In 2017, St. Louis ArtWorks provided 170 paid apprenticeships to underserved youth between the ages of 14-18 years old. These apprentices came from 55 schools in the metropolitan area and 40 unique zip codes, reflecting the diversity of our region. Of the youth hired, 44% lived within the St. Louis City limits. Diversity of age, gender, neighborhoods, schools, artistic discipline interest, and experience were used to select participants. Of the 2017 apprentices, 85% identified as African American/Black, 9% Caucasian/White, and 5% identified as two or more races. The average age of participants was 15.6 years old.

ArtWorks offers year round program opportunities for teens during out-of-school hours. The Summer Program is our largest and served 70 teenagers in 2017. Apprentices worked five hours per day, five days a week for six weeks on a variety of projects and disciplines. Our Fall and Spring Programs met for five hours each week for 12 weeks after school and on Saturdays, and offered 106 paid positions.

**Application Process:**
In order to become part of the ArtWorks program, a youth completes an online application and provides a letter of recommendation from a teacher, mentor, or another non-related adult. Returning apprentices can be recommended by their previous teaching artists. The ArtWorks staff reviews each youth’s application to assess eligibility based on age, completeness of the application, previous employment/volunteer experience, artistic experience/interests, and letters of support. All eligible applicants are invited to interview day. A broad spectrum of community volunteers participates in the summer and fall interview days, ranging from college and corporate presidents to local artists and community residents. ArtWorks looks to reach a diverse group of youth to hire each program session.
MISSION...
The mission of St. Louis ArtWorks is to broaden educational and career opportunities for youth in the St. Louis region through apprenticeships in the arts and through community collaborations.
TABLE OF CONTENTS

2017 Review
2017 Programs
Teaching Artists
Organizational Partners
2017 Stats
Demographics
Evaluation
Financials
AWE
2017 Supporters
Strategic Plan
Thank You!
2017 SCHOOL YEAR PROGRAMS

Spring

**Modern Dance:** Apprentices created, choreographed, and performed pop-up performances at local Metro Stations illustrating how transportation connects and divides life in and around St. Louis.
Teaching Artists: Stacy West Curry, Shakira Onwuachi
Teaching Organization: Modern American Dance Company (MADCO)

**St. Louis Notes in History, Ragtime & Blues:** Video documentary on the cultural impact of transportation along Delmar Blvd. Apprentices planned, shot, and filmed the documentary learning digital production techniques.
Teaching Artists: Mark Clark, Leah Simms
Supported by: Missouri Humanities Council

**Painted Rain Barrels:** Apprentices painted original designs on rain barrels with the Missouri Fauna & Floral theme. They learned about color theory, design, and environmental stewardship.
Teaching Artists: Stajah Curry, Julia Luster
Supported by: MSD

Fall

**Batik & Textiles:** Apprentices learned screen printing and textile design. They created homegoods including: floor mats, table runners, napkins, placemats, and screen-printed T-Shirts. Their art was available for viewing and purchase at the Holiday Sale.
Teaching Artists: Stajah Curry, Kelsey Viola-Wiskirchen

**Robotics & Art:** Apprentices learned about and experimented with electronic components and concepts. Participants produced engaging, interactive art pieces using a variety of media.
Teaching Artists: Robert Powell, Byron Rogers
Supported by: Challenger Learning Center

**Poetry, Spoken Word, Typography:**
Treasure Shields Redmond, one of the two professional Teaching Artist for the “Youth Speaks’ project, is an acclaimed poet, educator, and social activist. Under her tutelage, apprentices learned how to use poetry to discuss race and build community. Apprentices wrote original poetry about their experiences, feelings, and fears.
Teaching Artists: Treasure Shields Redman, Mark Clark, Aziza Binti
Supported by: The Roblee Foundation
**BoomerRacks:** Apprentices learned the discipline of sculpture as they created a commissioned bike rack for America’s Central Port in Grafton, Illinois. They utilized recycled bike parts and created a custom bike rack. Apprentices created individual sculptures using bike parts which were available for purchase at the Summer Sale.

*Teaching Artists: Deborah Wheeler, Colton Carter*
*Supported by: America’s Central Port and the William A. Kerr Foundation.*

**Mural:** Through the creation of a mural for the North Sarah community, Apprentices in The Muralists group honed their individual styles as they learned about painting, color and design, and the history of Turner Park as they created this commissioned piece for Urban Strategies.

*Teaching Artists: Stajah Curry and Byron Rogers*
*Teaching Organization: St. Louis Art Museum*
*Supported by: McCormack Barron Salazar.*

**Sight & Sound:** Using video and sound design, apprentices created an interactive multimedia experience in the Emerson Media Lab at St. Louis ArtWorks. The project debuted at the Summer Sale and featured immersive sound and video elements. The Apprentices also created original 30-second compositions.

*Teaching Artists: Mark Clark and Ben Clark*
*Teaching Organization: St. Louis ArtWorks*
*Supported by: Young at Art*

**Sculpture:** Sculpture: Apprentices designed a three-dimensional interpretive sculpture that reflects the importance of preserving our natural watersheds. The commissioned piece is installed at the Monarch Levee at the head of the Katy Trail. Additionally, apprentices designed and constructed decorative “Little Lending Libraries” that were available for sale at the Summer Sale.

*Teaching Artists: Hap Phillips, Stephanie Nelson*
*Supported by: Great Rivers Greenway, Big Muddy National Fish and Wildlife, and Missouri American Water.
“Something I’ve always remembered was painting on a 365 degree surface and sealing it with an outdoor varnish. This wasn’t the most valuable lesson I got from the experience, but it was very Important. I would say the most valuable lesson I received was understanding the potential of my surrounding peers and instructors. This in return pushed me to continue to pursue art as a lifelong career.”
ORGANIZATIONAL PARTNERS

Organizational Partners work with ArtWorks staff and Teaching Artists to provide the Apprentices with opportunities for educational and life skills development throughout the year.

We are grateful for their support!

WAKF
William A. Kerr Foundation

THE JOSEPH H. & FLORENCE A. ROBLEE FOUNDATION

MISSOURI
AMERICAN WATER

madco
Modern American Dance Company

McCormack Baron Salazar

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

AMERICA'S CENTRAL PORT

MISSOURI Humanities COUNCIL

Great Rivers Greenway
INVESTING IN COMMUNITY

170 Total Apprenticeships

40 Zip Codes Represented

55 Schools Represented

94% Of Our Seniors Graduated High School
DEMGRAPHICS

RACE/ETHNICITY

- African American/Black: 85%
- Caucasian/White: 9%
- Two or more races...: 5%

SCHOOL TYPES REPRESENTED

- County Public
- City Public
- Private City
- Private County
- Illinois Public
- Other
ZIP CODES REPRESENTED:

62205  63116
63021  63118
63026  63119
63031  63120
63033  63121
63034  63123
63037  63129
63042  63130
63043  63132
63104  63133
63105  63134
63106  63135
63107  63136
63108  63137
63110  63139
63111  63141
63112  63144
63113  63147
63114  63386
63115

CITY RESIDENTS  44%
COUNTY RESIDENTS +IL  56%
SCHOOLS REPRESENTED

Ackerman
Brentwood
Brittany Woods
Carr Lane
Cardinal Ritter
Carnahan School of the Future
Central Visual Performing Arts
Christ Light of the Nations
Clayton
Clyde C. Miller Academy
Collegiate High School of Medicine
Confluence Preparatory Academy
Cor Jesu Academy
DuBourg
East St. Louis
Ferguson
Fort Zumwalt East
Francis Howell North
Gateway STEM
Grand Center Arts Academy
Hazelwood Central
Hazelwood East
Hazelwood West
Jennings
Kirkwood
Ladue Horton Watkins
Lafayette
Lift for Life Academy
Lindbergh
Loyola Academy
Loyola University-Chicago
Madison
Maplewood Richmond Heights
Mark Twain
Marquette Catholic
 McCluer
McCluer North
McCluer South-Berkeley
McKinley Classical Leadership Academy
Mehlville
Metro
MICDS
Nerinx Hall
Normandy
Parkway West
Parkway South
Ranken
Pattonville
Ritenour
Riverview Gardens
Roosevelt
Rockwood
Rosati-Kain
Saint Louis Language Immersion
Saint Mary’s School
SIUE Charter
Soldan International Studies
South Tech
Sumner
STLCC-FLO
Trinity
University City
Ursuline
Vashon
Villa Duchesne
Webster Groves
**Workforce Development**

All apprentices went through an interview process with community members. 100% of teens were given a resume workshop and created their own personal resume. All apprentices also learned how to shake hands and make eye contact with adults, as well as how to explain their work in a professional manner.

84% of apprentices reported that ArtWorks was their first job.

89% apprentices agreed that ArtWorks taught them skills that would help them find a job and 89% agreed that working at ArtWorks will help them perform better at a future job.

**Art Knowledge and Experience**

St. Louis ArtWorks curriculum adheres to the Missouri Grade Level Expectations and Show Me Standards for the high school level. Every apprentice takes a pre- and post-test based on these standards for their specific artistic discipline. Artistic concepts covered included: color theory, elements of design, group critiques, art history connections, and composition.

Each apprentice learns a specific artistic discipline under the apprenticeship of a professional teaching artist. 100% of apprentices were able to display and sell their artwork. In addition, apprentices create public art that will be displayed for the community to see for years to come.
**EVALUATION cont’d**

**YOUTH DEVELOPMENT:**

*Self esteem and Confidence:*

97% of apprentices either agreed or strongly agreed with the following statement: “I felt proud when I received my acceptance to ArtWorks.” 75% all either agreed or strongly agreed that they have more self-confidence just from being accepted into the ArtWorks program.

*Money Matters:*

Over the course of the program, the number of teens who reported that they kept a budget increased, and the number who reported that they saved their money increased. Apprentices also reported increased knowledge regarding credit cards, checking accounts, debit cards, and check books.

Specific financial benefits that ArtWorks Apprentices gain:

- A Stipend. The summer program stipend is $900. The fall and spring stipend is $360 per program.
- A Bank Account. Apprentices were required to have a bank account, into which their stipend was directly deposited.
- A budget. Every apprentice was required to make a budget after receiving their first stipend paycheck.
- A financial literacy workshop. Every apprentice participated in at least one financial literacy workshop, presented by Wells Fargo Advisors.

The majority of youth reported that they were leaving the ArtWorks experience with new attitudes, behaviors, and skills. Specifically related to work-readiness, professional development, and life skills, the top areas of gain reported by apprentices included:

- Budgeting and savings behavior,
- Identity development and recognition of themselves as artists,
- An increased knowledge of careers, especially as related to creative fields of employment.

ArtWorks strongly encourages fiscal responsibility. Prior to the ArtWorks program, 48% of youth did not have a bank account. However, at the close of their respective programs, 100% of apprentices had a personal bank account.
The life skills speakers presented information on a specific topic for an hour. The presentations were actively engaging and in an open discussion format which encouraged the youth to ask questions, thereby better absorbing and retaining the information presented. Presenters spoke about making healthy choices regarding nutrition and relationships, being environmentally and fiscally responsible, and how to navigate the college search and acceptance process.

Our Life Skills presenters included:
Government: 30%
AWE: 22%
Events: 19%
Foundations: 11%
Corporations: 9%
Rentals: 4%
In-Kind: 2%
Board 1%
Mural designed and painted by ArtWorks Apprentices for Turner Park
ARTWORKS ENTERPRISES (AWE)

St. Louis ArtWorks’ social venture comprised of three enterprises:

Boomerang Press/Media provides graphic and media services to corporate clients (both businesses and organizations), designs, produces and sells notecards and holiday cards to our clients and individual buyers. The Media teams have created documentaries and PSA’s, as well as providing multimedia presentations for clients.

BoomerRacks creates bike racks using up-cycled bicycle parts collected from the community and bike-related works of art such as garden sculptures.

BloomWorks focuses on sustainable development projects for the garden, Public Park and urban streetscapes. This venture created painted rain barrels, planters, landscape architecture, benches and art from up-cycled materials.
Young At Art is a fundraising event where youth, donors, long-time supporters and new friends celebrate St. Louis ArtWorks’ accomplishments, accolades and aspirations. Guests have the opportunity to meet apprentices, participate in the silent and live auctions as well as enjoy apprentice performances and special guest entertainment. In 2017, we raised $100,000 to help St. Louis ArtWorks continue its mission to broaden educational and career opportunities for youth in the Saint Louis region through apprenticeships in the arts and through community
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garden--home
1. **PROGRAM STRENGTH:** *Build a sustainable program model that incorporates innovation and entrepreneurship.*

   ArtWorks has long built entrepreneurship and innovation into its program model. With the move to the larger space, the organization now has the opportunity to think creatively about innovative models and continue to build entrepreneurship into these new offerings.

2. **GROWTH:** *Increase self-sufficiency through diversifying and growing revenues by 25%.*

   The new facility offers the ability to diversify revenue beyond traditional fund development efforts (grants, corporate giving and individual donors) and ArtWorks’ current entrepreneurial efforts. Rental income will become part of ArtWorks’ revenue mix, though will remain modest as a percentage of total budget. While entrepreneurship is important, ArtWorks must continue to grow individual donations to increase financial sustainability.

3. **STRONG DATA / STRONG DECISIONS:** *Ensure that ArtWorks has the data necessary to make strong financial decisions.*

   Clear, concise information enables the Board to make strong financial decisions. This first year in the new facility is an opportune time to collect baseline data and develop new systems and dashboards for how to approach paying down the debt from the new facility.

4. **BOARD DEVELOPMENT:** *Develop a Board that contributes to their highest and best use at all stages of service.*

   Define expectations of ArtWorks Board Members. Develop and implement a Board recruitment plan. Develop and implement a consistent, comprehensive board member orientation. Provide ongoing board training. Create a Board Succession plan. Strengthen Board camaraderie and trust by building social time into the Board calendar.

5. **SUCCESION PLANNING:** *Ensure organizational stability through succession planning.*

   One of the most difficult decisions a Board has to face is the selection of a new Executive Director. Often we think only of the ED when considering succession planning, though best practices is to include all staff positions. Many of the practices that build a strong organization also position the organization to transition leadership.

6. **STAFF RETENTION:** *Develop ArtWorks as an “Employer of Choice.”*

   To reduce unwanted turnover, ArtWorks will undergo a thorough organizational review, including structure, culture and other internal factors impacting staff retention.
THANK YOU.
STLouiSARtWORKS
CREATING. OPPORTUNITIES.