

Jackson County Arts Infrastructure
(MU Extension Arts Asset Map Jackson Co)

Overview:

MU Extension will work with ArtsKC and the Cultural Arts Advisory Committee of Jackson County to help conduct a comprehensive Arts Asset mapping of Jackson County, Missouri. MU Extension will determine the depth and breadth of arts and culture in JACO: including artists of all kinds, teachers, venues, museums, arts organizations, and community theatres, as well as arts business (creative industries).

*MU Extension also suggests that we should include other community assets that support the arts and build various capitals, such as environmental assets (farmers' markets, wineries, agritourism, etc.), built assets, etc. for this Asset Map.

Timeline: Mid May – Through the end of July 2021

Scope of Work:

1. Conduct a literature review of Art KC's initial asset data on Jackson County (this data will also be folded into our final report). The initial data provide by Arts KC will help MU Extension identify artists and arts organizations in Jackson County to help us find "the hidden gems" in the Jackson County art world.
 - a. Recruit support and participation from these organizations along with the help of Cultural Arts Advisory Committee
2. Assess regional demographic and economic conditions and trends in Jackson County.
3. Asset Mapping

We will conduct the mapping exercise in three different forms to reach the diverse and extensive county region.

 - a. (In-person) Working with the Cultural Arts Advisory Committee and local community partners, we will set up a minimum of three, small, in-person focus groups with artists and arts organizations around the county
 - b. (Virtual) In addition, we will also work with the Cultural Arts Advisory Committee to create and host five to seven virtual mapping sessions for those that cannot attend in person due to health, the current pandemic, etc.
 - c. (Survey/online) Working with Arts KC, we will create and help distribute a survey that will serve as another way to collect data for the overall asset map.
4. Identify the communities, sectors, and neighborhoods that can benefit the most from more support in local arts programming in Jackson County.
5. Complete and submit the final project report by no later than Aug 2nd.

Project Cost: (fixed price) \$9,500.00

Who we are:

The MU Extension Community Arts Program-(CAP): CAP's mission is to provide expertise and support to promote and foster art-based community and economic development in partnership with Missouri communities, University of Missouri and MU Extension. CAP employs a community asset-based framework, working with communities in 114 counties to connect to public issues, include broad participation and partner perspectives, and develop effective leadership through education and training, including youth leadership. The program uses the "arts" as a vehicle for community and economic development, while developing community capacity, and building strong community leaders around the arts.

Community Partnership Engagement Experience:

The University of Missouri Extension team has decades of experience partnering with community-based entities to strengthen neighborhoods. Projects include: door-to-door survey/needs assessment and asset mapping, gathering community input on development of a healthy corner store, community-wide social capital assessment, capacity building of local neighborhood association (WEN) including securing 501c3 status and board development, and ongoing development support for a neighborhood community center and after-school program (HEART).

Project Management Leadership:

GK Callahan has more than two decades of experience working in the community arts field, possessing in-depth and varied experience managing partnerships, projects, and programs involving resident and community engagement in neighborhoods. He has had the opportunity to work with Intersection for the Arts, The San Francisco Arts Education Project, and Yerba Buena Center for the Arts. For the last five years, he has worked for The University of Missouri Extension as a Community Arts and County Engagement specialist, where he has worked on numerous community development projects around Missouri. Alongside developing his career in contemporary art, GK has also taught, lectured, consulted, held board positions, worked with the City of San Francisco on public health policies, and founded several community projects.

Lisa Overholser draws upon her academic and community-based experience to curate relevant arts and humanities programs and to build capacity for a wide range of arts infrastructures. Since 2014, she has served as an MU Extension Field Specialist in Community Arts, utilizing a Community Development tools and approaches to integrate the arts into various aspects of community life. As Director of the St. Louis Storytelling Festival, she worked with multiple organizations and stakeholders to build social, cultural, and educational capitals. In her previous role as Director of Programs for the New York Folklore Society, she managed the Mentoring and Professional Development Program for traditional artists and developed public programs like the Hungarian Dancehouse Series; an Erie Canal Heritage Corridor Cultural Heritage Inventory; and a Schenectady Community Youth Documentation Program.