



LIBERTY
ARTS COMMISSION

LIBERTY ARTS COMMISSION

REVISED MEETING AGENDA

March 12, 2020

6:00 pm 3rd Floor Conference Room, City Hall

Attendance: Greg Duncan, Katie McDonald, Shane Immelt, Heather Jones, Anna Knackstedt, Aaron Money, Amy Steinbeck, Bill Stilfield, Nathan Wyman, Phil Young

I. **Approval of Meeting Summary:** February 13, 2020

II. **Current Business**

2020 Budget Request(s)

Staff

Restroom enclosures in parks- School project

Aaron Money

Bed Tax-

Anna Knackstedt

Art Grants-

Katie McDonald

Public Art Update-

Nathan Wyman

III. **Other Business**

Art Partner Reports:

Liberty Arts Foundation

Greg/Heather/Shane

William Jewell

Nathan

Corbin Theatre

Bill

Norterre

Amy

Liberty Public Schools

Aaron

Old Business:

Commission Contact Info Form/Manual

Shane/Heather

LAC Planning Committees/ Volunteers

Shane

Vacant Seat on Commission

Staff

IV. **Adjournment**

Next Meeting: April 9, 2020 at City Hall 3rd Floor Conf. Rm

The Liberty Arts Commission is the arts advocacy agency for the City of Liberty. We serve as a catalyst – to support, sustain, and strengthen our community by increasing awareness, opportunities, and public involvement in local arts and cultural activities.

An ADA accessible entrance is available from Missouri Street at the Police Department entrance. An Elevator will provide access to the third floor for meetings in the Third Floor Conference Room.

Liberty Arts Commission Meeting Summary

February 13, 2020

Present were Commissioners: Greg Duncan, Shane Immelt, Heather Jones, Katie McDonald, Aaron Money, Bill Stilfield and Phil Young

Absent: Jane Boswell, Anna Knackstedt and Amy Steinbeck

Staff Present: Jeanine Thill, Community Development Manager

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Immelt at 6:04 pm

Motion by Commissioner Money to approve the meeting summary from the January 9, 2020 meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Duncan. The motion passed 7-0-0.

Current Business

Art in Parks/around Restrooms- Commissioner Money handed out a summary of the proposed Community Art Project. This is collaboration between Liberty Parks and Rec, the Liberty Arts Commission and Liberty Public Schools. The Commission discussed the project which entails having artwork painted by students on restroom enclosures at three possible park locations; Canterbury Park, Wilshire Park and Arthur's Hill Park. The commission agreed that that \$750 should be earmarked for the project and be a reimbursement. The timeline is subject to change but they are hoping to begin painting the enclosures with murals by April 1 and have them completed by May 1. Liberty Parks and Rec and Liberty Arts Commission are partners in this project.

A motion was made to accept the proposal as amended by Commissioner Duncan (clarifying LAC is a partner and that funds will be reimbursed). The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wyman. The motion passed 7-0-0.

Discuss Mini Grant Question- Vice-Chair McDonald said there is a potential mini-grant applicant that requested clarification on eligibility of a project. Given our decision last month that Cost of Goods Sold should not be an eligible expense, could the printing of a historic book (literary arts) qualify as an eligible expense for the grant if the profits are donated to a non-profit organization for reprinting of the book? There was a lot of discussion and additional questions. For example, would it make difference if the books were sold at their cost, without a profit and the funds/proceeds donated to a non-profit that would use the funds to reprint the book as needed? Commissioner Jones commented that at the final printing there would still be \$1000 that someone profits from the project. The Commission funded the artist and events in previous mini-grants. A previous application was denied for funding picture frames for example. Commissioner Jones commented it is about making sure that the public benefits from the book. The commission agreed that the project would have a better chance of being funded if a non-profit applies for the grant rather than an individual. Also, selling the book at cost would be advised. LAC is not here to subsidize. No one should be making a profit. This is considered literary art. They need to make their case in the application and tell how the project will enhance tourism and make it a public benefit.

Bed Tax- No report.

Public Art Update- Commissioner Wyman referred to the 2020 Exhibit Schedule in the back of the packet. He will be working with Staff and Amy Steinbeck on this moving forward. They may look at other creative ways to get artists booked at the various locations. The current exhibit by Harold Smith will be at Stocksdale Gallery until the 26th. Liberty Public Schools are scheduled for a show in March. GK Callahan will do an exhibit in April & May. He will also host a workshop. Commissioner Wyman has met with some other wonderful artists such as Benjamin Parks. He is always asking if artists know someone else that might know of someone that may be interested. Commissioner McDonald said Debbie Payne is a retired art teacher that she would like to see exhibit. An all teachers exhibit might be great. Staff was asked to do a shared google document of the exhibit schedule.

Art Partner Reports:

Liberty Arts Foundation- The Foundation is working to get their GKKCF profile updated. Shane Immelt is working on repairs and maintenance to the China Slaughter reading park sculpture base. They have identified a few people that they hope to add to their board. A financial review is taking place. They will meet next month.

William Jewell- Commissioner Wyman brought a few flyers about the musical theatre production they are just starting to work on. *A Gentleman's guide to Love and Murder*, a comedy. The music department has several things going on, for more details look on their website.

FEBRUARY 2020

Feb. 16, 3 p.m.: Windfest High School Honor Band Concert (Gano Chapel, Jewell)

Feb. 17, 7 p.m.: Jewell Strings Concert (Forbis Recital Hall, Jewell)

MARCH 2020

March 3, 6:30 p.m.: Symphonic Band Concert (Gano Chapel, Jewell)

March 6, 7 p.m.: Concert Choir w/ William Baker Singers (Kauffman Center, KC)

The music of Ed Frasier-Davis directed by Sir Andrew Davis, Conductor Laureate of BBC Symphony (Tickets: www.kauffmancenter.org)

Corbin Theatre- The Corbin has repainted and will be installing new speakers. On February 1st they had David Brandon perform, who went to Liberty High and moved to New York. He will probably be back later this year. They are focusing on local talent in terms of music. KC and All That Jazz performance was great including Vine Street Rumbel and a few other KC acts. Maggie Thomas will be there next month. Zack Foster Garland has a show coming up. They hope to get some grants for new tables and chairs in the theatre. The first Tuesday of every month is Poetry on the Square. Corbin is one of the supporters as they donate the space and promote it. Commissioner Stilfield said he received a call from Laura Barge that the Liberty Newsflash was sent out promoting a poetry event at the Library on the same night as Poetry on the square, they thought it was confusing to have two LAC sponsored poetry events on the same night. The Commission clarified that Poetry on the Square is not an Arts Commission event. There was a lot of confusion the past about this because in 2018 LAC helped fund a joint event with William Jewell and Corbin Theatre. Funding for the program was not allocated after that event.

There was a second poetry event that was publicized in Dec 2018 and another in January 2019. August or July of 2018 minutes will provide clarity. LAC agreed to pay for the first one but LAC didn't agree to pay for the March, April and May events.

Commissioner Jones read from the July 12, 2018 meeting minutes when the Commission discussed "Arts Collide" (now Poetry on the Square). The vision was to have three events. The commission agreed to re-evaluate at that time.

In October 2018 we also discussed the event and requested zip codes of attendees so we can show it is driving tourism. Carol Kariotis reported at the time that 70-80% of the people participating come from outside Liberty. Commissioner Stilfield said \$50 a month is what she is requesting. In all of the announcements it is promoted as an Arts Commission event.

Staff reported that she recently received an invoice for \$100 from an MC for Poetry on the Square. She explained to Carol that she was not aware that the invoice was coming and that funds had not been requested in the 2020 budget for MC expenses. She requested that Carol send her a budget request outlining past attendance at the event and a formal budget request for 2020 with dates of events and names of MC's they would like to hire. Vice Chair Mc Donald said she doesn't know if she feels comfortable setting the precedent of paying for things that were not pre-approved. We are trying to solve a problem caused by Carol's confusion. We need to make a formal decision tonight and we need decide about what to do moving forward. Money said at this point he feels that the Commission shouldn't sponsor it until we get a formal plan.

A motion was made by Commissioner Jones that until we have a formal proposal and budget from the organizers of Poetry on the Square we will not consider paying any additional expenses. We are not currently involved in the event and will not be going forward until the Commission has a formal proposal. It is just like a grant application. There will be a formal vote of the Commission after the proposal is received. The Commission is not involved in Poetry on the Square at this time. The motion was seconded by Money. The motion passed 7-0-0.

Staff will communicate this is a good event to Carol K and explain the process moving forward.

Regarding the invoice for Dec 2019 and February 2020. If we have paid honorariums for MC's in the past that makes a difference. Staff said she has paid some of honorariums for the event from the "Exhibits/Public Art" line item.

It was the consensus of the Commission that any 2020 Budget requests should be a formal proposal in writing and they are due next month. Requests will be considered at the March 12 LAC meeting.

A motion was made by Commissioner Jones to approve the current invoice from Kevin Callahan in the amount of \$100 for MC services and to communicate to the service provider that until the budget has been approved they are not to invoice the City. Future billings will not be paid unless it has been approved in advance. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Duncan. The motion passed 7-0-0.

Regarding events held on the same night, Commissioner Jones commented that she feels Liberty Arts Commission has an obligation to help promote them, not necessarily to endorse them. This does not mean that Staff should coordinate art event schedules. Staff can gather the information to see it

from a birds eye view. McDonald commented it should be thought of as a positive that we have multiple art events on the same evening.

Norferre- No report

New Business:

Commission Contact Info Form/Manual- Chairman Immelt handed out packets of the draft manual to all the commissioners and asked that they email any corrections to him. He will work to finalize the document.

Chairman Immelt reported that Jane Boswell has resigned from the Commission because she is moving out of the city limits. Commissioners were encouraged to reach out to people they think would be good to serve on the commission and fill out an Interest Form, which can be found on the City's website.

Adjournment - Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Money, the motion was seconded by Commissioner Young. The meeting adjourned at 7:54 pm.

Next Meeting: March 12th at City Hall

| 2020 BUDGET LINE ITEM | ANTICIPATED 2020 EXPENSE DESCRIPTION | Estimated Expense | BUDGET | ACTUAL as of 2/1/2020 | BALANCE |
|----------------------------|---|-------------------|------------------|-----------------------|---------|
| Arts Commission | | | | | |
| Make Music Day | | | 3,810.00 | | |
| | Make Music Alliance Annual Membership | 500 | | 500.00 | |
| | Brants - MMD Shirts | 200 | | | |
| | Street Pole Banners | 450 | | | |
| | Radio Ads | 900 | | | |
| | Pittman Printing - Posters | 135 | | | |
| | Ad in Courier Tribune | 511 | | | |
| | Facebook Ads | 800 | | | |
| | Banner - 1 3X8 | 100 | | | |
| | Other Printed Materials- Flyers, Bag stuffers | 200 | | | |
| | TOTAL MMD | 3796 | | | |
| Public Art Exhibits | | | 1,700.00 | | |
| | Artist Reception Supplies, Food | 200 | | | |
| | Art Exhibit Misc. Supplies | 30 | | | |
| | Special Projects- Parks Restroom Murals | 750 | | | |
| | Requested: Poetry & More MC's | 600 | | 100.00 | |
| | TOTAL Public Art Exhibits | 1580 | | | |
| Art Grants | | | 11,000.00 | | |
| | Mini Grant - #1 | 1000 | | | |
| | Mini Grant - #2 | 1000 | | | |
| | Mini Grant - #3 | 1000 | | | |
| | Mini Grant - #4 | 1000 | | | |
| | Mini Grant - #5 | 1000 | | | |
| | Annual Grant - | 5000 | | | |
| | Ads to promote Grants | 1000 | | | |
| | TOTAL Grants | 11000 | | | |
| Sculptures | | | 53,810.00 | | |
| Honorariums | | | | | |
| | Honorariums 12 @ \$2000 | 24000 | | | |
| | Sculpture Supplies | 8480 | | | |
| | Maintenance of Sculptures | 6330 | | | |
| | Purchase Piece | 15000 | | | |
| | TOTAL Sculptures | 53810 | | | |

Carol Kariotis
1132 Downing
Liberty, MO 64068
February 28, 2020

Liberty Arts Commission
City Hall
101 E. Kansas
Liberty, MO 64068

Dear Commission Members:

I am writing this letter at the request of Bill Stilfield, the commissioner responsible for Poetry and More on the Square. I am serving as a committee member working on his committee. This letter is to request \$600 for the payment of MCs for the monthly meetings/programs.

Poetry and More on the Square (formerly Poetry on the Square) has been meeting since September 2018 at the Corbin Theatre. It meets on the first Tuesday of each month from 7:00-9:00pm. During the program, poets sign up for reading time and an MC hosts/facilitates their readings from the stage. It has been a popular program with a fluid participant list of 34 people. In fact, other performers (i.e. singer/songwriters, storytellers and writers) asked if they could participate; hence the name change to Poetry and More on the Square. The Corbin Theatre provides use of the theatre free of charge as their contribution to the partnership between it and the LAC.

In August-September 2019, Poetry and More on the Square also sponsored an exhibit at the Mid-Continent Public Library-Liberty Branch. One of the MCs, Kevin Callahan, assisted poets in formatting and framing their poetry for the exhibit, then held their August program at the library instead of Corbin Theatre. The program was successful with both readers and new listeners attending.

During the time I was a commissioner, \$1500 in funding was requested and received for materials and speakers for the public art exhibits and programs I oversaw. The agreement with the LAC was that speakers would receive \$50.00 per activity. Speakers included those artists who presented programs with their visual art exhibits, and MCs/special guests for Poetry and More on the Square.

Because I am no longer a commissioner, I did not realize that the request for funding for 2020 had not been made. I am, therefore, requesting \$600 through Bill Stilfield (the commissioner to whom I report) to pay MCs for each month of the year.

This year, the MCs will not only be responsible for moderating the program, but also for sending out reminders of the program to participants and publicizing the event through Facebook and participant involvement. By adding increased responsibility for the MCs, it is hoped that full accountability will gradually be extended to the MCs since I am out of the country for 4 months every year. We have two enthusiastic MCs who have agreed to serve this year. They have each other's contact information so that if they become unavailable for one of their months, they can contact each other to fill-in for them.

Attached is a list of participants/sponsors, the schedule for the MCs and a four-month compilation of evaluations by participants. Midway through the evaluation process, we started asking for zip codes of the participants and have found that well over ½ of the participants are from outside of Liberty, meeting the goal of the bed tax to bring visitors from outside of Liberty to its arts events.

I hope you will agree to funding (including retroactively for January, February and March 2020) this worthwhile program. Please contact me or Bill Stilfield if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Carol Kariotis

Poetry and More on the Square
(first Tuesday of each month, 7-9pm)

| Date | MC |
|-------------|-----------------|
| 6-Jan | David A. Hughes |
| 4-Feb | Kevin Callahan |
| 3-Mar | David A. Hughes |
| 7-Apr | Kevin Callahan |
| 5-May | David A. Hughes |
| 2-Jun | Kevin Callahan |
| 7-Jul | David A. Hughes |
| 4-Aug | Kevin Callahan |
| 1-Sep | David A. Hughes |
| 6-Oct | Kevin Callahan |
| 3-Nov | David A. Hughes |
| 1-Dec | Kevin Callahan |

David A. Hughes - 816-694-9696

Kevin Callahan - 484-410-5433

| Poetry and More on the Square (PAMOTS) | |
|---|--|
| Name | Email Address |
| Anthony | tuvoksecurity@gmail.com |
| Appleby, Angela | akaangelaappleby09@yahoo.com |
| Barge, Laura | lwbarge@gmail.com |
| Boswell, Jane | kybosh1952@kc.rr.com |
| Callahan, Kevin | kevin@bsfqady.com |
| Cenac, Greg | greg.cenac@icloud.com |
| Cordero, Bella Grace | bellagracedordero@gmail.com |
| Davis, Linda Kay | agilespirit513@gmail.com |
| Dozier, William Edward | wllm666@yahoo.com |
| Eiker, Sharon | wordwoman69@hotmail.com |
| Favorite, Zach | mzifavorite@gmail.com |
| Hatfield, Steve | shatfield12@kc.rr.com |
| Hughes, David Arnold | amadon2000@yahoo.com |
| Johnson, Kaycee | kayceejohnson@yahoo.com |
| Johnson, Michael | michael/johnson.nws@gmail.com |
| Johnston, Paul | paul.d.johnston@gmail.com |
| Kariotis, Carol | kariotisc@aol.com |
| Kisner, Dr. James W. | jwkisner2@gmail.com |
| Kuntz, Gary | galirahi@aol.com |
| Kuntz, Linda | lharilaq@aol.com |
| McCann, Polly | pollyamccann@gmail.com |
| Minges, Sarah | sminges2015@gmail.com |
| Mitchell, Andrea | andreaknurse@gmail.com |
| Nathan, Alice | arnathan53@yahoo.com |
| Reynolds, Jeni | artworksbyjenireynolds@gmail.com |
| Reynolds, Julie | srandjrandjr@gmail.com |
| Riggs, Tom | riggs14@gmail.com |
| Roberts, Lauren | lms_roberts@yahoo.com |
| Sanders, Poet T. L. | poet.tlsanders@gmail.com |
| Santiago-Apazeller, Rebecca | r.s.apazeller@gmail.com |
| Stewart, Ron | stewartron33@gmail.com |
| Stilfield, Bill | cmgrec@earthlink.net |
| Stockham, Katherine | kmstockham@yahoo.com |
| Thomas, Maggie | mattsmommy79@yahoo.com |
| Underwood, Rachel | underwoodrachel@yahoo.com |
| von Aswege, Karen | kvamalibu@yahoo.com |
| Wallace, Rachel | carlea@gmail.com |
| Wallace, Rhys | rysthehuman@gmail.com |
| White, Dennis | dwhite1953@hotmail.com |
| White, Rich | rwhite1776@gmail.com |
| Williams, Ruth | williamsr@william.jewell.edu |
| Wulf, Troy | troywulfe@yahoo.com |
| Zeigler, Michael | trubador81@sbcglobal.net |

Program Evaluation

Program title or subject: Poetry and More on the Square, 3-3-2020 24 participants

Please rate this program by circling the rating or answer with which most agree.

1. Theme or subject of this program:

| | | | | |
|------|---------------|---------|------|-----------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| poor | below average | average | good | excellent |
| | | | /// | //// // |

2. Quality of program:

| | | | | |
|------|---------------|---------|------|-----------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| poor | below average | average | good | excellent |
| | | | /// | //// // |

3. You learned something new or interesting:

| | | | | |
|------|---------------|---------|------|-----------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| poor | below average | average | good | excellent |
| | | // | /// | //// // |

4. Would you like to see this program repeated?

Yes //// // // // _____ No _____

5. Would you recommend this type of program to others?

Yes //// // // // _____ No _____

Comments – what you liked best or suggestions for improvement
(feel free to also use the back of this evaluation)

Diverse poets from all over the city

Amazing, heartwarming, encouraging

It feels like a community where everyone wants to know your name

The world needs more opportunities like this one

Loved it! Very welcoming environment.

Love this event!

Nice time!

AWESOME!!!!

Sometimes I think feedback ala a workshop, would be worthwhile; other times I don't think that at all.

We need audience.

I hope this grows.

What is your zip code or city of residence?

64068-Liberty - 4

66204-Overland Park

64155

64117 - 2

64119

64116

64024 – Excelsior Springs- 2

64062 -3

64151

64079

Program Evaluation

Program title or subject: Poetry and More on the Square,
60 evaluations (compilation of 4 evenings of evaluations turned in). Not every participant filled out evaluation and not every question was answered by all (i.e. zip codes, emails, comments)

Please rate this program by circling the rating or answer with which most agree.

1. Theme or subject of this program:

| | | | | |
|------|---------------|---------|--------------|--------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| poor | below average | average | good | excellent |
| | | | 23.5% | 76.5% |

2. Quality of program:

| | | | | |
|------|---------------|---------|------------|------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| poor | below average | average | good | excellent |
| | | | 30% | 70% |

3. You learned something new or interesting:

| | | | | |
|------|---------------|-----------|------------|------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| poor | below average | average | good | excellent |
| | | 4% | 25% | 71% |

4. Would you like to see this program repeated?

Yes 100% No _____

5. Would you recommend this type of program to others?

Yes 100% No _____

Comments – what you liked best or suggestions for improvement
(feel free to also use the back of this evaluation):

- Wide range of topics/thoughts expressed
- Everything was awesome! Good space, Good vibrations, awesome readers to have courage to show off their passion. Thank you for providing space.
- A fun evening. The jazz was very nice! A good touch.
- Great! First time here. It was lovely!
- I liked the atmosphere of it all. I can't think of any improvements, but it would always be lovely to see more people.
- Get a better MC
- The number of readers continues to increase. Love piano and song during intermission.
- Thank you all for the information. Excited about the gallery show (of our poetry).
- I would like to see more word get out throughout Metro.
- Fun night!
- I like the different types of poetry and music
- Great opportunity to hear local artists
- Wide array of poems and lively upbeat music

- So much performance and poetry variety make for a wonderful evening
- I felt like I was amongst friends. I felt 100% okay to be myself and share a part of me that I only spend time with alone. I also liked that there was liquid confidence to purchase.
- I love the warm and welcome feeling for new readers and writers.
- A great and needed venue – Please press on!
- Great crowd. Loved the poetry. Professional presenter.
- Fun reading, well attended, enjoyed meeting William Jewell College students.
- Loved the NEW poets. Amazing!
- The evening was wonderful. The MC, David, was great. The variety of drinks and snacks was perfect. I really enjoyed listening to everyone: it inspired me to start writing!
- No judgement! Free speech!
- I like the idea of poetry and creative writing for the next program (maybe original songs too).
- Contact Ruth Williams' poetry class students at William Jewell.
- November!
- Very nice venue. I'm used to reading in bars and coffee shops.
- Always something new and interesting! November is a must!
- Please have the open mic in November!!!
- Want to see another in November!
- Loved the entire evening.
- Please host in November.
- Wonderful poets.
- Thank you for allowing a variety of speakers and formats.
- Different voices from different walks of life; young and old came together to share their voices and listen to others. Everyone respected others, encouraged others, etc. I feel like I am in a safe place. NOVEMBER!
- Fun evening with friends!
- WONDERFUL. Bombard me! (in response to my comment that we would not bombard participants with emails)

What is your zip code or city of residence?

Liberty – 8
 KC North – 1
 KC (Staley area) - 1
 Lake Waukomis – 2
 Independence – 3
 Blue Springs – 5
 Gladstone - 2
 Clay Como – 1
 Parkville - 2
 Platte City - 1
 Overland Park - 1

If you would like to be added to our mailing list, please write your email address:

30 wanted their email addresses on roster

SPAM Online Form Submittal: 2020 Annual Art Grant**

message

noreply@civicplus.com <noreply@civicplus.com>
jthill@libertymo.gov, crodgers@libertymo.gov

Wed, Feb 19, 2020 at 7:32 P

2020 Annual Art Grant

Applicant Information

| | |
|--|--|
| Organization Name (If Applicable) | Kathak Aura |
| Address | 13709 Bradshaw street |
| Contact Name | Garima Yadav |
| Title | Artistic Director |
| Email | garimayadav2004@yahoo.com |
| Phone | 9138324362 |
| Project Name | Stories of the Silk Route - Classical Indian Recital |
| Has this project been held before? | No |
| If yes, please list the years and locations | <i>Field not completed.</i> |
| List any additional co-sponsors of the project: | <i>Field not completed.</i> |
| List any other organizations, government entities and/or grants that have offered financial support of the project: | Kathak Aura |
| Do you intend to request support from businesses in the form of sponsorships, donations, materials or other means that will assist you in executing the project? | Yes |
| Is this a ticketed event? | No |
| If yes, please list price of ticket, admission, entry fee: | <i>Field not completed.</i> |
| Total Liberty Arts Commission grant funds requested (not to exceed \$5,000): | \$5000 |

Related Documents

| | |
|--|---|
| Budget | Budget.xlsx |
| Work Sample 1 | WorkSample2.docx |
| Work Sample 2 | WorkSample1.docx |
| Work Sample 3 | InterUrban_Art_House_Recommendation_2019-02-12.docx |
| Work Sample 4 | Nelson_Recommendation_2019-02-13.pdf |
| Non-profit 501(c)3 Documents (If Applicable) | <i>Field not completed.</i> |

(Section Break)

Narrative Questions

Please describe your proposed project, including activities, location and the number of people to be served.

I am pleased to present this proposal for your review. I look forward to partnering with the City of Liberty, to present a classical Indian dance recital featuring world renowned artists, musicians and dancers. The objective is to rise cultural awareness and foster community involvement in arts. The proposed program will showcase the dance form called Kathak (see <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kathak>) which has its origin in storytelling. Centuries of evolution has improvised technique and incorporated various contemporary stories of the east. The event will present a rich and vibrant program that all in the community can cherish and enjoy.

The proposed event will be a 2-hour live recital and will feature percussion artists from India, sitarist from New York and vocalist from India as well. The dancers on stage will be students of Kathak Aura (see here <https://www.facebook.com/KathakAura/>) and myself as the artistic director. All artists on stage are world renowned and have achieved excellence in their own fields. There will be an opportunity to meet the artists and talk about their experiences and journey after the program.

The event will be held in Liberty Performing Arts Theatre (LPAT), Liberty MO. The venue is right in the heart of the city and is a cultural center for arts, music and dance. It has a community recreation center where other community classes and events occur. People visiting the center inquire about activities at LPAT and how they can enhance their cultural experience via various programs hosted. The venue seats 700+ people and I expect the connoisseurs from Kansas City, Overland Park, Leawood and Liberty to attend the show. Invitees from local communities, dance/ music schools will be invited to enjoy the experience. Special guests from out of town will also be invited to attend, these include celebrated artists in Indian classical dance from St. Louis, New York, Dallas and Miami. These are accomplished artists in the field of Indian dance and music who have made immense contribution to arts in their communities (see sample work attachment for invitees). The event is attempts to showcase Kathak and attempt to bring common understanding of arts.

classical music and dance. Audience will be able to relate how rhythm and melody are universal concepts and need no additional explanation or translation to be enjoyed. The program includes an invocation piece, followed by fast paced traditional dance set to a specific beat cycle (performed by percussion instruments) and interlaced with melody of the stringed instrument. Various abstract movements with hands and feet including intricate pirouettes are performed to the recitation. Additional musical pieces will also be performed and set to group choreography and display the versatility of the dance form. The program content will also include pieces which narrate traditional stories. Some of the pieces have been practices, taught and craft fully handed from one generation of dancer to the next. Elements of dance performed during the event will bring to life 2000+ years of history, tradition and evolution of art. Kathak as an art form has been improvised and influenced by thousands of years of human evolution and civilization. Travelers, musicians, poets, scholars travelling the silk route influenced the art, infused new ideas and added intricate movements to the dance. Over periods of time, individual artists and thinkers added new pieces and thus an ever-expansive repertoire exists which includes elements of pure dance, traditional and contemporary storytelling, dynamic musical choreographies, dialog via expression and much more. When all elements of the dance are experienced it creates a meditative atmosphere leading the audience towards an experience or sentiment never felt before.

Briefly describe the value of your project as a way to attract outside visitors to Liberty. Include descriptions of the intended audience and estimated numbers. Why will this project be particularly attractive to tourists?

I am a local artist who resides in Overland Park and is deeply committed to the state of the arts in community. I have learned and taught Indian classical dance for more than 15 years and have a mission to showcase the commonalities in culture and thought using dance as a medium.

Over the years I have performed in local schools, colleges, community centers, outreach programs and various event and have developed deep relations with other artist in the community. I have also been deeply involved with grants commission in Arts KC and have seen keen interest in eastern culture. I have come to realize the importance of dialog between various art forms and understood how to bridge the gap between observing and understand art. I wish to bring all my experience as a performer, teacher, educator and community leader to showcase classical Kathak dance an exquisite art as it relates to everyday life and is comprehensible by viewers from all walks of life. The stories of the silk route as a narration of thousand-year history with live music, elaborate costume, jewelry and performed in intricate detail will attracted general attention and raised inquisitiveness. The connoisseurs from greater Kansas City have had a glimpse of the Kathak dance form as my dance school have performed over the years at various programs and venues. One such event was organized in conjunction with the City of Liberty in August 2017. I had presented a 1-hour solo Kathak recital; the event was very successful and highly appreciated. The proposed event is with live music and on a more elaborate scale. This is an event to expand the cultural horizon and will be a free event open to the public.

While most of the audience will be artists (performer, dancers, musicians, painters etc.) the event is not restrictive in its audience. It will be widely advertised in an around the greater Kansas City and on social media platforms to include audience from all communities. Prior understanding of dance or music is not required to attend the program. Approximately 400+ invitees will be personally invited to the event. The intention is to showcase the event to around 600-700 people.

The intention of the program is not entirely to entertain but also to educate on every aspect of Kathak and how art brings communities together. The rich culture, heritage, history Kathak brings and how it has evolved over generations is worth witnessing. While being a traditional art it is also very modern in its teaching and approach. The mathematics and precision of the rhythm are always open to interpretation and improvisation. Interwoven scales of melody are easily understood by the audience as music is a universal language. Bringing artists and general community to witness a live dialog will generate new thought, fresh ideas and bring collaboration among artists to solve for challenges. This is a great event to attract tourists and visitors who are looking for exquisite programs the community has to offer. This is an event to explore unique experiences in Liberty and showcase cultural diversity.

Provide a brief timeline for the project (planning, implementation and evaluation).

Venue Confirmation (Liberty Performing Arts Theater) Feb-20 In Progress There is a HOLD on the date at Liberty Performing arts Theater; will be confirming the venue by end of Feb-2020
Artist Confirmation and travel booking Mar-20 Not Started
Hotel arrangements and other logistics Mar-20 Not Started
Visa Applications and document submission for artists travelling from India Feb-20 In Progress

Sound Track recording Feb-20 Not Started Recording studio has been booked, track will be finalized by last week of March 2020.

Finalize sound and light requirements Apr-20 In Progress

Create Flyers for digital and print media Apr-20 In Progress

Rough draft is complete

Advertise on Social media Mar-20 Not Started

Distribute flyers at other event venues, restaurants etc. May-20 Not Started

Manage guests and special invitees Feb-20 In Progress Save the date for the event has been sent. Out of town guests have been invited and rsvp's are being collected

Execution

Artist

Master classes (10 days before the event, conducted by Prerana Deshpande) May-20 Not Started Includes improvisation of techniques, refinement of choreography, finalize flow of the program and adjustments to program content

Rehearsal scheduling with all performers and musicians (All day event 2 days before the event)

Evaluation

Feedback (online poll via facebook) Jun-20

Describe the credentials and experience of the project leadership. Who are the artists and others to be involved in the project; including how and why they were chosen. (If you have not yet selected the artists, describe the kinds of artists you intend to involve and how you will select them.)

I am in an individual performing artist specializing in the north Indian classical dance form Kathak. I have learned Kathak for over 15 years and continue to do so. I have taught and performed dance in Kansas City for the past 10 years. I have had the pleasure of performing in various venues around the United States and in India including Nelson Atkins Museum of Art, Alvin Ailey Dance Company in New York, Palace of Fine Arts in San Francisco, International Dance festival in St. Louis etc. Currently, I serve on the grants committee for Arts KC and help evaluate application from artists in greater Kansas City area. I am keenly involved in the Ethnic Commission of KC to foster arts from all ethnic background.

Kathak Aura is my dance company which specialized in the teaching and fostering traditional Kathak style of art. Students of all ages learn techniques of Kathak and over years specialize in performing arts. Students have the opportunity to interact with visiting artists from the US and India to learn new choreographies and add to their repertoire. The dance company is well known in an around KC and have been invited to perform in various events around the city including Passport to India (at the Nelson Atkins Museum of Art) and Future Stages Festival at Kauffman Center. I will be leading the performance along with my senior students. The students have been through 8+ years of rigorous learning and practice schedule to be considered a part of the event.

Classical Indian dance is always accompanied by live musicians and instruments. For Kathak dancing essential accompaniments include Sitar (stringed instrument), Tabla (Indian drums) and Pakhwaj (very traditional Indian drum) along with a live narrator. The dancer performs to the rhythm and melody of these instruments as recited to the language of the dance. Perfect synchronization between the dancer and the musicians is required to bring a harmonious live experience and hence effective communication between the artists is essential. Each artist chosen has extensive experience in their field and have performed with various artists around the world. Their experience is highly valuable as they bring versatility to the stage. Bringing on the spot improvisations and dialog through music and dance are their forte. The accompanying artists are chosen based on their caliber, their performance level etc.

They are highly acclaimed, very well respected and considered subject matter experts in their field. The accompanying and performing artists are listed below with their details are included.

Artists:

Prerana Deshpande:

Acknowledged by connoisseurs as a Complete Kathak Dancer of rare caliber, Prerana Deshpande is internationally acclaimed as a creative artist whose work reveals the perpetually expanding horizons of the traditional form. Trained by the great maestro, Guru Dr. Rohini Bhate - a doyen of Kathak for over 22 years and Gurus Sharadini Gole, Prerana has extended the frontiers of her dance tradition to evolve her own distinctive

effortless synchronization of aesthetics, playful rhythm, graceful expression and haunting music". In her choreography, drawing on her knowledge of music and the rich, nuanced vocabulary of classical Indian dance, Prerana explores the complex layers of meaning in various themes, giving them a physical interpretation. Visit <http://www.preranadeshpande.com/> for more information.

Supreet Deshpande: Supreet Deshpande is a third-generation musician in the illustrious family of noted musicologist Late Pt. S.B. Deshpande. Initiated into world of Tabla at a young age of four by his grandfather, Supreet has since learnt for over 20 years from his father; Tabla virtuoso and noted Guru Pt. Kiran Deshpande – the foremost disciple and worthy successor of the legendary Ustad Shaikh Dawood Khan of Hyderabad – the doyen of Delhi - Farrukhabad gharanas'. He has also learnt the intricacies of Taal – kriya from Taalyogi Pt. Suresh Talwalkar. Doing justice to the predictions by renowned critics and love showered by connoisseurs, Supreet is today acknowledged as one of the most accomplished Tabla players of his generation. He is one of those rare artists of his generation who are sought after soloists and preferred accompanist to vocal, instrumental music and Kathak dance. Visit <https://www.facebook.com/panditsupreetdeshpande/>

Abhik Mukherjee: Abhik Mukherjee is a Kolkata born sitar player of the Etawah-Imdadkhani gharana. He is a disciple of Maestro Pandit Arvind Parikhji and Pandit Kashinath Mukherjee (from India). His first performance was at the age of nine at the governor house, Kolkata. Since then he has performed across four continents till date. He is currently the director of Academic Affairs at Chhandayan, New York city. He has played with world renowned artists from around the world and is multi-skilled in playing the sitar. Artist information can be found at <http://abhikmukherjee.com/>

Krushna Salunke: Krushna is very talented and upcoming Pakhwaj artist from India. Pakhwaj is a very old and traditional drum instrument and is not an instrument commonly played in the United States. For major events in the US, Pakhwaj artist are invited from India. It requires years of dedicated practice and mastery of rhythm. Krushna has years of learning under Maestro Suresh T. (visit <http://www.sureshtalwalkar.com/>) who is well known in India and abroad for his skills on the tabla and pakhwaj. He has accompanied various artists and dancers on stage and has been highly acclaimed. Links to some of his performances are <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VaODzHnBDFw&feature=youtu.be> and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hSQpjttJTCM&feature=youtu.be>

How will you know if this project has been successful? State the goals you will have achieved by its conclusion.

Main goal is to provide the wider audience in Liberty with an exquisite cultural experience while also showcasing local talent. Most of the performing artists are from the greater Kansas City area, and this event would give them an opportunity for them to showcase their talent. The involvement of different community volunteers to bring this event to life will be also be an achievement.

benchmarks will you use to assure progress toward your goals? Afterward, what tools will you use to evaluate whether or not the goals were achieved?

additional time in case finer details need to be worked out or an alternate plan needs to be implemented. At every step of the way completion of the activity in the timeline is a benchmark against which progress of the program can be measured. A lot of preparation and planning happens much before the program and success of the event is hugely depend on that. The number of inquiries prior to the event and the turnout at the event is a good measure if the event was successful.

Surveys will be handed out at the event and published on social media platforms to measure evaluation of the project. A meet and greet with the performing artists and musicians after the program will be facilitated so the audience can get a change to ask clarifying questions and talk about their experiences.

Kathak Aura offers not only traditional classes and instruction in Indian classical dancing but also facilitates dialog in community experiences and exploring art in everyday American lives.

Driving traffic after the event to the website will also be a measure of the goal.

Briefly describe how the project will be publicized and promoted to reach potential tourists, as well as the general public. All marketing materials must include the LAC logo and language stating the project was made possible in part by the LAC.

The intent is to promote the event via printed materials and advertising but also use social media platforms. Having worked in the greater Kansas City community and being actively involved in arts, has yielded many community contacts and great relationships to work with for local events. Arts KC is a great place for artists to showcase local talent and bring new works to light. I will be showcasing the event on Arts KC event page to reach out to a wider audience. I will be reaching to the local community colleges as part of the arts education series to generate interest in the program. Johnson county community college, Kansas City community college and Park University are educational institutions where events can be posted online and on the bulletin boards. I have contact with the arts and other teaching faculty to help promote the event and students from these colleges have attended my events in the past. Additionally, I will be reaching out to University of Kansas foreign students' faculty to help share the event with student bodies. The event flyer and details will also be sent to the KU students and faculty as part of their monthly newsletter. I will also be sharing the digital flyer with the UMKC Student body to be distributed via event newsletter.

Local artists are a big part of making the event successful. I have worked with the greater KC performing artists group to help organize and generate community involvement. I have worked with Inter-Urban Art House, the Nelson Atkins Museum of Art and other well-known and established institutes to provide additional advertising via their patrons.

Facebook, Instagram, twitter etc. provide features for paid event advertising to local communities. I have had great success with Facebook's model for paid advertising where an event is featured or showcased as sponsored to people in local counties. I intend to print posters and handout flyers at local restaurants and local grocery stores in Kanas City (MO/KS), Liberty (close LPAT), Overland Park and Leawood. Print materials will also be placed at the Liberty community center to raise awareness in the local community.

Describe the extent of

Art thrives via community support and involvement. It needs the

collaboration/partnerships,
financial and in-kind
contributions, volunteers, etc.

Students of Kathak Aura are active participant in community event and volunteer on a regular basis at various venues around the city. The students and the parents are committed making the recital a grand success. Previous events have exposed them to the what it takes to organize such an event. it includes sound and audio check, programming stage lights, seating plan, ensuring posters and flyers are distributed, the event starts on time and checking backstage performers for the next item. Various artists from the local community in and around Overland park have helped in organizing guest list, managing rsvps and hosting out of town guests. My friends in the community have been very generous in providing financial support to support new ideas and keep traditions alive. I have a very close-knit community of family and friends who have actively offered support and help in organizing the events. Every aspect of the event is well thought through in advance and dedicated teams of volunteered are assigned in advance. This ensures program starts in a timely fashion and is executed flawlessly. The event coordinators, photo and videographer for the event have already been contacted.

I have listed a few organizations who have provided valuable support by volunteering, advertising or financial assistance in previous events:

- a) India association of KC (<https://www.iakc.org/>)
- b) Channda Kannda Sanga (<http://www.ckskc.org/>)
- c) Interurban art house (<http://www.interurbanarthouse.org/>)
- d) Hindu Temple of KC (<https://www.htccofkc.org/>)
- e) Nelson Atkins Museum of Art (<https://www.nelson-atkins.org/>)
- f) Kanas City Kansas Community College (<https://www.kckcc.edu/>)
- g) Johnson County Community College (<https://www.jccc.edu/>)

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)

NEW YORK KATHAK FESTIVAL - 2019

YOUTUBE

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Uhl4ZTaPEtQ>

The New York Kathak Festival is an international festival hosted annually (see <https://www.nykathakfestival.com/>). Internationally acclaimed Kathak artists from around the world are invited to perform, showcase and premier their work. **Kathak- Aura** was selected to showcase their traditional Kathak repertoire. Classical Indian dance is deep rooted in tradition and the dance form has evolved over centuries. Every generation of artists brings their own prospective to the art form by enhancing performance techniques and incorporating contemporary stories in the repertoire. Traditional pieces are learned over years and every artist incorporates his/ her contemporary view. Thus, over period the art progresses in thought and provides room for individualistic expression.

This was the vision for the New York Kathak Festival. The group performed to a traditional beat cycle and melody. The basis of the Kathak dancing is the repetitive beat cycle at varying speeds to which elaborate hand and feet movements are performed. For the festival, a 10-beat cycle was selected, overlaid with the melody of the Sitar (stringed instrument). Dancing to the beat cycle is mostly abstract movements which includes pirouettes and footwork performed to mathematical patterns. The group performed intricate patterns of footwork by breaking each beat into smaller measures and performing synchronized hand and feet movement with precision.

The treatment of storytelling was very distinct. Choreographies and pieces learned over decades were finessed and, in some cases, brought to life by fast movements and elaborate pirouettes. The performance was highly acclaimed and appreciated by the live audience. Eminent performers and thinkers in Kathak were part of the audience who bestowed us with excellent feedback and encouraged us to continue our passion.



ARTIST STATEMENT

YOUTUBE LINKS

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uYYqIACMILw&list=PLJExRsuPHKDWI-F5T1sI3yIBCFCu_uLk&index=10&t=0s

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GKdQN3i4BKl&list=PLJExRsuPHKDWI-F5T1sI3yIBCFCu_uLk&index=3&t=0s

<https://www.instagram.com/p/BrsVkjAhD1S/?iashid=dphhk8cpnks8>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JQ-UeJoPkRs>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KSwp6WuNrB8>

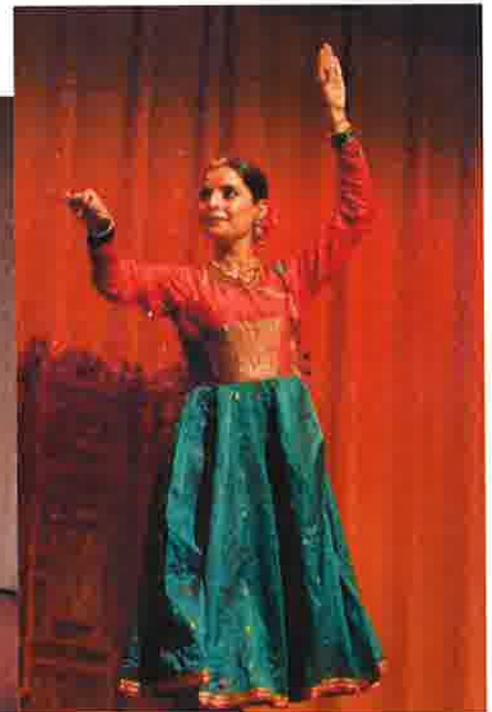
I am a classical performance artist who born in India and studied under the tutelage of esteemed teacher and Guru Prerana Deshpande. I have been learning Indian style of classical dance called Kathak for the past 15 years. From an early age, I had keen interest in learning and performing Indian classical dance. I had initially learned south Indian style of dance called 'Bharatnatyam' for 5 years before switching to Kathak as the main style of performance. My passion has been to learn traditional repertoire and bring to life the texts and stories told by Kathak artists for centuries. Kathak has the unique tradition of adapting to contemporary themes hence providing a platform for the artists creativity to thrive. My choreographies reflect the 2000+ years of tradition with emphasis on technique and poignant emotional sensibility.

My work and presentations are inspired by very traditional choreographies deep rooted in Indian history, culture and influence on technique and repertoire by travelling musicians, poets, dancers and performers over the centuries. Stories of God, Goddesses, historical events and contemporary influences is incorporated and an integral part of classical Kathak presentation today. My attempt is to learn these stories and the advance technique in abhinaya (dance expressed through facial expressions and subtle body movements) to bring to life, the journey and evolution of Kathak.

As with all classical dances, Kathak is based on specific rules performed with abstract movements, footwork and spins governed by understanding of the time cycle and performing to the rhythm. All aspects of the technique are perfected over years of learning and practicing. The origins of the dance stem from the ancient practice of yoga and meditation. An amalgamation of the story telling, and yoga evolved Kathak as a meditative form of art. Learning and practicing the art creates an awareness and introspect into one's soul. Practicing Kathak over decades has created an internal harmony and happiness that is reflect on and off stage. My performances reflect the eternal beauty and divine inspiration of the art. My students are also taught in the same traditional setting and with the same rigor as has been over centuries by Guru's (teachers) to their students. I feel my work is most successful when it allows the audience to feel that they are witnessing a remarkable event while simultaneously connecting to our universal human nature.

Disciplined learning of the art is important and so is its presentation. Kathak is usually presented to live music which includes a drum instrument (table player), string instrument (like a sitar or sarangi), flute,

harmonium (Indian keyboard), a classical singer and a narrator who recites the syllables of Kathak and other mathematical patterns. Learning to incorporate different instruments in the art and performing in harmony is an important aspect of learning. My attempt is to understand Indian classical music and singing and its relationship to dance. Various patterns of the drum instruments can be performed differently in Kathak and musical pieces can be expressed with various interpretations. My intention is to understand these interconnected pieces and bring to life choreographies that are educative, collaborative, technically virtuous, and culturally rich.



| Artist | Artist Fee | Artist Travel | |
|--|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| Abhik Mukhrjee (Sitar) | \$500 | \$500 | |
| Supreet Deshpande (Tabla) | \$500 | \$500 | |
| Krushna (Indian drums) | \$500 | \$500 | |
| Prerana Deshpande(Recitation) | \$1,000 | \$500 | |
| Hotel Accomodations for artists | \$1,000 | | |
| Studio rental for practice | \$500 | | |
| Auditorium Rental | \$1,000 | | |
| Sound and equipment Rental | \$500 | | |
| Lights (Programmed) | \$200 | | |
| Photographer | \$500 | | |
| Videographer | \$500 | | |
| Digital Media Advertisign | \$200 | | |
| Promotional Material printing | \$200 | | |
| Sound Track Recording | \$500 | | |
| Visa sponsorship fee | \$1,000 | | |
| Totals | \$8,600 | \$2,000 | \$10,600 |
| Kathak- Aura dance company sponsor | | | \$4,600 |
| Sponsorship for local hotel for accomodation | | | \$1,000 |
| Expected grant amount | | | \$5,000 |



INTERURBAN / ARTHOUSE

About the program

Garima Yadav performed at the Interurban Arthouse in September 2018 as part of the 'Tangled Roots' series. The program was an attempt to showcase cultural diversity in the greater Kansas City area. Garima, presented classical Indian dance style called 'Kathak' along with her students. Her presentation included a lecture about the history of the art form, the origins and the influence of society over the ages, on Kathak a north Indian style of classical dance. She presented in much detail about both the Hindu and Muslim influences on the repertoire, abstract syllables and the costume. The story telling form was well explained during the demonstration with which included musical and traditional pieces with recitation. The command over rhythm and melody is something which was naturally exemplified in the presentation.

The session also included elaborate rhythmic foot work illustrations by her students. The mathematical complexity and dexterity of the patterns were very well presented. The showcase of the various elements of the dance outlined her competence in various aspects of the art. Abstract art with gestures, expressions and elaborate pirouettes were appreciated by the audience. Various dimensions of Kathak were expressed and emphasized upon.

She demonstrated great command over the dance form and was very well versed with various aspects of the presentation. The gap between simply viewing the dance and understanding the art with all its intricacies was well bridged. She has also been teaching her students in a traditional setting and they demonstrated great discipline and enthusiasm to keep traditional art alive. Her dedication to the art was evident in the presentation and knowledge.

Intention for the Grant:

The grant will allow for me to travel to India and learn in an intimate setting with my Teacher (Guru). I wish to learn more intricate, advanced and very traditional pieces which have been taught over centuries. Each piece has a unique history behind it and every teacher has along the way has added to the creativity of the art. I wish to understand how the robust framework of Indian classical dance allows for fluidity in thought and expression. This will help root my dance in traditions while exploring contemporary influences.

We are grateful for Garima's contribution to the deep, rich and varied culture of our community.
Sincerely,

Nicole Emanuel, Founder, Artistic Director



Sarah Hyde Schmiedeler <shyde@nelson-atkins.org>
To: Garima Yadav

Feb 13 at 1:31 PM

To Whom it May Concern:

Garima Yadav has performed at each of the annual Passport to India festivals at The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art in Kansas City, Missouri since 2012. She is a talented dancer who has presented the north Indian style of classical dance called Kathak in our main hall and in our auditorium. These free cultural festivals attract approximately 5,000 guests.

Sincerely,

Sarah

Sarah Hyde Schmiedeler
Francis Family Foundation Educator, Family Programs & Events
The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art
4525 Oak Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64111
816-751-0402 (direct)

The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art
Where the power of art engages the spirit of community.
nelson-atkins.org