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Dear Friend of St. Louis ArtWorks,

St. Louis ArtWorks is built around the fact that our youth are the future of St. Louis. What better way to end your year than to provide your financial support to an organization that creates opportunities for the future leaders of our city?

What makes ArtWorks so special? We create opportunities for youth and for their parents who feel they have nowhere to go. Instead of spending unsupervised time in unsafe neighborhoods, they are able to come into the program, make friends, talk to our in-house art therapist, and create lasting professional relationships. We create a space where different cultures, creeds, gender identities, and sexual orientations are supported and apprentices can express themselves freely. This environment helps our youth to consider better paths in life and helps to break the school to prison pipeline that keeps so many families in generational poverty.

Last year, with your financial support, St. Louis ArtWorks was able to provide outstanding programs for local youth. For example, our videography group created a documentary, *#theSocialMovement*, that was selected for the St. Louis International Film Festival. This film looks at the relationship between artists, their art practices, and the impact of art on communities (to view this documentary, visit the St. Louis ArtWorks YouTube channel). This summer, we hired the largest group of apprentices in the history of ArtWorks - over 90 apprentices participated in the program. We were able to create unforgettable works of art, beautiful memories, and professional relationships that will have a lasting impact in the lives of our apprentices.

Our unique program costs approximately \$3,250 per teen. While some of those costs are covered by funding from grants and sponsorships, we rely on gifts from individual donors like you to bridge the gap. The growth of our organization and the number of youth we can serve depends on friends like you who care deeply about the success of our children. We're using art and innovation to train and inspire the next generation in business, government, and social change. Without you, we would be unable to fully achieve these goals.

Please consider supporting ArtWorks by using the enclosed envelope or by visiting stlartworks.org/support. Your investment at any level will help us grow.

With Gratitude,

Priscilla Block
Executive Director

Kelly Scheffer
Board Chair