From the Director

Bypassing the Head and Going Straight for the Heart!

It’s been said that the arts do exactly that, often having life-changing impact. It explains why Springboard to Learning programs are able to create such meaningful, memorable learning experiences for children, especially for the under-resourced.

This past year Springboard to Learning leveraged the impact of the arts on education through its work with multiple community partners.

▶ In partnership with Boeing, Springboard to Learning brought the STEAM program, IdeaBuilder, to more than 1,400 children. Boeing engineers augmented programming, sharing their personal experiences with students, connecting curriculum to the real-world.

▶ In partnership with the Repertory Theater of St. Louis and Webster Arts, Springboard to Learning engaged students in the collection of oral histories from some 60 Meacham Park residents. The collection of stories will be placed in the local library and excerpts will be performed on stage by the Rep. Webster Arts will create visual art for community display and commemoration.

▶ In partnership with the St. Louis Cardinals, student infographics, from the program Art of Baseball, were displayed at Busch Stadium and students and their families were able to see a game first-hand, courtesy of the Cardinals.

▶ In partnership with the Sheldon Concert Hall, student musical creations from the program MusicMaker came to life on the Sheldon stage. Select student work was performed live by Springboard to Learning Teaching Artists. One group of High School students found the experience cathartic, creating a song to commemorate a fellow student that lost their young life through gun violence.

Springboard-like programming touched my heart, as a young child, changing my life. Thank you for your partnership, in whatever form it takes, allowing us to touch the hearts of today’s children.

Cathy Hartmann
Executive Director

The numbers tell a strong Springboard story.

- 5,272 Program Sessions
- 126 Schools
- 12 Community Venues
- 904 Programs Delivered
- 38,725 Children Served
- 124,178 Contact Hours
- 69% Economically Disadvantaged

Quilting Artist: Juli Ann Donahue

Teaching Partner Juli Ann Donahue loves art and the American tradition of quilting.
And she loves to share her passion with St. Louis area students.
Quilting is truly a technique that connects multiple content areas into one real-world skill.

While students are engaging with the elements and principles of art, they are actively applying mathematics and fractions and learning about the significance of quilting in American history.
In addition, these young artist/scholars are demonstrating values of character education such as collaboration and perseverance.
According to the art teacher at Adams Elementary,

“Ms. Donahue’s quilting class has been an amazing experience for my students. I can see my students beginning to problem solve, help each other, and gain confidence in themselves. I am so excited to see this project completed and I would highly recommend Ms. Donahue to any school.”

Ms. Donahue is convinced that students in her program, Quilts: American History to Modern Art, are “focusing their minds and bodies for a whole brain experience.”
LUMINARIES FOR LEARNING

The Luminaries for Learning Giving Club is a key group of committed donors who have come together to ensure that our Signature programs are delivered to each child that needs them.

Our Luminaries support our programs with critically needed on-going funds. Donors agree to give on a monthly basis, selecting to participate in one of our four giving levels.

This helps Springboard to Learning continually provide the meaningful, memorable learning experiences which are so greatly needed in impoverished communities, where access to inspiring programming like STEM, music or art is less likely to occur.

On average, it costs $3072 to provide 24 children with 8 weeks of activities.

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$10,000+
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MONTHLY GIVING LEVELS

- **FIREFALL**
  - $256 a month provides eight weeks of programming for 24 children

- **TRANSFORMER**
  - $128 a month provides eight weeks of programming for 12 children

- **IGNITER**
  - $64 a month provides eight weeks of programming for 6 children

- **INSPIRER**
  - $32 a month provides eight weeks of programming for 3 children
Signature Program: The Art of Baseball

When working with young learners, it's important to find the right “hook” to build engaged investment in the learning. Created in partnership with UMSL and Dr. Carries Lautus, the Art of Baseball Signature Program provides authentic, collaborative, real-world STEAM learning through student choice and autonomy.

This program is known and enjoyed by kids for its innovative, research-based connections which effectively integrate the arts, science, math, engineering and technology into an exploration of everything baseball.

This program was designed to not only engage students in a baseball-themed STEAM project, but to increase student learning through a collaborative experience with students in their class, school, and potentially even in other cities.

In this multi-week residency, students at participating schools learn and share info about a Major League baseball team. Students lead an inquiry session with their peers to determine the desirable info/data (from both on and off the field), researching categories such as stadium design (shape, amount of material, etc.), field info (grass type, design, ground crew), player stats (batting averages, pitcher ERA, etc.), stadium stats (seating capacity, average attendance, ticket pricing, etc.), history (age of franchise, mascots, etc.), or artistic design (uniforms, logo, etc.) or any other baseball facts they find interesting.

Students then learn about research methods and quality source identification, and through the use of technology, they research their interest followed by sharing their info/data with other students, classes, or schools. The students analyze and collate all the info/data with the interesting trends and comparisons they've researched, culminating with students creating a presentation of their findings via a data-rich info-graph.

In partnership with Cardinals Care, these past two years the culminating event for all participants has been held at Busch Stadium.

Prior to a game, students present and explain their learning and info graphs to all interested peers, family members, and fans.

Let me tell you, it's a BLAST!
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