



In 2015, Manchester Arts:

- * Adopted a three-year strategic plan for years 2015-2017.
- * Saw its annual photography competition, FOCUS2015, triple in size with almost 600 photographic entries and over a thousand visitors to view the weekend exhibit.
- * Was recognized by the St. Louis County Municipal League for its effective use of community volunteers. City of Manchester was awarded the League's "Muni" for community involvement.
- * Hosted Opera Theatre of St. Louis' "A Little Lunch Music Concert" at Manchester United Methodist Church.
- * Presented three summer concerts by its Manchester Community Band. Concerts were held in Schroeder Park and attracted a growing audience through the summer.
- * Organized and hung eight gallery shows in the City's Courtroom Gallery space.
- * Found and arranged a piano donation for the upstairs venue at the Lyceum.
- * Organized and staged its first-ever fall ArtsFest that featured visual artists, performers and literary artists (poets, storytellers). The event was held in Schroeder Park, using three separate venues.
- * Established a special relationship with Lafayette Industries by bringing arts experiences to their employees in August and November. In December, hosted the Lafayette Industries Glee Club in a holiday concert and art exhibit at Manchester United Methodist Church.
- * Launched a new development team, charged with formulating policy and procedures for fundraising.
- * Adopted a minimum board contribution level of \$25.
- * Initiated dialogue, and met with representatives from the Hispanic Community.
- * Initiated dialogue, and met with the City of Chesterfield to explore possible "shared" arts experiences between communities.
- * Met with Parkway Superintendent and school's Community Affairs Coordinator to renew the Parkway Partnership and express thanks for Parkway support.
- * Met with Dan Tierney, Deputy Director of the Regional Arts Commission for an afternoon review of Manchester Arts goals and objectives.
- * Met with Michael Donovan, Executive Director of the Missouri Arts Council. At the meeting, introduced our organization and Manchester Arts programming to the state's funding arm for the arts.
- * Enjoyed a special relationship with the West County Rotary Club that included their special funding for FOCUS2015 and costs associated with arts experiences taken to Lafayette Industries.

- * Received three grants (2 from RAC and 1 from MAC) for 2015 and 2016 arts activities.
- * Initiated contact with local Muslim community representatives.
- * Worked with Parks Director to establish scope and skills necessary for a new parks department position: "Recreation and Arts Specialist".
- * Board of Directors attended twenty-three board meetings during the year.
- * Board of Directors elected board member Doug Whitaker to the position of Vice-Chairperson, with its intent for Doug to assume Chairperson's role in mid-year 2016.
- * Met as a full council five times during the year.
- * Volunteer board of directors' hours for 2015 totaled 3,802.
- * Volunteer council hours for 2015 totaled 526.
- * Volunteer Manchester Community Band hours for 2015 totaled 3,445.