

W H I T A K E R F O U N D A T I O N

ARTS

PARKS

1 9 9 6 R E P O R T T O

HEALTH
T H E C O M M U N I T Y

Mae Meissner Whitaker was born in Bunker Hill, Illinois, in 1883. As a young woman, she married Lyndon C. Whitaker, a successful advertising executive. After living in California for several years, the Whitakers returned to St. Louis in 1942 following Mr. Whitaker's retirement. Six years later, the widowed Mrs. Whitaker moved to the Central West End, where she lived with her sister.

Mrs. Whitaker was an avid art collector and an ardent supporter of her beloved community. The principal source of her personal wealth was the St. Louis-based McKinney Bakery Company, located at Ninth and Mound Streets, owned by her brother George Meissner and brother-in-law John McKinney. The company was later purchased by General Baking Company.

Mae M. Whitaker created the Foundation upon her death in 1975 at the age of 92 as a memorial to her husband and as a means of support to our community.

In 1995, the Whitaker Foundation celebrated its twentieth year as a St. Louis philanthropy and we, as trustees, settled into our role as the new governing body for the Foundation. Appointed in 1994, we first focused our efforts on organizing the Foundation's work by hiring an executive director, restructuring staff, cutting operating expenses, adopting new policies and procedures, and, most importantly, creating a mission statement and focus areas for the Foundation.

The Foundation supports initiatives and institutions that thoughtfully address needs in the St. Louis metropolitan area. Our current focus areas are strengthening the arts, improving and preserving parks, and advancing preventive health care and medical research.

We encourage collaborative projects and innovative initiatives that can help institutions creatively advance their missions. We help to strengthen both our community and its institutions by supporting excellence and innovation. Our annual grants budget is approximately \$1 million. The value of the Foundation's portfolio at year-end totaled \$27.5 million, up 22% from last year.

We continue to honor Mrs. Whitaker's memory by trying to be responsible stewards of her trust, always deliberating on ways in which the Foundation can continue to make a difference.

Melvin F. Brown Beverly A. Morrison, M.D.
Gretta Forrester Andrew E. Newman
Eugene J. Mackey III

January 1995 began with a trustee planning meeting to define a direction for the Foundation. The trustees deliberated on the current issues facing St. Louis, and ways in which the Foundation could serve as a catalyst for innovation, creativity, and risk-taking in such challenging times for the nonprofit sector.

Given that a new governing board was in place and that focus areas were defined, the trustees were mindful of the impact the changes might have on grantees. Transition pledges were made in order to provide stability to organizations that had relied on the Foundation for annual support in the past. Those commitments were fulfilled this year. The Foundation's fiscal year 1996, which was from May 1,

1995 to April 30, 1996, represented the first year of new grantmaking by the current Foundation board. The trustees met four times throughout the year to consider nearly 300 requests totaling \$8 million dollars. Nearly \$970,000 was granted to 45 local institutions.

We have learned a great deal from the many outstanding nonprofit leaders and committed volunteers who give so much to the community, and look forward to more opportunities for partnerships, collaboratives, and initiatives in the future.

Betul A. Ozmat, MSW
Executive Director

Enriching Lives Through the Arts

The arts uniquely provide us with a breadth and depth of experiences that touch our lives and enrich our region. By investing in the creative experiences of youth, we create opportunities for the next generation of thinkers and artists to discover more about themselves, each other, and their community. By supporting excellence in the arts, we promote art forms and institutions that challenge, entertain, and contribute to our overall quality of life.

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| PROMOTING ARTS EDUCATION AND ART EXPERIENCES FOR YOUTH | |
| Center of Contemporary Arts | \$5,000 |
| To fund youth scholarships for the Arts Connection project. | |
| Forum for Contemporary Art | \$6,000 |
| To support the Fall 1995 and Fall 1996 New Art in the Neighborhood program. | |
| Girls, Inc. | \$26,000 |
| To fund the pilot year of a series of visual and performing artists-in-residence programs at Girls, Inc., coordinated by St. Louis Black Repertory Theatre and Portfolio Gallery. | |
| Guardian Angel Settlement Association | \$15,000 |
| To support the pilot project Arts Connection, which delivers arts experiences to low income area residents. | |
| Herbert Hoover Boys & Girls Club | \$15,000 |
| To fund the expansion of the Saint Louis Symphony Community Music School to a site at the Club. This payment is the first of three installments. | |
| Missouri Historical Society | \$37,500 |
| To fund a St. Louis City-based neighborhood exploration program, Exploring The 'Hood, part of the Society's "Where We Live" initiative. This is the first installment of a two-year pledge. | |
| off the cuff productions, inc. | \$7,555 |
| To fund theater performances for children at area hospitals and social service agencies. | |
| Ranken Neighborhood Health Committee — St. Louis Jr. Hoofers Club | \$5,000 |
| To pay for tap shoes and tap dancing lessons for area youth in the Forest Park Southeast neighborhood. | |

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| St. Joseph Institute for the Deaf | \$50,000 |
| To fund a partnership with the Center of Contemporary Arts to develop and teach movement, visual, and performing arts classes. | |
| St. Louis BicycleWORKS | \$3,600 |
| To support the Art Bike and Booklet Adventure program in which youth work with local artists to decorate old bicycles into rideable works of art, then prepare journals about their experiences. | |
| St. Louis ArtWorks | \$45,000 |
| To fund years one and two of St. Louis ArtWorks, a summer art employment and training program for area youth. | |
| Taproots School of the Arts | \$3,000 |
| To support the pilot year of joint programming with the St. Louis County Juvenile Court where youth work with artists to create journals and portray through acting selected pieces from their journals. | |
| University of Missouri-St. Louis and Saint Louis Symphony Community Music School | \$56,960 |
| To support the pilot project, the Whitaker Music Education Collaborative, which develops music curriculum for public school students at all grade levels. This is the first in a series of payments over three and one-half years. | |
| Young Audiences of St. Louis | \$31,500 |
| To support the Arts Partners program that facilitates integration of the arts into classroom curriculum, and to sponsor the second annual Arts Partners Institute at which classroom teachers, artists, and arts agency representatives develop arts education in schools. | |

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| SUPPORTING ART PRODUCTION AND PERFORMANCE | |
| Circus Arts Foundation | \$10,000 |
| To support the Circus Flora performances held at Forest Park in May 1996. | |
| Dance St. Louis | \$5,000 |
| To support the general operations of the organization. | |
| Grand Center, Inc. | \$50,000 |
| To support the general operations of Grand Center. | |
| International Institute of St. Louis | \$3,000 |
| To underwrite community outreach for the 1995 International Folkfest, promoting ethnic diversity. | |
| Magic House | \$40,000 |
| To build the Whitaker Theatre as part of the children's museum expansion. This is the first of three installments. | |
| Opera Theatre of St. Louis | \$50,000 |
| To support the Professional Development Program to identify, nurture, and support talented young singers. | |
| Repertory Theatre of St. Louis | \$5,000 |
| To help underwrite production of new works in the Studio Theatre. | |
| Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra | \$75,000 |
| To support the general operations of the Symphony. | |
| Shattermask Theatre | \$5,000 |
| To support production of the new play, House of Yes. | |
| Very Special Arts Missouri | \$2,000 |
| To fund the annual festival, which highlights the artistic accomplishments of disabled individuals. | |
| Total Arts Grants | \$552,115 |

Encouraging the Preservation and Use of Parks

Parks are an invaluable and humanizing asset in an urban environment, providing space for people of different ages and from all walks of life to experience relaxation and tranquillity or to share the company of others in communal activities. By funding projects in parks, we help to create moments of joy, beauty, and neighborhood celebration that bind us together as a community.

PROMOTING URBAN PARKS AND GREEN SPACE FOR NEIGHBORHOODS

Gateway to Gardening \$10,000

To support the Urban Greening Partnership, which involves neighborhood residents in local greening projects. The partners are Gateway to Gardening, Missouri Botanical Garden, and University of Missouri-St. Louis.

Girl Scout Council of Greater St. Louis \$4,651

To fund tree plantings by local Girl Scout troops at Riverfront Park and to build a nature trail at one of the campsites.

Grace Hill Neighborhood Services \$15,000

To help fund the work of Americorps volunteers to restore the Riverfront Park for local neighborhood use.

Old North St. Louis Restoration Group, Inc. \$24,050

To support various gardening and park projects in the neighborhood that involves students from the nearby Ames Magnet School.

ENCOURAGING PARK USE AND PRESERVATION

Compton Heights Concert Band \$2,000

To support the 1995 summer concert series at Tower Grove Park and Francis Park.

Missouri Botanical Garden \$39,925

To fund the Garden's 1996 and 1997 Jazz in June Series to promote audience diversity. This is the first of two installments.

Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council \$3,000

To help build a playground at the neighborhood park site.

Springboard to Learning, Inc. \$3,000

To fund World Cultures Day at Tower Grove Park for students of the St. Louis City Public Schools.

Tower Grove Park \$25,000

To help the park plan and execute a fundraising campaign, and to restore deteriorating historic pavilions, for which contributed funds were used to secure a federal matching grant.

Total Parks Grants \$126,626

PARKS

Advancing Preventive Health Care and Medical Research

The Foundation has a strong tradition of funding medical research leading to important discoveries.

This past year, the Foundation also supported health-related organizations that targeted youth and supported agencies in neighborhoods where there was a clear need for improved access to health care.

PROMOTING YOUTH WELLNESS

American Lung Association of Eastern Missouri \$75,000

To support the pilot project called Whitaker Open Airways for Schools aimed at identifying youth with asthma and working with parents, school personnel, community agencies, and volunteers to assist youth and their families in managing the lifelong disease.

St. Louis Children's Hospital \$20,000

To support pediatric oncology services at the hospital.

PROVIDING NEIGHBORHOODS WITH ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE

Planned Parenthood of the St. Louis Region \$79,250

To underwrite the operations of the newly opened Frazer Medical Center in East St. Louis. This payment is the first of two installments.

St. Louis Comprehensive Health Center \$5,958

To purchase a van for the Center to transport neighborhood residents to the clinic.

ADVANCING MEDICAL RESEARCH

Washington University School of Medicine \$75,000

To purchase molecular medical research equipment.

Central Institute for the Deaf \$4,500

To fund a research study analyzing the effects of noise pollution on St. Louis City youth.

Leukemia Society of America \$5,000

To help fund the research efforts of the organization.

Total Health Care Grants \$264,708

Additional Grants

The following grants were made outside the three specific focus areas of the Foundation, generally to organizations that have relied on Whitaker Foundation support for many years.

American Jewish Congress \$1,000

To fund the organization's Gateway Older Adults Legal Services program.

Holy Angels Summer Program \$7,000

To support the Kinloch-based summer program for youth.

Salvation Army \$10,000

To support the 1996 Tree of Lights campaign.

St. Louis Metropolitan Association for Philanthropy \$5,000

To support the general operations of the organization.

Westminster College \$1,000

To support the 50th anniversary celebration of Winston Churchill's Iron Curtain speech.

Total Additional Grants \$24,000

TOTAL GRANTS \$967,449

MAY 1, 1995 –
APRIL 30, 1996

HOW TO APPLY FOR A GRANT

The Foundation encourages organizations with interesting ideas, initiatives, and projects that fall within our guidelines to apply for a grant. Specifically, we are interested in projects that:

- strengthen the Arts
- encourage Park Use and Preserve Parks
- advance Preventive Health Care and Medical Research

We encourage contact with the Foundation staff prior to submitting a request to discuss any questions.

All nonprofit organizations submitting a proposal are required to complete a three-page Whitaker Foundation Proposal Summary Form about their project, which can be obtained by contacting the Foundation at (314) 726-2001. If you would like a copy of the form prior to writing your proposal, please call the Foundation.

Every proposal should include:

- the Whitaker Foundation Proposal Summary Form.
- an organizational background including the mission, history, types of programs offered, and constituencies served.
- a project budget noting anticipated expenses, including details of how Foundation funds will be used, anticipated income, and information about other grantmakers approached for funding.

- an organizational budget noting revenue and expenses, the organization's most recent audited financial statements, and a list of public and private sources of income.
- supporting documents that include a list of current board members, the annual report, and evidence of 501(c)3 tax-exempt status.

All proposals or requests for information should be directed to: Executive Director, Whitaker Foundation, University Club Tower, 1034 South Brentwood Boulevard, Suite 402, St. Louis, Missouri 63117, (314) 726-2001

DEADLINES AND RESTRICTIONS

Proposals are considered by the trustees in October, January, and April. Deadlines for submitting a summary form and proposal are August 1, November 1, and February 1 of each year. All proposals are screened and evaluated by the staff before presentation at trustee meetings.

The Foundation will generally not support social events such as galas or golf tournaments, preferring to support project-related requests. Faxed proposals are not accepted. Please do not submit proposals in notebooks, binders, or plastic folders.

Grantseekers may obtain information about other funding sources at the Metropolitan Association for Philanthropy (MAP) Foundation Center Cooperating Library in St. Louis.

As of and for the year ended April 30, 1996

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

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| ASSETS | |
| Cash | \$ 438,256 |
| Investments in Marketable Stocks and Bonds | 22,887,133 |
| Other Assets | 8,732 |
| Total Assets | <u>\$23,334,121</u> |
| LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS | |
| Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses | \$ 15,149 |
| Grants Payable | 359,003 |
| Total Liabilities | <u>\$ 374,152</u> |
| Permanently Restricted Net Assets | \$ 22,959,969 |
| Total Liabilities and Net Assets | <u>\$23,334,121</u> |

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

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| REVENUE | |
| Investment Income Net of Investment Expenses | \$ 1,456,837 |
| Other Income | 1,588 |
| Total Revenue | <u>\$ 1,458,425</u> |
| EXPENSES | |
| Charitable Grants | \$ 1,033,452 |
| Grant Administration | \$ 159,578 |
| Total Expenses | <u>\$ 1,193,030</u> |
| INCREASE IN PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS | <u>\$ 265,395</u> |
| NET ASSETS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR | <u>\$22,694,574</u> |
| NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR | <u>\$22,959,969</u> |

The purpose of the Foundation is to make contributions for charitable purposes qualified under Section 501(c)3 of the 1954 Internal Revenue Code. Permanently restricted net assets represent a permanent endowment with investment income restricted for the Foundation operations and grantmaking.

Investment securities are recorded at cost or, if donated, at market value on the date of receipt. The market value of securities is \$27,513,095.

Trustees for the Foundation serve without compensation except for reasonable expenses incurred for and on behalf of the Foundation.

TRUSTEES

Melvin F. Brown
Gretta Forrester
Eugene J. Mackey III
Beverly A. Morrison, M.D.
Andrew E. Newman

STAFF

Betul A. Ozmat, *Executive Director*
Cheryl A. Washington, *Administrative Assistant*

ADDRESS

Whitaker Foundation
University Club Tower
1034 S. Brentwood Boulevard, Suite 402
voice (314) 726-2001
● *fax* (314) 726-5735

WHITAKER FOUNDATION
University Club Tower
1034 S. Brentwood Boulevard, Suite 402
St. Louis, Missouri 63117
voice (314) 726-2001
fax (314) 726-5735

1996 ANNUAL REPORT