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Spotlight on Arts & AGEing KC

Enhancing the Lives of Older Adults Through the Arts

Arts & AGEing KC, Inc. (AAKC) is a nonprofit organization enriching lives through creative aging. Their vision is for older adults in the Greater Kansas City area to flourish and actively participate



in lifelong learning and meaningful engagement in the arts. They are part of the rapidly expanding field of creative aging rooted in Gene Cohen's 2006 groundbreaking research findings which

demonstrate how participatory, professionally led arts programs have the potential to improve physical, mental, emotional, and social health and wellness of older adults.

AAKC is creating awareness and opportunities for partnerships and collaborations with other local, state and national initiatives. Their Founder and Executive Director, Debra Campbell, was twice invited to present at the National Center for Creative Aging Global Perspectives Conference in Washington, D.C.

AAKC provides a wide range of services and training workshops. They design and direct original programs inspired by shared life stories across generations. They are currently touring two signature plays, one about Alzheimer's and the other about the beauty behind crows feet. Their Mid-America Artful Aging Partnership Project and mobile Visual Arts Studio is meant to increase older adults access to the arts. Their Easels4Alzheimer's project showcases the artistry of persons living with dementia, and Arts S.O.S. outreach connects homebound older adults to the community. For more information, to volunteer, or help grow their mission call 816-835-6734 or email info@artsandAGEingKC.org.

We're Going Places in July and August

Saturday, July 23 Tour the National Museum of Toys and Miniatures, then enjoy lunch on your own at the famed Kansas City restaurant, Stroud's, Home of Pan Fried Chicken!



Wednesday, August 24 Take a tour of Kansas City's Sacred Spaces.
Learn about the architecture and history of St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Redemptorist Church, and Unity

Temple on the Plaza. Then enjoy lunch on your own at Unity's Eden Alley restaurant!

Community Partner Profile: Gardner Hisorical Museum

Founded in 2002, visiting the Gardner Historical Museum is like taking a step back into the past. The museum is housed in the historic Victorian home of H. B. Foster, who was a partner in the Bigelow-Foster Mercantile Company. Each room is filled with exhibits that highlight Gardner's early heritage.

Local residents have donated and loaned hundreds of artifacts to the museum, whose goal is to preserve the history of Gardner and increase awareness of the historical significance of the area and its people.

The museum is looking for volunteers who can serve a regular schedule (one 3-hour shift) or for special projects. Please contact the museum at (913) 856-4447 if you are interested in volunteering your time.