(Today's Date)

The Honorable Michael Parson Governor State Capitol Building Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Governor Parson:

On behalf of Missouri Citizens for the Arts, I would like to thank you for your increased funding for the Missouri Arts Council for Fiscal Year 2023. The arts positively contribute to Missouri's economy. In 2021, MAC funding supported over 500 grants that created over 6,865 full and part-time jobs and hired over 49,000 artists. MAC grantees paid \$161 million in salaries, which generated \$4.8 million in state income tax revenues. MAC grantees generated \$225 million in revenue.

In an effort to increase the impact of the arts in Missouri, the Missouri Citizens for the Arts is respectfully requesting \$18 million in funding for Fiscal Year 2024. This would represent 60% of the revenue collected from the non-resident professional Athlete and Entertainers' tax.

MAC grantees produced over 16,000 events across the state attended by 6.2 million people. The arts clearly improve quality of life in all communities and make Missouri a better place to locate businesses.

Once again, thank you for your continued support for the Arts! If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me, or Missouri Citizens for the Arts' Governmental Affairs Consultant, Kyna Iman at 314-651-1185.

Respectfully,