ST. LOUIS VOLUNTEER LAWYERS AND ACCOUNTANTS FOR THE ARTS

# ANNUAL REPORT FY 14

#### GREETINGS

St. Louis Volunteer Lawyers and Accountants for the Arts connects the creative community with lawyers and accountants who share our belief that success in the arts should depend on creative energy and talent, not on the ability to afford professional services. We are grateful to our volunteers and our supporters, especially the Regional Arts Commission, our landlord and most generous funder. And we salute RAC's Executive Director Jill McGuire, who is retiring after 30 years of extraordinary leadership. Her loyalty has sustained us.

#### REFERRALS

During FY14, 140 new clients received free one-on-one assistance from our volunteer lawyers and accountants, a 40 percent increase compared to FY13. With grant support from the Trio Foundation, we launched our *Sleep Better Financial Check-Up* service. It's designed to strengthen mid-sized organizations by providing expert external advice.

#### EDUCATION

We offered ten *Business Edge* seminars for individual artists of all disciplines. At the request of the Missouri Arts Council, Attorney Dan Cohn's copyright presentation was made into a video. *Accidental Arts Adminstrator*, a low-cost opportunity for those running emerging arts organizations to obtain basic training in arts management, was offered in the fall and spring. Our *Upstart* college outreach program reached more than 1,000 students. Working artists receive small stipends to make *Upstart* presentations on our behalf. And we published the fifth edition of our popular *Guide to Board Duties and Liabilities*.

#### INITIATIVES

Our grassroots *Every Artist Insured* campaign helped artists navigate the changing health insurance landscape. We co-hosted free information and enrollment sessions, provided access to easy-to-understand online information, sent many email blasts and distribute printed materials. Campaign partners included the Community Action Agency St. Louis County, Saint Louis University health law students, Nebula, KDHX, Cherokee Business Association and Cover Missouri. Thanks to our ongoing partnership with Gateway EITC Community Coalition, we provided free tax preparation to the residents of Metropolitan Artist Lofts and other low-income artists.

#### OUTREACH

Our third annual *Step Out* networking and public service event for summer associates, new hires and other law and accounting firm employees was held at the Contemporary Art Museum. *ARTtalks* combine networking opportunities with engaging arts experiences. Underwritten by UMB Bank, the FY14 program featured a tour of Saint Louis University School of Law's new home, led by the architect, and a lunch gathering at the International Photography Hall of Fame and Museum. In May, we co-hosted our annual CLE/CPE and rooftop reception with the Greater Saint Louis Community Foundation. And six law students spent part of their summer vacation being introduced to pro bono service and learning how the law relates to the unique issues raised in the arts.

#### **OUR MISSION**

St. Louis Volunteer Lawyers and Accountants for the Arts (VLAA) supports the creative community by providing free legal and accounting assistance and a wide variety of affordable educational programs. We serve artists of every discipline and career level, nonprofit cultural organizations and small arts-related businesses. Our organization enhances the region's cultural fabric and offers rewarding volunteer opportunities.

# FINANCIALS

#### **STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**

Year Ended 6/30/14

#### REVENUES

Public Funding	\$42,715
Private Funding	42,237
Program Revenue	11,019
Investments	
Total	\$99,851

#### **EXPENSES**

Program	\$72,740
Management & General	11,191
Fundraising	9,326
Total	\$93,257
Net Income	\$6,594

#### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Total Assets 6/30/13	. \$107,854
Total Assets 6/30/14	. \$107,875

# **BY THE NUMBERS**

1982 St. Louis Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts was incorporated. Accountants were added and our name changed to St. Louis Volunteer Lawyers and Accountants for the Arts in 1984.

 $1\,4\,0\,$  Number of new clients who received one-on-one assistance in FY14. Many more artists, arts administrators and board members received on-going assistance or had their questions answered over the phone or by email.

1,032 Number of college students reached by our *Upstart* program. Our speakers made 52 presentations at 14 area colleges and universities.

**19** New volunteers joined our panel in FY14, bringing our total number of volunteers to 300+.

\$16, 450 Amount donated by law and accounting firms and other corporate sponsors. Thank you!

 $$100,000^+$  Pro bono services provided by our volunteers each year.

# **S**PONSORS

JUNE 1ST, 2013 — JUNE 30TH, 2014

## \$10,000+

Missouri Arts Council Regional Arts Commission

### \$2,500-\$5,000

Emerson Charitable Trust Greater Saint Louis Community Foundation Illinois Arts Council Trio Foundation UMB Bank - St. Louis

# \$1,000

Armstrong Teasdale Deloitte Husch Blackwell KPMG PricewaterhouseCoopers RubinBrown The Catherine Manley Gaylord Foundation Thompson Coburn

## \$500

Anders CPAs + Advisors Ernst & Young Herzog Crebs Hochschild, Bloom & Company Paule, Camazine & Blumenthal Senniger Powers

## \$250

Anonymous Artmart Carmody MacDonald Cunningham, Vogel & Rost Kerber, Eck & Braeckel Klaris, Thomson & Schroeder Lewis, Rice & Fingersh Musicians' Association of St. Louis Nodiff & Billy TricorBraun, a division of Kranson Industries Weiss Attorneys at Law



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