



Missouri Arts Council creates Featured Artists Program to highlight individual artists throughout the state

ST. LOUIS, February 11, 2021 — The Missouri Arts Council, the state agency supporting the arts for all Missourians, has a new initiative to promote individual Missouri artists and demonstrate the variety of Missouri talent: Featured Artists Program. Every month, four artists from throughout the state are being highlighted via the Missouri Arts Council’s communications venues and on the Council’s website at missouriartscouncil.org.

“Artists are the backbone of our creative state,” said Michael Donovan, Missouri Arts Council executive director. “Our Featured Artists Program is designed not only to support artists, but to enable Missourians to enjoy outstanding art they might not otherwise experience.”

The program will continue at least through June. These artists are being featured so far:

Columbia

Anand Prahlad – nonfiction author, poet, musician/songwriter, filmmaker, teaching artist

Hannibal

Brenda Beck Fisher – watercolor painter

Kansas City

Anne Garney – landscape oil painter

Whitney Manney – fashion and textile designer

Kirksville

Lindsey Dunnagan – multimedia painter

Lee’s Summit

Wanda K. Tyner – glass artist

Mexico

Justin Hamm – poet, photographer

St. Joseph

Robin VanHoozer – encaustic painter, multi-media artist

St. Louis

Jeffrey Noonan – performer, teacher, and scholar of Early Music

Bobby Norfolk – storyteller, nonfiction author, teaching artist

Brian Owens – soul musician/vocalist

Webb City

F.C. Shultz – fiction and nonfiction author, poet

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Artists who live in Missouri and create or perform in any medium are eligible to be considered for the program. “We are highlighting artists who work in visual art, literature, music, video, dance, theater, storytelling, traditional arts and more,” Donovan said. “We encourage all artists to apply to be considered.” Information about applying is included on the Missouri Arts Council’s website at missouriarts.council.org/featured-artists.

The program will continue at least through June 2021.

About the Missouri Arts Council

The Missouri Arts Council provides support to nonprofit organizations through grants that meet its strategic goals: 1) engage people in meaningful arts experiences, 2) grow Missouri’s economy using the arts, 3) strengthen Missouri education through the arts. This funding makes quality arts programming possible in communities statewide. The Council also provides expertise in community development, fundraising, marketing, grant writing, arts education, and artistic disciplines (visual arts, music, literature, theater, dance, festivals, and film/media). Established as a state agency in 1965, the Missouri Arts Council is a division of the Office of the Lieutenant Governor. The Council is funded through the Missouri General Assembly, Missouri Cultural Trust, and National Endowment for the Arts.

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