.artsusa.org
- Arts & Economic Impact Study
- Missouri Alliance for Arts Education
 - www.moaae.org
- Missouri Association of Arts Organizations
 - macaa.net

Missouri Citizens for the Arts relies on annual member dues in order to stay operational.

PLEASE JOIN US!



MCA MEMBERS

Albrecht-Kemper Museum of Art, St. Joseph
Allied Arts Council of St Joseph, St. Joseph
Americans for the Arts
Arrow Rock Lyceum Theatre, Arrow Rock
The Arts Asylum, Kansas City
Arts Council of Southeast Missouri,
Cape Girardeau
ArtsKC Regional Arts Council, Kansas City
Arts Rolla, Rolla
Bach Aria Soloists, Kansas City
Best of Missouri Hands, Columbia
Boone County Historical Society, Columbia
Branson Regional Arts Council, Branson
Caldwell County Arts, Hamilton
Chamber Music Society of St. Louis, St. Louis
CIBC Westend Academy
City of Columbia Office of Cultural Affairs,
Columbia

City of Lee's Summit Cultural Affairs Division,
Lee's Summit
City of St. Peters Cultural Arts Centre,
St. Peters
Community Theatre for Southwest Missouri,
Carthage
Connect2Culture, Joplin
Consuming Kinetics Dance Company, St. Louis
Contemporary Art Museum, St Louis
Creative Arts Productions, St. Joseph
Crossroads Arts Council, Wentzville
Danes of India, St. Louis
Fine Linen Theatre, St. James
Friends of Historic Boonville, Boonville
Gateway Festival Orchestra of St. Louis
George A. Spiva Center for the Arts, Joplin
Gillioz Center for Arts and Entertainment,
Springfield
Hallmark Cards, Kansas City

Hannibal Arts Council, Hannibal
Hannibal Concert Association, Hannibal
Harry M. Cornell Arts & Entertainment Complex,
Joplin
HEARding Cats Collective, Inc., St. Louis
Heartland Opera Theatre, Joplin
Historic Bethel German Colony, Inc., Bethel
Illinois Art Alliance, Chicago
Joplin Little Theatre, Joplin
Kansas City Art Institute, Kansas City
Kansas City Ballet, Kansas City
Kansas City Blues Society, Kansas City
Kansas City Young Audiences, Kansas City
Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts, Kansas
City
Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, Kansas
City
Kirksville Arts Association, Kirksville
Lake Arts Council, Osage Beach



MCA MEMBERS

Lee's Summit Symphony Orchestra,
Lee's Summit
Manchester Arts, Manchester
Margaret Harwell Art Museum, Poplar Bluff
Marshfield Performing Arts Society, Marshfield
Metropolitan Arts Council of Greater Kansas City
Mid-America Arts Alliance, Kansas City
MidCity Excellence Community Learning
Center, St. Joseph
Mid-Missouri Traditional Dancers, Harrisburg
Mineral Area Council on the Arts, Park Hills
Missouri Alliance for Arts Education,
Maryland Heights
Missouri Artisans Association, Columbia
Missouri Association of Community Arts
Agencies, Hannibal
Missouri Symphony Society, Columbia
Missouri Folk Arts Program, Columbia
New Music Circle, St. Louis

Odyssey Chamber Music Series, Columbia
Owen/Cox Dance Group, Kansas City
Performing Arts Association, St. Joseph
Performing Arts Foundation of Kansas City
Post Art Library, Joplin
Pro Musica, Joplin
RAC- Regional Arts Council of St. Louis,
St. Louis
Ragtag Film Society, Columbia
Raintree Arts Council, Clarksville
Red Star Intertribal Gourd Dance Society,
Raymore
Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, St. Louis
Robidoux Resident Theatre, St. Joseph
Royal Arts Council, Versailles
Scottish Partnership for Arts and
Education, Chesterfield
Springfield Ballet, Springfield



MCA MEMBERS

Springfield Contemporary Theatre, Inc.,
Springfield
Springfield Little Theatre, Springfield
Springfield Regional Arts Council,
Springfield
St. Joseph Community Chorus, St. Joseph
St. Joseph Symphony Society, St. Joseph
St. Louis Cathedral Concerts, St. Louis
St. Louis Chamber Chorus, St. Louis
St. Louis Shakespeare Festival, St. Louis
St. Louis Volunteer Lawyers & Accountants
for the Arts, St. Louis
STAGES St. Louis, St. Louis
Starlight Theatre Association of Kansas
City, Kansas City
Stray Dog Theatre, St. Louis
Sugar Creek Festival Board, Sugar Creek
Summit Theatre Group, Lee's Summit
Theatre For America, Branson

The Griot Museum of Black History, St. Louis
The Muny, St. Louis
The Sheldon Arts Foundation, St. Louis
Truman State University Art Gallery,
Kirksville
UMKC Conservatory, Kansas City
Unicorn Theatre, Kansas City
University of Missouri- Columbia, Missouri Folk
Arts Program
Upstream Theatre, St. Louis
We Always Swing Inc., Columbia
West Plains Council on the Arts, West Plains
Westport Center for the Arts, Kansas City



MCA MEMBERS

**IF YOUR ORGANIZATION WAS NOT LISTED AS A MEMBER,
JOIN US NOW!**

GO TO: WWW.MO4ARTS.ORG

LOOK FOR MEMBERSHIP INFO UNDER THE “JOIN US” TAB

ORGANIZATIONAL AND INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIPS AVAILABLE



MCA MEMBERS

**THANK
YOU FOR
JOINING US**



QUESTIONS?

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