



Larry Miller, Mayor

City of St. Joseph, Missouri

Libby Waltemath, President

Allied Arts Council

AWARDS PROCESS & SELECTION

Mayor Larry Miller and the Allied Arts Council invite individual artists, arts organizations, arts advocates, arts educators, businesses, and corporate citizens to participate in the thirty-fourth annual Mayor's Awards for the Arts. Granted annually, these awards honor outstanding commitment and dedication to the arts in the greater St. Joseph area. Nominations are reviewed and selected by an out-of-town selection committee that will select the award recipients.

AWARDS CEREMONY

These six awards will be presented during a special ceremony held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Allied Arts Council on July 16, 2026.

AWARD CATEGORY DESCRIPTIONS

Artist of the Year - An established individual artist (in any discipline) for artistic excellence and singular efforts in contributing to St. Joseph's cultural vitality (i.e. a choreographer or a dancer, a sculptor or a curator, a composer, a musician, etc.).

Arts Educator of the Year - For an outstanding contribution to arts education in St. Joseph, Missouri, by an instructor at the K-12 or post-secondary level. The award will recognize the development or execution of a curriculum or program that has demonstrated outstanding results by their students. The nominee may be an employee or volunteer for a school district, or an arts organization.

Youth Artist - This award is for artists 19 years of age or under who demonstrate talent and achievement in one or more artistic disciplines.

Organizational Achievement in the Arts - This award recognizes an organization or business that excels in supporting and/or enhancing the arts through contributions of time, talent, or funding.

Individual Leadership - For an individual business or civic leader who has contributed significantly to one or more arts or cultural organizations in St. Joseph, Missouri. The award recognizes dedication above and beyond professional responsibilities that have impacted St. Joseph's cultural landscape. The award takes into consideration contributions over a long period of time but emphasizes recent contributions.

Outstanding Volunteer - For outstanding contributions of a volunteer to one or more arts organizations in St. Joseph, Missouri, for service within the last year. Volunteer work may include consulting, fundraising, organization, or hands-on contributions.



Questions? Please contact Allied Arts Council

Mayor's Awards for the Arts

NOMINATION FORM

Deadline: Monday, June 15, 2026 at 5:00 p.m.

Please complete this form in its entirety and email (jessica.agnew@stjoearts.org) or mail (118 S. 8th Street, St. Joseph, MO 64501) with any supplemental information to Jessica Agnew, Executive Director.

There is no limit to the number of nominations that may be submitted, and there is no entry fee. Use a separate form for each nomination. *Note: Members of the selection committee, the Allied Arts Council staff, and their immediate families are not eligible for nomination.*

Nomination Categories *(please check only one)*

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Artist of the Year | <input type="checkbox"/> Organizational Achievement in the Arts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arts Educator of the Year | <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Leadership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Artist | <input type="checkbox"/> Outstanding Volunteer |

TELL US ABOUT YOUR NOMINEE

NAME OF INDIVIDUAL/ORGANIZATION

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

PHONE

EMAIL

BUSINESS ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

YOUR INFORMATION

NAME OF NOMINATOR

NOMINATOR ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

PHONE

EMAIL



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Narrative Submission

Please submit a typed narrative (maximum of two pages) that presents a clear and compelling case for your nominee for the 2026 Mayor's Award for the Arts. This narrative should serve as the primary document outlining the nominee's qualifications, achievements, and impact.

Within this narrative, please incorporate the following elements:

- **Overview of Work and Service** - Describe the nominee's key projects, activities, and contributions to the arts, including when these efforts took place. Provide relevant biographical and professional background to give context to their work.
- **Artistic Merit** - Identify the nominee's artistic discipline and describe the quality and significance of their work. Highlight notable achievements such as exhibitions, performances, recognitions, or awards.
- **Longevity of Service** - Explain how long the nominee has been engaged in the arts and in what capacity (e.g., volunteer, educator, administrator, board member, artist). Include organizations, schools, or programs with which they have been involved.
- **Impact and Significance** - Describe the nominee's overall impact on the arts community in St. Joseph. Explain how their contributions are meaningful and lasting, including cultural, educational, and community-wide influence.
- **Breadth of Work** - Outline the range of projects, initiatives, or causes supported by the nominee, including the scope of audiences or populations served.

Supporting Materials

To strengthen the nomination, please submit **three to five supporting items**. All supporting materials should be submitted as attachments with the application. These materials should complement the narrative and may include:

- Letters of support
- Résumé or CV (*Please include if nomination is for Artist of the Year or Art Educator of the Year*)
- Newspaper or media reviews
- Performance or exhibition programs
- Digital photos or videos
- News clippings
- Brochures or promotional materials



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