



For more information, contact:

Lindsay Sihilling, Publicist
Webster Arts
(314) 239-4585
pr@wcaf.org

“Webster Arts Celebrates” Photos & Highlights from Tuesday’s Launch Party

St. Louis – April 15, 2015 – Patrons of the arts gathered at Eden Seminary on Tuesday evening for "Webster Celebrates," a launch of the 2015 arts season and debut of Webster Arts.

Formerly the Webster Community Arts Foundation, Webster Arts launched its 12th season of free arts programming in Webster Groves. The name change came in response to more than a year of strategic planning and feedback from the community.

“I’d like to thank Eden Seminary and supporters of Webster Arts for a fantastic evening,” says Webster Arts President Kathie Cahoon. “From the Webster Arts car decals, to themed leaf cookies to the live band, the party got certainly got the message across that we’re here to bring art to life!”

Webster resident and graphic designer Laura Puricelli designed the new Webster Arts logo, which embodies the warmth, playfulness and professionalism of all Webster Arts events.

A few highlights from the launch party:



KETC VP of Production Patrick Murphy and Webster Arts President Kathie Cahoon offered welcoming remarks.



Speaking on the economic impact of the arts, Jill McGuire, retiring executive director of the Regional Arts Commission, shared how the arts build community in Webster and beyond.



Gene Dobbs Bradford & Friends kept things lively with a musical performance.



*Webster Arts board members Davis Allen and **name** gathered to celebrate a new season of arts programming in Webster.*



Webster Arts President Kathie Cahoon and Webster Groves Mayor Gerry Welch reflected on the months of early morning strategic planning meetings that went into creating Webster Arts.



***Name** and **name** showed their support for the arts!*



Special thanks to Eden Seminary for hosting such a successful event!

Free Arts Programming Year-Round

Webster Arts will continue to deliver Art&Air, the Webster Arts Fair, set for June 5-7 on the fairgrounds of Eden Seminary. As a premier regional arts festival, the Webster Arts Fair draws in over 100 juried artists from around the nation as well as crowds of over 20,000. As always, the Webster Arts Fair is free of cost and open to the public.

Other free Webster Arts [programming](#) includes:

- ***Paint Webster***, a one-day painting competition. Open to both amateurs and professionals, the competition encourages artists of all ages to render a Webster Groves scene in 'plein air' as they paint in the outdoor spaces of our beautiful community. **Coming up! Paint Webster Demo and Workshop on May 2 and Paint Webster competition on May 10.**
- ***Classical Closing*** marks the annual closing day of the Webster Groves Farmers Market with a free concert by members of the Saint Louis Symphony. Date to be announced.
- ***Youth & Family Programming*** Webster Arts is committed to exposing kids to the beauty and power of art by providing art education and creative activities to the Webster Rock Hill Ministries' children's programs. This special partnership nourishes future artists in our own neighborhoods!

About Webster Arts

"We're the behind-the-scenes arts organization in Webster. We've been putting on Art&Air and other quality arts programs for years," says Jeane Vogel, executive director. "We're thrilled to have receive such a positive reception from the community as we enter a new phase for our organization."

A nonprofit organization, Webster Arts relies on the support of its community to maintain free, quality events open to the public. A working board of directors, staff and more than 350 volunteers help to carry out the Webster Arts mission and advocate for the arts.

Webster Arts raises and secures funding through both earned and contributed income to support its programs and events and ensure long-term stability. Support comes from the Missouri Arts Council, the Regional Arts Commission, Union Pacific, Webster University, Webster Groves Subaru, the City of Webster Groves, Commerce Bank and Ameren Missouri.

Webster Arts brings art to life by providing opportunities for people of all ages to engage in and enjoy the arts through programs, partnerships, and collaborations.

For more information, visit Webster-arts.org.

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