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 1997, the Whitaker Foundation observed its 22nd year of philanthropy and our second year of concentrated focus on three areas of giving in the community: enhancing lives through the arts; advancing preventive health care and medical research; and encouraging the preservation and use of parks.

Although diverse, our grantees this year share common ground. Their projects promise to spread out to the roots of our community, offering services, support and solace. Our most successful grants also promise synergy. Because of their unique approach to problem solving, the unusual combination of partners or unexpected settings, these projects benefited more than just the applicants and the constituencies they serve. An example of this is the Jazz in June series at the Missouri Botanical Garden.

This free musical program drew jazz lovers to the garden and gardeners to jazz concerts, extended the use and hours of the park, and provided a performance opportunity and venue to local and regional artists. As we evaluate grant applications in the future, we will look for such synergy.

This year the Foundation made grants in support of 44 programs from an annual grant budget of approximately $1 million. In addition to the value of these grants, the Foundation’s portfolio increased 10 percent from last year and totaled $30 million at the close of the fiscal year.

Mrs. Whitaker’s acts of philanthropy continue to inspire our activities today.

Melvin F. Brown
Gretta Forrester
Eugene J. Mackey III
Andrew E. Newman

A recent address by a colleague reminded me that the grantmaking community is often called the ‘learning community.’ As you read through the accompanying list of grants, you will see evidence of the creativity and collaborative potential of the St. Louis community as we learn new ways to address pressing problems that affect the arts, our parks and our health.

I assumed the executive director position with the Foundation in mid-year, having inherited a well-designed grants system and a strong start on a year of thoughtful grantmaking. It has truly been a learning year for me.

At the conclusion of a foundation’s year, it is important to analyze the grants made and look at them not just as individual endeavors, but as a portfolio. What is striking in this year’s portfolio is the increased proportion of applications funded, a reduction in requests and grants for programs outside the Foundation’s stated giving areas, and especially the exciting new partnerships built between agencies that were previously funded individually. This suggests not only that the Foundation is learning about the community we work to serve, but that the community is learning about the Foundation. I look forward to a new year as the Whitaker Foundation and St. Louis join together to build a learning community that enhances our arts, preserves our parks, and sustains good health.

Christy E. Gray
Executive Director
Enriching Lives Through the Arts

The arts provide 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 care for developmentally delayed children. 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

PROMOTING ARTS EDUCATION AND ART EXPERIENCES FOR YOUTH

Dances of India
To increase understanding and access to classical Indian dance.

Forum for Contemporary Art
To support New Art in the Neighborhood, an apprentice program which pairs neighborhood youth with professional artists and curators to teach aspiring artists about the studio and business aspects of a career in the arts.

Good Shepherd School for Children
To support a school-based music and dance program for developmentally delayed children.

Herbert Hoover Boys and Girls Club
To construct a dance room and satellite for the Missouri Historical Society.

Maryville University of Saint Louis
To support the Print Studio in the University’s new Fine Arts Building and support an annual lecture by a visiting artist. This is the second of three installments.

Missouri Historical Society
To fund a neighborhood exploration program called Exploring the ‘Hood. The program is part of the society’s Where We Live initiative and helps children understand and examine the changing nature of neighborhoods through games, original theatrical presentations and activities.

off the cuff productions, inc.
To support the children’s theater troupe, Piwacket Theatre, at performances for children in area hospitals and care facilities.

Ranken Neighborhood Health Committee
To support the St. Louis Jr. Hoofers’ Club, a program which pairs neighborhood children with professional tap artists.

St. Louis ArtWorks
To support a summer art employment and training program for area youth.

Taproots School of the Arts
To support the school’s new Literacy through the Arts initiative.

University of Missouri-St. Louis and Saint Louis Symphony Community Music School
To support the Whitaker Music Education Collaborative, which develops music curricula for public school students at all grade levels. This is the second of four installments.

Washington University
To support the symposium Dual Muses, which examines the intersection of language and visual art in the work of modern and contemporary artists and authors. The symposium is sponsored by the Gallery of Art in conjunction with the International Writers’ Center.

Webster University
To support a full scholarship in the College of Fine Arts’ new two-year Theatre Management Master’s Degree Program. This is the first of two installments.

Young Audiences of St. Louis
To support the annual Arts Partners Institute which brings teachers and artists together to design arts integrated curriculum.

SUPPORTING ART PRODUCTION AND PERFORMANCE

Barnes-Jewish Hospital Foundation/OASIS Institute
To support the production of the play, Act Your Age.

Historyonics Theatre Company
To support the creation and performance of a play celebrating the life of James Eads, A Bridge to the 20th Century.
Encouraging the Preservation and Use of Parks

Parks are an invaluable humanizing asset in an urban environment, providing space for people of different ages and from all walks of life to experience relaxation and tranquility, 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.

ADVANCING PREVENTIVE HEALTH CARE AND MEDICAL RESEARCH

The Foundation has a strong tradition of funding medical research that leads to important discoveries. This past year, the Foundation also supported health-related organizations that targeted youth and supported agencies in neighborhoods where there is a clear need for improved access to health care.

PROMOTING URBAN PARKS AND GREEN SPACE FOR NEIGHBORHOODS

Butterfly House & Education Center $50,000
To support the education center at the Butterfly House in Faust Park.

Gateway to Gardening $10,000
To support the Urban Greening Partnership, a project involving neighborhood residents in local greening projects. The partners are Gateway to Gardening, Missouri Botanical Garden, and the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

Gateway Trailnet $25,000
To support the creation of a greenway along the Mississippi and Missouri rivers.

Grace Hill Neighborhood Services $10,000
To support AmeriCorps volunteers’ work to restore the Riverfront Park and Trail for local neighborhood use.

Union West Community Corporation $10,000
To create a ball field and community greenspace from a vacant lot in the Union West neighborhood.

ENCOURAGING PARK USE AND PRESERVATION

Compton Heights Concert Band $5,000
To sponsor a guest artist for the 1997 summer concert series at Tower Grove and Francis parks.

Landmarks Association of St. Louis $10,000
To develop a multi-lingual architectural guide of Forest Park, outlining areas of interest on Bi-State Development Corporation’s Forest Park Shuttle Bug route.

Missouri Botanical Garden $31,100
To fund the Jazz in June series which brings people into the garden on summer evenings to hear local and regional performers. This is the second of two installments.

Total Parks $151,100

PROMOTING YOUTH WELLNESS

American Lung Association $75,000
To provide second year funding to the pilot project, Whitaker Open Airways for Schools. A school-based program aimed at identifying children with asthma and helping them manage their disease. The program involves parents, school personnel, community agencies, and volunteers as members of each child’s care team.

Barnes-Jewish Hospital Foundation $15,000
To support the New American Children’s Initiative which provides case management, translators, financial support and health services to recent immigrants.

Blacks Assisting Blacks Against AIDS $2,000
To support an age-appropriate HIV prevention program, TeenAIDS.

Childhaven $10,000
To assist the organization in publishing its protocol on working with developmentally disabled and autistic children so the therapeutic model may be replicated in other facilities.

National Council on Youth Leadership $2,000
To support Win With Wellness, a leadership program for high school juniors that uses health promotion activities as learning tools.

PROVIDING NEIGHBORHOODS WITH ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE

Catholic Community Services $2,000
To support the position of a bilingual counselor in the Vietnamese Immigrant Health Center.

Planned Parenthood Association of Eastern Missouri $50,000
To support the operations of the Frazer Medical Center in East St. Louis. This payment is the second of two installments.

Encouraging the Preservation and Use of Parks

Advancing Preventive Health Care and Medical Research
### WHITAKER FOUNDATION GRANTS
May 1996 – April 1997

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grant Recipient</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>St. Louis Children’s Hospital Foundation</td>
<td>$30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To provide start-up costs for a community-based</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>immunization collaborative as part of the hospital’s</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>new pediatric-focused Community Health and</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Wellness Program.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**ADVANCING MEDICAL RESEARCH**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grant Recipient</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Washington University</td>
<td>$75,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School of Medicine</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To purchase an ultra-high-performance</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>magnetic-field-gradient system for magnetic</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>resonance imaging of transgenic mice.</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grant Recipient</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wellness Community of Greater St. Louis</td>
<td>$9,610</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To develop and implement a program evaluation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>model that may be used in other Wellness Communities.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Health Grants** $270,610

### Other Grants

The following grants were made outside the three specific focus areas of the Foundation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grant Recipient</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Central West End Charitable Trust/Washington Terrace Association</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To preserve the historic gatehouse at the entrance to</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. and Mrs. Whitaker’s former neighborhood.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Louis Metropolitan Association for Philanthropy</td>
<td>$7,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To support the organization’s general operations.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Additional Grants** $9,500

**Total FY97 Grants & Pledges** $1,028,650
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Assets
Cash and Cash Equivalents $1,462,854
Investments at Market Value 28,526,210
Interest Receivable 100,271
Other Assets 10,245
Total Assets $30,108,570

Liabilities and Net Assets
Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses $7,819
Grants Payable 278,853
Total Liabilities $286,672
Unrestricted Net Assets $29,821,898
Total Liabilities and Net Assets $30,108,570

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Revenue
Investment Income Net of Investment Expenses $3,420,552
Total Revenue $3,420,552

Expenses
Charitable Grants $948,500
Grant Administration 171,111
Excise Tax 67,092
Total Expenses $1,186,703

Increase in Unrestricted Net Assets Before Cumulative Effect of Change in Accounting Principle $2,233,849
Cumulative Effect of Change in Accounting Principle (note 1) $4,533,642
Increase in Unrestricted Net Assets $6,767,491
Net Assets at Beginning of Year (as restated — note 2) $23,054,407
Net Assets at End of Year $29,821,898

Note 1: In 1997, the Foundation adopted Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 124 “Accounting for Certain Investments Held by Not-For-Profit Organizations.” In accordance with this statement, investments in equity securities with readily determinable fair values and all investments in debt securities are reported at fair value. The cumulative effect of this change is $4,533,642.

Note 2: Net assets at the beginning of the year have been restated to include accrued interest receivable in the amount of $94,438, which had not been recorded at April 30, 1996.

The Whitaker Foundation
1997 Report to the Community

APPROACHING THE FOUNDATION

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.

There are two ways to approach the Foundation for funding:

The first is by Letter of Inquiry. Organizations interested in pursuing funding are strongly encouraged to first write a two-page Letter of Inquiry. Letters of Inquiry allow both the organization and Foundation to explore ideas before investing in a full proposal. The letter should provide background on the applicant organization, explain the problem it proposes addressing, describe the proposed project, and estimate total project costs and the amount to be requested from the Foundation.

Letters of Inquiry are reviewed at regular Trustee meetings and should be submitted to the Foundation no later than September 1 for October review, December 1 for January review, and March 1 for April review. Since a Letter of Inquiry is a more flexible approach, it is possible that it may be accepted after the deadline for late-breaking or time-sensitive requests. Following the Trustee meeting, staff will inform your organization whether or not you are invited to submit a full proposal. Organizations invited to continue in the process will have one month to prepare a full proposal. It is important to note that an invitation to submit a full proposal does not guarantee that a grant award will be made to your organization. The second approach is through the submission of a full proposal and a completed Whitaker Foundation Proposal Summary Form. Contact with the Foundation before submitting a full proposal is strongly recommended.

A Proposal Summary Form can be obtained by contacting the Foundation. This three-page form serves as an executive summary for the application and must accompany the proposal. The full proposal should include:

• an organizational background, including mission, history, types of programs offered and constituencies served;
• an analytical discussion of the problem the project plans to address;
• detailed information about the project, its execution, time frame, goals, objectives and methodologies, and how it will be evaluated;
• 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.

Note: The proposal of the Foundation is to make contributions for charitable purposes qualified under Section 501(c)(3) of the 1954 Internal Revenue Code. This statement is made without compensation except for reasonable expenses incurred for and on behalf of the Foundation.
• 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 with their titles, an annual report, and evidence of 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status.

Proposals with completed Whitaker Foundation Proposal Summary Forms are due August 1 for October review, November 1 for January review, and February 1 for April review. These deadlines are not flexible.

All proposals and Letters of Inquiry are screened and evaluated by the staff before presentation at Trustee meetings.

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

All proposals, Letters of Inquiry, 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. Our phone number is (314) 726-2001. Our e-mail address is whitaker@stlnet.com.

TRUSTEES
Melvin F. Brown
Gretta Forrester
Eugene J. Mackey III
Andrew E. Newman

STAFF
Christy E. Gray, Executive Director
Cheryl A. Washington, Business Manager

ADDRESS
Whitaker Foundation
University Club Tower
1034 South Brentwood Boulevard, Suite 402
St. Louis, Missouri 63117
voice (314) 726-2001
dear (314) 726-5735
e-mail whitaker@stlnet.com