

parks arts health

WHITAKER FOUNDATION 1999 REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

about the whitakers

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 gift to our community.

from our trustees

THE YEAR 1999 was one of great success for the Whitaker Foundation. The Foundation's asset base increased nearly 11 percent and stands at \$36,159,941 at the year's end. The Foundation also spent more in grants this year than in any other during its 24-year history. Allocations reached a total of \$1,623,355. This is an increase of nearly half a million dollars.

This was an excellent year for our grant recipients as well. The Foundation was able to fund 25 percent more programs in our three focus areas of giving: enhancing lives through the arts; encouraging the preservation and use of parks; and advancing preventive health care and medical research. In total, the Foundation supported 53 new and ongoing programs. We also increased the average size of our gifts to these recipients. These larger grants allowed agencies to serve more people, enlarge their service areas, and improve the quality of their offerings.

Most important, the Foundation remains gratified by the high standards set by the agencies we fund. Their expertise and commitment to improving the quality of life in the St. Louis metropolitan area benefits the whole community. That is the most important return on our investment.

Thanks to Mrs. Whitaker's generosity, the Foundation looks forward to enhancing the community's arts, parks and health for many years.

Melvin F. Brown
Gretta Forrester
Donald P. Gallop
Eugene J. Mackey III
Virginia V. Weldon, M.D.

from our director

AS A FOUNDATION, we often concentrate our conversations with agencies on grant applications and awards. An equally important form of communication between a foundation and its community is the grant report. All recipients of grants from the Whitaker Foundation are required to submit reports on grant activities. These reports are reviewed and evaluated by both Foundation staff and Trustees.

Reports are critical for a variety of reasons. First, they provide the Foundation Trustees with information about what is and is not successful in our three focus areas. These observations then assist us in future grant decisions.

Second, they provide the agency with another occasion to speak directly and frankly with the Trustees. This year, these reports provided us with an opportunity to become more proactive in our funding decisions. For example, the Missouri Botanical Garden reported a fourfold increase in attendance for the Whitaker Jazz Festival. As a result, Trustees made an unsolicited capital grant to support sound and stage improvements.

Finally, reports give the Foundation a unique overview of the community, allowing us to see how disparate agencies are striving for common goals. For example, we helped create a partnership between Gateway Greening and the St. Louis Public Schools. With the common goals of community involvement and increased green space in urban areas, the two groups turned a blighted plot adjacent to a public school into a community garden and park.

As 1999 ends, so does Gretta Forrester's term as a Foundation Trustee. Gretta's enthusiasm and knowledge in grantmaking were a great asset to the Foundation. She will be missed. We also welcome Donald P. Gallop as a Trustee. Don is an experienced board member whose professional and volunteer work greatly benefit the Foundation.

In the coming year, I look forward to more enlightening conversations with our grantees, who continue to honor Mrs. Whitaker's legacy with their work.

Christy E. Gray
Executive Director

grants to the arts

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 contribute to our overall quality of life.*

City Museum To support the museum's special events fund. This is the first installment in a two-year pledge.	\$10,000	Good Shepherd School for Children To support a school-based music and dance program for developmentally delayed children. This is the second installment in a three-year pledge.	\$2,000
Crossroads School To support a performing arts master class season, The Whitaker Arts in the City Series.	\$9,000	Harris-Stowe State College To sponsor the art studio in the new physical education and visual/performing arts building. This is the second installment in a three-year pledge.	\$58,333
Dance St. Louis To support performance of the full-length ballet <i>Eugene Onegin</i> by the Stuttgart Ballet.	\$50,000	Historyonics To support an original play about the life of Eleanor Roosevelt.	\$10,000
Fair Saint Louis To support the appearance of the Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra in a patriotic concert on the 4th of July.	\$75,000	Jazz at the Bistro To support a new position charged with outreach and marketing. This is the first installment in a two-year pledge.	\$10,000
Forum for Contemporary Art To support New Art in the Neighborhood.	\$11,000	Landmarks Association To support development and publication of <i>Art on Rails</i> , an art and architecture guide for the MetroLink route.	\$11,000
Gash-Voigt Dance Theatre To provide matching funds toward an USIA exchange with contemporary dance companies in Turkey and Greece.	\$5,000	The Magic House To establish an in-house theater project for the museum's Whitaker Theater. This is the first installment in a two-year pledge.	\$21,175
Gateway I Have a Dream Foundation To support the art and culture segment in the organization's core program aimed at keeping targeted youth in school and preparing them for college.	\$6,797		

Metro Theater Company To support a theater and education collaborative for elementary students at Hamilton School, area high school students, and teachers. Teacher credit hours will be awarded by Maryville University. This is the first installment in a three-year pledge.	\$25,000	Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra To support the symphony's efforts toward institutional stabilization. This is the third installment in a five-year pledge.	\$100,000
Missouri Historical Society To support <i>Through the Eyes of a Child</i> , an exploration of four traditionally African American neighborhoods: the Ville, Carr Square, East St. Louis, and Kinloch. This is the second installment in a three-year pledge.	\$50,000	University of Missouri – Saint Louis/ 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 final installment in a four-year pledge.	\$119,976
Municipal Theater Association of Saint Louis To support the Whitaker Orchestra Pit in the theater's renovation. This is the first installment in a three-year pledge.	\$50,000	University of Missouri – Saint Louis To sponsor the rehearsal hall in the university's new performing arts center and provide a permanent home for the Whitaker-Des Lee Music Initiative. This is the first installment in a four-year pledge.	\$50,000
Opera Theatre of Saint Louis To develop the original opera <i>The Merchant and the Pauper</i> , the first opera based on a Hassidic folk tale.	\$40,000	Washington University – International Writers Center To support outreach and marketing activities aimed at increasing attendance among the non-university community.	\$5,000
The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis To support the development of the original musical <i>Esmerelda</i> .	\$20,000	Webster University To support the Whitaker Fellow in the university's new Master of Arts degree in Arts Management. This is the first installment in a two-year pledge.	\$7,500
River Styx To support publication of a special issue devoted to the relationship between the written word and the visual image.	\$5,000	Women's Support Network To underwrite the local presentation of the Quilt Show International at the City Museum.	\$20,000
Robert Reed Tap Heritage Institute, Inc. To support the annual tap festival.	\$10,000	Young Audiences To expand and install a new phone system.	\$5,495
St. Louis Black Repertory Theatre To underwrite a production of <i>Waiting for Godot</i> on the play's 50th anniversary.	\$30,000		
St. Louis Irish Arts To support the visit of traditional Irish performing artists in master classes, general classes, and in a mainstage performance at the Sheldon Concert Hall.	\$10,000		
		TOTAL GRANTS TO THE ARTS	\$827,276

grants to parks

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.*

Atrek Contemporary Dance To support the company's original production <i>Nature Moves</i> at the Missouri Botanical Garden.	\$5,000	Missouri Botanical Garden To support the summer Whitaker Jazz Festival and purchase a tent and increase electrical service for this and other musical concerts. This is the final installment in a two-year pledge.	\$55,000
Benton Park Neighborhood Association To restore a Victorian-era walking bridge in the park. This is the final installment in a two-year pledge.	\$21,000	St. Louis Public Schools To create a park adjacent to Cote-Brillante School to be shared by the school and the community.	\$84,625
Compton Heights Concert Band To support the summer concert series in Tower Grove and Francis parks.	\$5,000	Tower Grove Park To restore the historic Turkish Pavilion in the park and secure state matching funds.	\$27,000
Gateway Greening To support the agency's central greening programs. This is the first installment in a two-year pledge.	\$30,000	Tower Grove Park To reconfigure the pool house for use as an outdoor theater and support the Whitaker Performing Arts Series. This is the second installment in a four-year pledge.	\$50,000
Guardian Angel Settlement Association To support the eARTh Angel and Project Earth programs that combine lessons on art and ecology.	\$20,000	WorldWays Children's Museum To assist in the purchase of an artist-created "H2O orchestra" to be used at area parks.	\$6,000
Great Rivers Land Preservation Association, Inc. To support the restoration of Clifton Terrace Park in Godfrey, Illinois.	\$20,000		
		TOTAL GRANTS TO PARKS	\$323,625



grants to health

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 assisted agencies in neighborhoods where there is a clear need for improved access to health care.*

Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Association To provide two years of support for an innovative church-based volunteer program in north St. Louis and rural Missouri. This is the first installment in a two-year pledge.	\$25,000	Herbert Hoover Boys & Girls Club To support the organization's Dental Club, which works with postdoctoral dentistry students at St. Louis University to provide dental and orthodontic care to children.	\$25,000
Barnes-Jewish Hospital Foundation To help launch Arts and Healing, a multi-disciplinary arts program in the hospital's oncology division.	\$10,000	International Institute To support the Whitaker Clinic in the organization's new facility on Grand Avenue, which will work with area medical training programs and volunteer translators to provide health screening and wellness programs to new Americans.	\$50,000
Central Institute for the Deaf To sponsor the Whitaker Drama and Music Room in the school's new facility.	\$50,000	Jackie Joyner-Kersey Youth Center To construct a health and wellness center and sponsor an annual lecture on health issues pertinent to the center's clientele. This is the second installment in a three-year pledge.	\$50,000
Family Care Health Center To sponsor the Whitaker Pediatric Suite in the agency's new facility in south St. Louis, and support an annual lecture on pediatric care issues. This is the second installment in a three-year pledge.	\$53,000	OASIS Institute – Barnes-Jewish Hospital Foundation To support the development of a Music and Healthy Aging program offered in conjunction with Washington University's School of Occupational Therapy and the Saint Louis Symphony's Community Music School. This is the final installment in a two-year pledge.	\$50,000
Food Outreach To support a client intake center and nutritional counseling center in the organization's new facility.	\$30,000		



Nursery Foundation **\$23,611**

To provide care for children whose parents are enrolled in substance abuse rehabilitation programs.

The Salvation Army **\$22,843**

To provide HIV education to residents of the Harbor Lights shelter. This is the first installment in a two-year pledge.

Washington University School of Medicine **\$83,000**

To sponsor the Whitaker Young Investigator, a fellowship offered early in a researcher's career. This is the first installment in a two-year pledge.

TOTAL GRANTS TO HEALTH **\$472,454**

TOTAL FY 1999 GRANTS & PLEDGES **\$1,623,355**

financial statement

As of and for the year ended April 30, 1999

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Assets

Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 1,230,230
Investments at Market Value	36,168,142
Interest Receivable	50,070
Prepaid Excise Tax	15,833
Other Assets	5,215
Total Assets	\$37,469,490

Liabilities and Net Assets

Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses	\$ 8,000
Grants Payable	1,301,549
Total Liabilities	\$ 1,309,549
Unrestricted Net Assets	\$ 36,159,941
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$37,469,490

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Revenue

Investment Income Net of Investment Expenses	\$ 3,408,941
Total Revenue	\$ 3,408,941

Expenses

Charitable Grants	\$ 1,989,594
Grant Administration	74,130
Excise Tax	42,830
Total Expenses	\$ 2,106,554

Increase in Unrestricted Net Assets

Net Assets at Beginning of Year	\$34,857,554
Net Assets at End of Year	\$36,159,941

The purpose of the Foundation is to make contributions for charitable purposes qualified under Section 501(c)3 of the 1954 Internal Revenue Code. Trustees for the Foundation serve without compensation except for reasonable expenses incurred for and on behalf of the Foundation.

WHITAKER FOUNDATION • MAY 1998 - APRIL 1999

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;
- an organizational budget outlining 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 Blvd., Suite 402, St. Louis, Missouri 63117. Our phone number is (314) 726-2001. Our e-mail address is whitaker@stlnet.com.

whitaker foundation

1999 TRUSTEES

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REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY